

# Parent Handbook



# A Note from the Directors....

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Camp Millhouse family! Whether this is your first year or your  $49^{th}$  (yes we have a camper who has been coming this long!), we are so excited to have you join the fun!

We've put together this handbook to help families and caregivers understand the process for registering and attending Camp Millhouse, learn about opportunities available at camp and obtain more information about the importance of supporting camp. We hope you will find the information to be helpful and informative. Please don't hesitate to call the office if you have any questions.

Camp Millhouse is proud to encourage the growth of each camper by fostering inclusion in all activity areas and creating an environment for self-expression. We want all campers to have a safe, fun, positive camp experience. Thank you for entrusting your loved ones to us for that purpose.

Happy Camping!

Diana Breden Executive Director Melissa Swank Camp Director

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# **Important Contact Information**

Camp Address: 25600 Kelly Rd. South Bend, IN 46614

Camp Millhouse encourages mail from family and friends. Please be sure to send it at least one week prior to your camper's arrival at camp.

#### Camp Phone Numbers:

Camp Office Phone: 574-233-2202 Camp Phone: 574-287-9833

Camp Fax: 574-233-2511 Camp Email: <a href="mailto:campmillhouse@gmail.com">campmillhouse@gmail.com</a>

Camp Director: Melissa Swank Executive Director: Diana Breden

### **Camp Millhouse Mission**

Inspiring self-discovery in individuals with special needs through a safe, traditional camp experience. Empowerment~Independence~Compassion

# **Camp Millhouse Operating Philosophy**

Camping should provide an educational learning experience for an individual using the unique environment of camp to continue the developing process of the individual in the areas of physical, social, intellectual, and personal growth. Campers will practice old and learn new concepts and have new and renewed involvements in:

- a) Maximum use of the outdoors
- b) A unique unit of living wherein the individual responds to other campers and staff
- c) A series of activities and learning experiences appealing to the individual interest by allowing for flexibility in the program, and creativity and responsibility by the camper
- d) Providing a setting that encourages growth and positive self-esteem

To carry out our purpose and objectives, we need:

- a) A qualified and adequately trained staff
- b) Sufficient grounds and facilities provided for maximum use by potential campers
- A program designed to be attractive to the campers and able to meet the purpose of camping
- d) Open communication between staff

It is therefore necessary to accept the fact that camp is for the campers. The administration and staff's purpose is to devote themselves completely to the campers experience and needs. Each staff member is a separate and necessary part of the team, supporting one another to help fulfill the purpose and objectives of camp.

## **Objectives of Camp Millhouse**

In conjunction with the operating philosophy, Camp Millhouse has these objectives of its overall camp program:

- 1. Provide outdoor fun and community living in a safe and healthy environment.
- 2. Expand the campers' knowledge and appreciation for the living and nonliving elements of nature.
- 3. Foster the human dignity of each individual at camp by adapting to their unique needs.
- 4. Offering opportunities for:
  - a. Recreation
  - b. Fellowship
  - c. Self-reliance
  - d. Adventure
  - e. Success
  - f. Tradition
- 5. Contribute to the growth and well-being of each camper physically, socially, personally, and intellectually.
  - a. Physically, by providing land and water opportunities to develop fitness and new motor skills
  - b. Socially, by providing group living opportunities for positive communication and behaviors and by encouraging social interactions in both small and large group activities.
  - c. Personally, by expanding daily self-help skills, encouraging independence, and improving attitudes towards themselves and others.
  - d. Intellectually, by providing new sensory experiences, knowledge, and problem solving opportunities in the areas of nature, music, aquatics, arts and crafts, recreation and games.

# **Goals of Camp Millhouse**

- 1. Encourage and promote independence and self-esteem.
- 2. Create an atmosphere where every camper experiences success.
- 3. Provide an opportunity for a cohesive living environment.
- 4. Provide a much needed respite for our campers and their parents/care providers.

