



## URGENT NEED FOR HELP!

Dear Lions of 14-E,

At the PA Lions State Convention this past weekend, we learned of the dire need for staff to run the PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp this summer. Nursing, Kitchen, and Program departments are all significantly understaffed, despite a lot of effort and funding applied to recruiting.

The links below will bring to you the **June Edition of Beacon Bits**, that describe the staffing situation at the Camp. and general **job descriptions for Counselor and Cook positions** where we have the most need.

The Camps run through the months of June and July. Unfortunately, Beacon Lodge has already canceled two sessions due to lack of staffing.

**Can your club or district members volunteer to work one of the sessions?**

Shared by 14-U

We've all heard about the "great worker shortage" – everywhere you look, businesses have help wanted signs hanging, and you hear about sign-on bonuses being paid by those who normally don't offer them and unusually high wages being offered. As the State Project that has a large number of workers to hire every year, Beacon Lodge has been impacted by these circumstances. Nursing, Kitchen, and Program departments are all significantly understaffed, despite a lot of effort and funding applied to recruiting.

Scheduled for the 2022 summer are the following sessions: 1 Transitional, 3 Assisted Living, 1 Camp Unite, and 2 Visually Impaired sessions in the Adult Camp and 1 LEAP, 1 Ad(h)dventure, 1 ConnXions, 2 Camp Unite, and 2 Project New Hope in the Children's Village. **Full staffing of the seasonal positions includes 44 workers.**

## **We currently have 13.**

Due to the staffing shortage and the Session #1 camper counts in Adult Camp and Children's Village, those sessions have been cancelled. Our campers will be given the option to join a later session. Camp now begins on **June 11th**.

Beacon Lodge is in critical need of volunteers to make Camp 2022 happen. I'm sure we've all encountered businesses that are closed when they should be open because they don't have the staff to keep their regular hours, and even businesses that have gone under because they cannot pay the high wages job seekers have come to expect. Beacon Lodge is in danger of not being able to serve the Special Needs community this season. This is an opportunity for the Lions of Pennsylvania to show that **where there is a need, there is a Lion**. Your Camp has a need – Let's meet this challenge together.

If you or someone you know has experience in or a desire for helping individuals with special needs, cooking for large groups, or is an LPN/RN please contact us at 814-542-2511 or [office@beaconlodge.org](mailto:office@beaconlodge.org) today! We need individuals to fill Counselor, Cook, and Nurse positions. All positions require PA ChildLine, State Police Background, and FBI Fingerprint Clearances. Those interested in volunteering as a Counselor will also need CPR/First Aid and Mandated Reporter certifications. All of these can be completed online, except for the CPR/First Aid. We are trying to set up a second training on June 11 at Beacon Lodge. You may also find options available to you locally.

**Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance:** Free for Volunteers

**Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check:** Free for Volunteers **Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) Criminal History Background Check:** **\$22.60** for Volunteers

Use service code "1KG6ZJ" and make an appointment at the location closest to you.

- If you have lived in the state of Pennsylvania for 10+ years, you can complete a waiver in lieu of the Fingerprint clearance.

If you have any questions or would like additional information concerning the required clearances, please visit [KeepKidsSafe](#).

Please visit [BeaconLodge.org](http://BeaconLodge.org) for more information.

## **Counselor DUTIES (Include but are not limited to)**

- Understand Camp Policy and Camp Rules.
- Assist the campers in increasing independence, experiencing community membership, increasing social skills, building peer relationships, and increasing self-confidence.
- Cooperate with the entire staff in working together for the welfare of the camp and campers.
- Supervise and lead small and large group activities.
- Participate in the set-up and cleanup of games and crafts.
- Adapt activities, as needed, to allow active participation by the campers.
- Provide additional assistance (e.g., interpreting instructions, providing physical assistance (including personal care) in order to help the campers learn recreational skills.
- Prepare camper progress reports and award certificates.
- Ensure the facility is clean and safe.
- Other duties as assigned.

## **Cook DUTIES (Include but are not limited to)**

- Understand and follow all Camp Policies, Camp Rules, DOH guidelines, and ServSafe guidelines.
- Prepare and serve meals.
- Maintain proper food storage.
- Maintain proper leftovers storage and utilization of leftovers per camp menus.
- Assist Kitchen Supervisor with food and supply inventory.
- Maintain equipment, utensils, preparation areas, serving areas, and refuse receptacles in a clean and sanitary manner.
- Remove kitchen and dining area refuse.
- Manage Kitchen Helpers in conjunction with the Kitchen Supervisor.
- Other tasks as assigned.

Nursing volunteers must have a current RN or LPN license.

We must strictly adhere to camper to counselor ratios, so we are asking for volunteers for entire sessions. The sessions with the most volunteers needed are Sessions 7 and 8. Please see the camp calendar for session dates. We also need to know the number of volunteers for each session at least two weeks prior to the session in order to determine our maximum camper count for the session.

### **Adult Camps for Adults with special needs ages 18 years and older.**

- **Transitional Care** – 6 Day Sessions – ~~June 4-9 and June 18 – 23~~
- **Assisted Living** – 6 Day Sessions – *June 11 – 16, June 25 – 30, and July 9 – 11*
- **Visually Impaired** – 11 Day Sessions – *July 16-26 and July 30 -August 9*

**Children's Village for children with special needs ages 6 to 17 years old.**

- Camp ALIVE – 6 Day Session – June 4 – 9
- Assisted Living – 6 Day Session – June 18 – 23
- Visually Impaired – 8 Day Session – July 16 – 23
- Camp ENERGY – 8 Day Session – July 30 – August 6

**Children's Family Camp for families with a **special needs child 17 years old or younger.****

New 2022...**Adult Family Camp** for families with a **special needs adult 18 years or older!**

- **Children's Family Camp** Sessions – June 11 – 15 and July 2 – 6
- **Adult Family Camp** Session – July 2 – 6

Project New Hope A weekend retreat camping experience provided FREE of charge to Pennsylvania Disabled Veterans and their families.

- 1st Session – June 25 – 29
- 2nd Session – July 9 – 13

Thank you for your consideration in volunteering to serve for a session at Beacon Lodge!

Please call (814) 542-2511 to volunteer.