



Camp St. Vincent Volunteer Counselor Job Description

What is St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore?

St. Vincent de Paul is an independent, faith-based, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people who are suffering from the effects of poverty meet their basic human needs and achieve a better future for themselves and their family.

Our services include food, clothing, shelter, transitional and permanent housing, homeless day resources, employment training, adult education, emergency financial assistance, Head Start, after-school, summer camp, domestic violence intervention, and more.

What is Camp St. Vincent?

Camp St. Vincent is a summer day camp for children experiencing poverty and homelessness in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. At Camp St. Vincent, children ages 5 to 11 experience the joys of summer camp while participating in enrichment activities designed to stem summer learning loss. This year, for the first time, Camp St. Vincent will enroll exclusively children who are homeless, so services and activities will be specifically geared to meet the needs of this vulnerable population.

Camp St. Vincent offers a structured outdoor recreation program that includes swimming instruction, arts and crafts, reading, math, physical education, and other traditional summer camp activities. The children also participate in daily Character Development Lessons, which strive to boost self-esteem, teach the children to resist negative peer pressure, and encourage them to "DO THE RIGHT THING" - the Camp St. Vincent theme. All of these activities allow the children to learn and grow in a safe environment, where the staff always emphasizes sharing, cooperation, fairness, and respect.

Title: Volunteer Counselor

Purpose: Lead campers through daily activities, to ensure a safe, fun, and enriching camp experience for all campers at Camp St. Vincent.

Summary: A counselor's primary responsibility is to assist a small group of assigned campers in all aspects of their day including, but not limited to, arrival and departure, instruction periods, large group gatherings, special activities, breakfast and lunch, and movement to and from activities.

Dates: Any consecutive two-week session from June 28-July 9, July 12-23, July 26-August 6, and August 9-20.

** Volunteers are welcome and encouraged to attend multiple sessions to build stronger relationships with campers.

Time: 8:45am – 4:45pm

Site: Camp St. Vincent – 242 S. Patterson Park Ave, Baltimore, MD

Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Welcome campers each day of arrival, help campers find their groups, build a relationship with each camper, and encourage interaction between campers.
- Review the camp program daily, help all campers maintain appropriate hygiene, and check daily for illness and injury.
- Assist campers in all camp activities and participate fully in all aspects of the camp program.
- Maintain a leadership role and assist the Instructors in implementing the educational program.
- Participate daily in reflection and educational activities on relevant social justice issues.
- Work closely with Instructors to implement the weekly check and incentive policy.
- Promote good camp spirit and unity, and encourage respect for personal property, camp equipment, and facilities.
- Assist with other duties as needed.

Qualifications:

- Must be age 14 or older and preferably have completed first year of high school.
- Prior experience working with children or leading children in a day camp and/or day care environment preferred.
- A genuine liking for children and outdoor camp life.
- Emotional maturity, integrity, and high moral character.
- Basic swim knowledge and ease in the water.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision and seeks advise or assistance when needed.
- Leadership abilities, good communication skills, responsibility, and self-esteem.
- Appropriate behavior and a thorough understanding of what it takes to be a positive role model for campers.

Requirements:

- Attend pre-camp training and orientation sessions.
- Wear camp T-shirts, appropriate shorts and athletic shoes at all times; come with swimming attire daily.

Additional qualifications for Assistant Counselors 18 years or older:

- Successful completion of volunteer background screening.