# **Camp Millhouse History**

Camp Millhouse is currently operated by Camp Millhouse, Inc. a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization led by a volunteer Board of Directors. Camp Millhouse began operation in 1937 as a four week program for children with polo on West Chain of the Lakes Road in South Bend. In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Millhouse donated 11 acres of land for the operation of a camp for children with physical disabilities. At that time the camp was operated by a local organization.

For the first several years Camp Millhouse served primarily children impacted by the polio epidemic. As the years have gone on, Camp Millhouse has acquired grounds and has expanded the population that we serve. In the early 1970's Camp Millhouse obtained accreditation from the American Camp Association (ACA). Camp has maintained accreditation since then and last went thru the accreditation site visit in the summer of 2019. ACA Accreditation means that Camp Millhouse cares enough to undergo a thorough peer review of its operation-from staff qualifications and training to emergency management. On December 22, 2017, Camp Millhouse purchased the property they have called home since 1940. Camp Millhouse remains committed to providing their campers with a safe, traditional camp experience by maintaining and improving its facilities and programs.

### **Camp Millhouse Overview**

Camp Millhouse is a residential summer camp for people with disabilities. Our campers range in age from 7 to up into their 70s, we do not "age-out". We take campers with various disabilities. We offer a week-long summer camp experience where campers rotate through programs including arts and crafts, music, recreation, and swimming. Each evening the entire camp comes together for a special evening activity. In addition we have a low ropes challenge course that is adapted to be used by all campers and we have Wheelchair Art. We have 24 hour on-site nursing. Our food is served family-style in our lodge where the food service is capable of meeting specialized dietary needs. The campers we serve come from various socioeconomic backgrounds from Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky and even as far away as Texas. Camp Millhouse is proud to encourage the growth of each camper by fostering inclusion in all activity areas and creating an environment for self-expression.

# **Rights and Dignity**

Camp Millhouse believes in the importance of the rights and dignity for all campers and staff which includes:

- 1. An appreciation and acceptance of all people
- 2. Realization that all people are different and are capable of contributing to the learning and working environment
- 3. Creation of an environment where all individuals feel comfortable and respected.
- 4. Encouragement of new ideas and perspectives.
- 5. Commitment to a policy that includes all people as equals and promotes justice

#### **CAMP OPPORTUNITIES**

**Weekends:** Camp Millhouse offers spring and fall camp weekends in addition to their one-week summer sessions. Weekends are offered in May and September and run from 9 a.m. on Saturday to 1 p.m. on Sunday. During the weekends, campers experience many of the same fun camp activities as summer camp. We may also take the campers out into the community for events or activities. The biggest difference between the weekends and the week-long summer camp is the size of the group. Our camp weekends are a smaller, more intimate group of up to only 14 campers. Registration for camp weekends can be completed on the summer camp application. All the same paperwork is required. Spring weekend camp fees are due no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>. Fall weekend camp fees are due no later than August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Summer camp:** Camp Millhouse offers six one-week sessions from mid-June to the end of July. Each session is for a different group as shown below. In conjunction with residential camp, day camp will be offered during all regular weeks of camp. Ages for the day camp will coincide with the ages assigned for each regular week of camp. Day camp is designed for campers/parents who are not ready for an overnight stay, but would like to get familiar with Camp Millhouse and their staff. Arrival will be at 8:00 a.m. and departure time will be set based on a mutually agreed upon time. Meals are provided.

- 18 & Up we have three one-week sessions that are for campers ages 18 & Up. We can take up to 60 campers during these weeks. There is limited availability for campers who require one on one care. Pick up is on Fridays at 4 p.m.
- "One" derful Week we have one session exclusively for campers who require one on one care. This may be due to camper behaviors, needs with daily living skills or mobility. We can only take up to 24 campers this week to keep staff to camper ratios within ACA guidelines. This week is one day shorter than other weeks due to the extra cost of one on one care (we still have to have the same number of staff for 24 vs 60 campers). All activities remain the same as our other weeks of camp. Pick up is on Thursday at 9:30 a.m. If you need an evening pick up, the time is Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. EST but please advise the office when you send in your registration.
- Kids' Week we have one session exclusively for kids ages 7 to 17. We will make accommodations for kids into their early 20's if this week would be most appropriate for them. Pick up is on Thursday at 4 p.m.
- Sports Week is designed for campers ages 13 & Up who are independent with their daily living skills and who do not require one on one care (as assessed by Camp Millhouse). This week is all about sports-soccer, basketball, swimming, football, baseball and adventure challenge. During sports week, arts & crafts and music are replaced by a sport. Those activities may be available during each night's Evening Program. Pick up is on Friday at 4 p.m.

#### **FEES AND REFUNDS**

**Camp Fees** – please refer to camper application for our voluntary tiered fee program. Camp fees must be paid in full no later than May  $1^{st}$ . If it is more convenient, camp fees can be paid in installments throughout the year (but must be paid in full by May  $1^{st}$ ). Spring weekend camp fees are due no later than May  $1^{st}$ . Fall weekend camp fees are due no later than August  $1^{st}$ .

Late departure fee – We will assess a late departure fee of \$25.00 for the first half hour after the stated pick-up time and \$20 for every 15 minutes thereafter. Please be on time as a courtesy to our staff.

**Deposit** – every camper is required to pay a \$150 deposit upon application which will hold their registration. This deposit is non-refundable but will be applied toward the total camp fees. Applications will not be processed without a deposit for each week of registration.

**Refund policy for deposit** - the deposit will only be refunded if we are not able to place your camper in a week of camp at the time of their original application.

**Refund policy for camp fees** - Camp Millhouse should be notified immediately if a camper is unable to attend their registered session. All fees (minus the non-refundable deposit) will be refunded ONLY upon receipt of a written request if cancellation is made: A) in writing more

than three weeks prior to the session, or B) due to physician's recommendation that the camper should not attend camp (we will need a signed note from the physician). If your camper checks-in to camp on check-in day but then must leave at some point on that day or during the week, there will be no refund unless it was a medical emergency and confirmed via a doctor's written note sent to the Camp office. All refunds must be approved by the Camp Millhouse Board of Directors. This policy covers all camp fees – spring, summer and fall.

#### **APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION**

Camper applications will be mailed via non-profit bulk mail to all campers listed on our camper mailing list. The applications will go out no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> but the office will try to get them out a bit sooner. Please understand that once the applications leave the camp office, we have no control over how long it takes USPS to deliver them.

You will find two packets included in this mailing. It is very important that you <u>read both packets</u> <u>thoroughly</u>. Failing to do so may result in your camper not being accepted to camp. In order to get your camper registered for camp, you must complete and sign the yellow "Camper Application Packet" and return it with the non-refundable \$150 deposit. Since our weeks fill very quickly, we highly recommend you send the application packet & non-refundable deposit back as quickly as possible. Incomplete applications will be returned and may delay your camper's registration.

Upon receipt of applications, the office date stamps each one as it comes in since they are processed on a first come first served basis. Once your application and non-refundable \$150.00 deposit has been processed, we will send you a confirmation packet that will include your arrival and departure time, and a packing list. *The remaining required documents and camp fees are due in the camp office NO LATER THAN MAY 1*<sup>ST</sup>.

#### **IMPORTANCE OF PAPERWORK**

We recognize there is a lot of information to read and forms to complete in the application process. We assure you it is all essential in order for us to provide a safe camping experience for everyone. Please <u>do not leave anything blank</u> (even if you think it is a duplicate). Please read all directions and step-by-step instructions carefully. We frequently restructure pages of the application so please do not use any pages you have from years past. As always, if you have any questions or need help with this process, please call us. We'd be happy to help you! Please call the office 574-233-2202. ALL PAPERWORK AND FEES MUST BE IN THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> – NO EXCEPTIONS! There is a lot of work that has to be completed once the camper's paperwork comes in. If we do not have all required documents by May 1st, the pre-camp work cannot be done and we will not be ready for your camper's arrival. This affects our ability to safely and properly care for your loved ones.

NOTE: We understand that insurance only pays for one physical a year. At some point, that date is going to run into when your camper is at camp which is too late to send in to the office. We highly recommend that you schedule a physical in late summer/early fall (that you may need to pay for) to get your camper on a schedule that will allow for your insurance to cover it for many years to come. Camp must have all paperwork, especially the medical paperwork, in the office **no later than May 1**<sup>st</sup>.

#### **CAMPERSHIPS and AVAILABLE FUNDS**

We never want lack of funds to be a reason a camper cannot come to camp. There are many ways to fund the camp fees.

- You may contact the office to make payment arrangements to spread out the fees over an extended period of time (August to May for the following summer)
- Contact local civic and service organizations to ask for assistance. For example: Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, Civitan, sororities, or churches
- Grants Racing for Steve-O Foundation (racingforsteveo.org), Indiana Youth Institute, check with your local diagnosis-specific organizations (i.e. Down Syndrome Indiana, Autism Society of Indiana – each state should have similar organizations)
- Friends and family instead of other gifts, friends and family could gift your loved one a
  week of camp or pay toward it. The funds can be sent directly to camp noting whose
  account should be credited.
- Although we have limited funds, Camp Millhouse also offers camperships. We are not able to give a full campership. We are able to help with part of the fee. The application can be found under "Forms" on the camp website campmillhouse.org

#### **PACKING FOR CAMP**

**Prohibited items:** The following items are prohibited at camp: pets and other animals, weapons of any kind, alcoholic beverages, drugs, smoking, vaping. Camp Millhouse reserves the right to confiscate any of these items. If a camper brings prohibited items to camp, they will be sent home without a refund.

Please label!: All camper belongings brought to camp should be labeled with the camper's first initial and last name written in permanent marker. This includes bedding, the outside of all luggage, clothes, towels/washcloths, toiletries and any other personal belongings. With the nature of camp, it is easy for items to get mixed up. If you will be sure all of your camper's items are marked, it makes it more likely we'll be able to return the item to you. Camp Millhouse is not responsible for lost clothing or items but we make every effort to return all camper belongings. Send enough clothing to last the entire week as laundry will be done on an emergency basis only. YOU MUST PROVIDE ONE (only) LAUNDRY BAG WITH YOUR CAMPER'S NAME ON IT. Our staff will bag any wet clothes in trash bags before placing in the laundry bag. Otherwise, ALL of your camper's laundry will be placed in one laundry bag only. We will not sort the laundry into separate bags.

**Packing Clothes:** When packing your camper's clothes, could you please pack them as individual outfits by rolling everything for one day together (shirt, shorts, underwear, & socks) and rubber banding/taping it, or putting each days outfit in a 1 or 2 gallon Ziploc-type bag. By doing so, it helps us help your camper build independence as we can ask them to "grab an outfit" or "which outfit do you want" from the five bagged or rolled outfits. Extra clothes can just be in their bag as usual.





**Linens & Toiletries:** Please do NOT send sleeping bags or large blankets. If your camper has an accident, we are unable to wash those large items. Campers must supply their own towels, sheets and pillow(s). Camp Millhouse does not provide toiletries. Packing recommendations will

be sent with your confirmation letter and a copy can be found on our website under Registration.

**Cell phones & electronic devices:** Your camper should not bring any electronic devices (cameras, phones, iPads, iPods, radios, hair dryers, etc.) unless they are a part of a communication device, behavior plan, or required for bedtime routine (which should already be noted in the application). **PLEASE DO NOT SEND CELL PHONES**. They will not be allowed in the cabin but will be kept locked in the healthcare center with your camper's medication. Camp Millhouse is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Please refrain from sending cameras (or any valuable items). We have a staff person specifically designated to take pictures. Those photos are posted to our Facebook page for you to view and save to print.

**Perfume & jewelry:** Do not bring any perfume or cologne as it has negative effects on some campers & staff. Also, please leave all jewelry at home.

**Sports equipment:** Personal sports equipment brought to camp will be stored by the recreation director. Campers can only use the equipment under direct supervision of Camp staff.

#### **FOOD, SNACKS AND DRINKS**

The only food we are allowed to accept at camp is food that is required for special diets. Please do not send regular snacks with your camper unless they are required for a special diet. <u>A</u> doctor's note may be required for proof of medical necessity. All food for special diets should be brought into the lodge at registration to be kept in the kitchen. If you bring snacks and drinks that are not for a special diet, we will send it back home with you.

No food will be allowed in the cabins for the following reasons:

- 1. Food in the cabin attracts rodents and bugs.
- 2. It undermines the cabin community when a few campers have food and others do not.
- 3. Filtered water is available around camp and at every program area. Bottled water is available in each cabin.

Please do not bring bottled water, Gatorade, juice, pop or any other beverage. Camp provides water coolers all around camp, at every meal, in every program area and bottled water in every cabin. Pop, flavored water and Gatorade are available options in the camp store where they get to visit each day. Juice, milk and water are served at breakfast and flavored drink & water is served at lunch and dinner.

Camp meals are served family-style in our main lodge (with the exception of an occasional picnic outside). In addition to the family style meal, campers are offered a fruit, yogurt & cereal bar at breakfast and a full salad bar at lunch and dinner. Camp Millhouse does their best to accommodate all campers' dietary restrictions. If your camper is on a very restrictive diet, you may be asked to provide food. Please contact the office with any questions regarding food, snacks and drinks.

#### Food allergies vs food preferences

It is imperative you provide any and all true food allergies or sensitivities on the yellow camper application as requested. *PLEASE DO NOT* list food preferences as a food allergy. If there are certain foods that your camper does not like to eat, you may list those at the end of the yellow

application. For instance: your camper does not like hot dogs. Please don't list as an allergy. If you have not told us, we will figure it out and provide them with an alternate meal. We will not let your camper go hungry.

#### **CHECK-IN DAY**

After your camper is registered, you will receive a confirmation letter with your check-in time. We've worked hard to improve our check-in process and have found our check-in times to be overall much reduced. Campers who arrive at their assigned check-in times find their wait times are noticeably shorter. We are grateful for your cooperation which has helped make this process successful!

Please pay close attention to speed limit and parking signs. You may pull up to the lodge to drop off luggage & then park in the main parking lot or if necessary, in the handicapped spots near the lodge.

- 1. Upon arrival, you will be given a check-in number and the camper will be given a name tag and wrist ID bracelet. Camper belongings will be tagged with the camper name and cabin number and will be left on a cart outside during check-in.
- 2. Camper and their family/guardians should bring all medications and any camp store money in to the lodge. Please listen for your check-in number. When called, please proceed to the first check-in table to check-in the camp store money and review the application contents to be sure we have all documentation required.
- 3. The camper file will then be passed back to the nurses at the medication table. Listen for your camper's name to be called then proceed to the nurses table to check in all medications and discuss any medical needs or concerns.
- 4. From the medication tables, you will be sent to the nurses who are doing body and lice checks.
- 5. Once you are done with check-in, you will accompany your camper and their belongings to their cabin. You will need to speak to the counselors in the cabin before you leave. You must then escort your camper to the rec hall for activities and parents/guardians may leave at that time. (Campers may not walk to the rec hall unattended)

#### **Check-in day reminders:**

- ~If you are late for check-in (after 4:30 p.m.), we will be unable to check-in your camper until 7:00 p.m. or on Monday at 10:00 a.m. Please call the camp to discuss any late arrival with the executive director or camp director.
- ~Please remember the first medication pass is not until 5:30 p.m. EST. If your camper requires medication prior to this time, it is your responsibility to give it to them.
- ~Your camper will be sent home if you have neglected to inform us of any hospitalization or procedures in the 60 days prior to camp, if the camper is found to have lice, or if we have not been informed of any behavioral issues. There will be no refunds. If you are able to get the issues corrected, your camper may return at 7 p.m. on Sunday or 10 a.m. on Monday.
- ~Camp does not open the lodge to campers until 2:00 p.m. on check in days.
- ~All campers must be accompanied by a person who is legally able to sign any consent or information forms.
- ~Persons accompanying camper on registration day must be familiar with the camper's needs and are required to stay with the camper throughout the registration process <u>this includes</u>

#### meeting with the cabin staff.

- ~If someone other than the person dropping off the camper is planning to pick up the camper, please let us know at check-in. A release will need to be signed by the parent/guardian giving permission for other person to pick up.
- "If you have not arrived by the time check-in registration is complete, we will contact you to verify your camper's absence.
- ~Please contact the office if your camper has been hospitalized or had a medical procedure within 60 days of arrival at camp.

#### **CAMP STORE**

Each day your camper has an opportunity to visit the camp store with their cabin mates where they can get a drink and a snack. We keep a variety of drinks in stock including water, flavored water, pop/diet pop, caffeine free pop and a variety of snacks including sweet, salty, sugar-free and gluten-free. If your camper has a very restrictive diet, you can provide their snack so they'll get to have the same camp store experience as everyone else. We'll put their name on their snacks and let them pick from their own items. You will need to check a small amount of money into your campers' camp store account on Sunday at check in. See the packing list for dollar amount.

#### **CAMPER PHONE CALLS AND MAIL**

An important part of the camp experience is encouraging our campers to build independence. We find that phone calls from home are both disruptive to their day and can cause or increase home sickness. We ask parents to trust that your camper is having a great time -"No news is good news". If campers ask to call home, we always allow them to do so at designated times (after lunch and after evening program). Be assured we will call you if there are any issues. Please do not send a cell phone with your camper. If one is sent, it will be kept in with their medications and will be returned to the parent at pick up. Letters, cards, and notes of encouragement may be mailed to: Camp Millhouse, camper's name, 25600 Kelly Road, South Bend, IN 46614. In order to allow for USPS mail time, you will need to mail all cards at least 1 week BEFORE your camper's planned arrival at camp. This will ensure they will arrive before your camper leaves camp at the end of the week. Campers get very excited to receive mail at camp.

#### **ILLNESS AND INJURY**

In the event of any serious illness or injury to any camper, the parents/guardians (or emergency contacts) will be notified by the camp administration immediately. Parents/guardians will be informed of the treatments being administered by the camp or emergency personnel. Camp Millhouse has physician directed protocols in place for illness and injury. Every effort is made to allow campers to stay at camp but that is not always possible. If we notify you that you need to come to pick up your camper, you must comply. If the parents and/or emergency contacts listed cannot be reached, the camp director will determine if the child should be taken to a doctor or hospital. The parents are responsible for all medical charges including physician, hospital, x-ray, pharmacy, transportation and any expense that may be incurred.

#### **MEDICATIONS**

If your camper is attending camp for more than one week or on any of the spring or fall camp weekends, you must provide our camp medication sheet, signed by your physician. You'll need one for each week and weekend. Extra copies of the medication sheet can be found on our website under Registration. If your camper does not take any medication, you are still required to provide a physician signed med sheet with the notation "No meds".

If your camper arrives with medication labels that do not match the medication sheet, medications are not in the original containers, they are missing medications listed on the med sheet, or bring additional medications that are not listed on the medication sheet, or any other med issues that do not follow the Camp "Steps for Completing Med Forms" YOUR CAMPER WILL BE SENT HOME until all issues are corrected. **No exceptions.** 

Be sure you thoroughly read the camp form included in the camper application packet titled "Steps for Completing Camp Millhouse Medication Forms". You will need to sign and date this two-part form. Return a copy to the camp office and keep one for your reference. If you have any questions, please contact the office. (Copy of this form is at the end of this handbook)

#### **CAMPER BEHAVIOR**

We ask many questions regarding your camper's behaviors and habits. We understand that some questions may seem forward. However, we feel that it is for your camper's well-being that we ask. We do not mean to offend anyone. We cannot stress enough that your honesty is required for everyone to have a fun, safe, and positive week at camp.

If your camper sees a behaviorist and/or has a behavior support plan (BSP), we may ask you for permission to speak to the behaviorist to be able to be consistent with your plan at home. We also require a copy of the behavior support plan if one is in place for other social interactions (i.e. – school, home, etc.). Please be sure to bring any items to camp that are required to carry out the BSP.

Camp Millhouse makes every attempt to provide all campers with a positive camp experience. We may not be equipped to provide the necessary care for extensive behaviors. Therefore, Camp Millhouse reserves the right to decline a camper due to extraordinary or aggressive behaviors. Campers may also be sent home from camp if their behavior becomes detrimental to themselves, other campers or our staff. No refund is provided if that were the case.

#### **CAMP PROGRAMMING**

Every summer Camp Millhouse hires programming staff to run the different programs we offer. Our staff work very hard, long before camp starts, to plan fun, engaging, and goal-oriented programs. Each day, your camper will participate in our four main program areas with their cabin group. Each evening all cabins come together to participate in a specially planned evening program. In addition to the daily programs, Camp Millhouse also offers an opportunity for campers to step outside their comfort zone to gain confidence and independence on our low ropes challenge course. Camp Millhouse is fortunate to own their own wheelchair art equipment. Each week campers will have an opportunity to participate in this all-inclusive art experience.

#### Daily programs:

Arts & Crafts – this may include painting, beads, drama/acting, nature crafts and much more Music – playing instruments, learning different songs, music relaxation, peer to peer interactions

Recreation – nature hikes, different sports, life-size board games, yard games

Pool – Zumba, water aerobics, ball games, free swim, relaxing (please note – campers who have or have had seizures are required to wear a life jacket in our pool)

Evening Program – Millhouse Idol, Lions Club train, scavenger hunts, dances

New for 2020! Due to increased requests for campers to volunteer as camp staff, we are implementing a new program called Special Jobs. We are hiring a program director to work with campers who would like to help with specific jobs around camp. This will take place during their regular week of camp. These jobs will not keep campers from participating in their regularly scheduled activities. It is meant to enhance their independence and build real-life skills. This is not a mandatory program. It will be completely voluntary. During Sunday evening program, campers will be given the opportunity to choose their camp job(s) for the week, if they wish.

#### **CAMP PHOTOS AND VIDEOS**

Camp Millhouse employs a program staff member who is in charge of taking all photos and videos. In addition to sharing all photos and videos on Camp Millhouse's Facebook page for all camper families to view and share, we also use the pictures and videos for public relations purposes for Camp Millhouse and the American Camp Association to illustrate and promote the camp experience, Camp Millhouse and its camp programs or the American Camp Association. Photo release documents are provided with the camper application packet and must be signed and returned to the office by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **CHECK OUT PROCEDURES**

Check out date and time depends on the week of your camper's attendance. You will be provided with the check-out date and time on your confirmation letter. Please be sure to keep the letter for your reference. You will need the packing list that is on the back of the confirmation letter. A second copy will not be sent.

As part of their registration, campers will be given a camp t-shirt on the last day of camp.

Unless absolutely necessary, we ask that families do not pick up their camper prior to the scheduled check-out time. Your camper misses out on closing program and receiving awards from fellow campers and staff. We want everyone to have the full camp experience. New in 2020, due to the overwhelming number of requests for early pick-up, we have moved the pick-up time to 4 p.m. EST with one exception. "One" derful week still goes home on Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m.

When you arrive to pick up your camper, please be patient. You will be asked to wait by the parking area until all campers are on the blacktop and staff have said their goodbyes. You will need to check-in with the nurses at the front of the lodge to collect your camper's medication bag before being allow to pick up your camper on the blacktop. Please be sure the bags you

grab have your own camper's name on them. We ask that everyone be very cautious in the parking areas. Please watch for people walking around and behind your car.

#### **CAMP SUPPORT**

Camp Millhouse would not be possible without the generous support of individuals, businesses and organizations. We depend on everyone for financial support and volunteer help. On average, it costs Camp over \$1,200 to support one camper for one week of camp. The lowest tier of camp fees do not nearly cover the actual cost. We depend on multiple fundraisers and the financial generosity of everyone to keep camp open. Your support is appreciated and necessary to meet monthly expenses, make ongoing repairs and plan for future improvements and growth for generations to come.

Camp Millhouse only has two full-time, year-round staff – our Executive Director and Camp Director – and one part-time administrative assistant. Without the hard work that's completed during the off season of August to May, the seven week summer season and spring & fall camp weekends would not be possible. We ask you to keep that in mind when planning your giving and budget. Camp needs financial support all year, not just during the summer months. There are numerous ways to ensure Camp Millhouse continues to be here to provide your loved one with a safe, fun camp experience and you with a week of respite.

- Support Camp's fundraisers watch Facebook for our events. Attend and share with family and friends.
- Host your own fundraiser for camp!
- Shop on Amazon Smile it's the same Amazon you love but Amazon donates to camp for your shopping. Go to smile.amazon.com and choose Camp Millhouse has your charity.
- In-Kind donations we have an Amazon Wish List and your purchase can be sent straight to camp. We are so grateful for the gifts that come to the office.
- Volunteer! We can always use volunteer help during the summer and in the off season. Call the office for more information.
- Donations by check or credit card via mail or camp's website http://www.campmillhouse.org/donate-now.html
- Make a quarterly, monthly or weekly pledge of any amount.
- Stock donation- The most tax-efficient method of making this type of gift is to donate
  the stock shares directly to Camp Millhouse through our Edward Jones investor who
  will immediately initiate a sale of the stock shares and forward the proceeds directly to
  Camp Millhouse.
- Matching gifts check with your employer to see if they will match your gift or ask family and friends to match your gift to Camp.
- Memorials and bequests for the future success of Camp Millhouse, please consider including Camp Millhouse in your Obituary, Will, IRA Gift, Charitable Gift Annuities or Legacy Trusts.

We hope you've found this information to be helpful. Please keep this for future reference. Contact the office with any questions, concerns or suggestions. We are here to serve you and your family and appreciate the help we receive in return. We look forward to working with you!

\*\*\*This is a copy of the form that is included with the camper application\*\*\*\*

# STEPS FOR COMPLETING CAMP MILLHOUSE MEDICATION FORMS

<u>THE COMPLETE HEALTH INFORMATION PACKET MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY **MAY 1st** – \*TOP COPY OF THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH CAMP APPLICATION\*</u>

# Please be sure the person responsible for bringing the camper to Camp is aware of these procedures!

ignat	ture of parent/guardian:	Date
ma	ade.	
	re not followed my camper may be sent home	
Ιh	have read, understand and intend to follow th	1
	a new white medication sheet(s) for each week have the doctor's original signature. Extra cop	
Ш	If your camper is planning to attend more than	* '
Ц	No faxed forms! We must have the original co	
	that says "NO MEDICATIONS" and it must b	
	If your camper does not take any medications,	*
	CPAP or Tube Feeding forms that must be con	
	be brought to camp. Please see campmillhouse	
	If your camper uses a feeding pump, nebulizer	
	do not appear on the signed medication form.	•
Ш	white medication form. Nurses are not allowed	
	campers to camp. The same procedures apply Vitamins, over the counter medications, and or	
	Medications taken on an as needed basis (for e	1 1
	the bottle and should follow the example at the	-
	Information on the medication form must mate	
	will not accept previous year's medication for	
	Medication form must be signed by the campe	
	specified by the camper's Physician.	was also in the state of the st
	Medication will be given at 8:00am, 12:00pm,	5:00pm and 8:00pm unless otherwise
	cross it out with a single line, initial it, and wr	
	No white-out should be used on any health or	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
_	No Exceptions! Do not remove medications fr	
	All medications must be in the original bottle	
	meds are in bubble packs, please do not remov	-
	Please send enough meds for the week and one	•
	have a copy of the prescription signed by the p	hysician and provide it to camp.
	these circumstances. One exception: if your ca	-
	week of camp but it may not be possible. Ther	1
	YOUR CAMPER WILL BE SENT HOME. W	<u> </u>
	camp. If your camper arrives at check-in & ad	•
	there are any such changes you must contact the	
	includes increases or decreases of the dosage,	, i
П	There can be NO medication changes within 1	4 days prior to your camper's arrival This