



Job Title: Waterfront/Aquatics Specialist: Lifeguard

Reports to: *Waterfront/Aquatics Director*

Classification: *Exempt (Seasonal)*

Compensation: *\$265-285 per week stipend plus room & board, potential for limited financial assistance with obtaining required American Red Cross certifications.*

Position Purpose:

To further the mission of Vanderkamp by providing supervision and ensuring as safe an environment as possible at the kamp's waterfront activities including swimming and boating. Assist the Waterfront/Aquatics Director in the management of the physical operation of the waterfront facilities and equipment.

Essential Job Functions:

1. Supervise and guard all waterfront activities in accordance with the health and safety plan submitted to the Oswego County Health Department and American Red Cross requirements and guidelines.
  - ♦ Provide surveillance during aquatic activities to help prevent and to manage injuries.
  - ♦ Provide rescues as needed.
  - ♦ Utilize first aid and CPR and other emergency management services as needed.
  - ♦ Understand and implement appropriate response to changes in water conditions or weather conditions affecting the waterfront.
2. Assist waterfront instructional staff in program areas such as swimming and Boating
  - ♦ Ensure kampers and staff follow safety procedures while in their program activity.
  - ♦ Act as reference in waterfront activities.
  - ♦ Assist in the delivery and supervision of all aquatic activities and special events at the waterfront.
3. Assist in the management and care of the physical facilities and equipment in the waterfront program area
  - ♦ Conduct daily check of area and equipment for safety, cleanliness, and good repair. Reporting any concerns to the Waterfront/Aquatics Director.
  - ♦ Clean waterfront area daily keeping it free of hazards and debris. This may include raking beach or swim area as well as picking up and properly discarding of trash.
  - ♦ Ensure boats stored properly and waterfront shed maintained in clean and orderly manner daily.

Other Job Duties:

- ♦ Participate enthusiastically in all kamp activities, planning and leading those as assigned.
- ♦ Participate as a member of the kamp staff team to deliver and supervise evening programs, special events, overnights, and other all-kamp activities and kamp functions.
- ♦ Assist in the planning of any special events on or near the waterfront.
- ♦ Contribute to the kamp community by providing assistance and leadership in all aspects of kamp life/operations including programming, facility, health services, and dining services as requested.
- ♦ Be a role model to kampers and staff in your attitude and behavior.
  - ♦ Follow and uphold all safety and security rules and procedures.
  - ♦ Do not take exception to the rules because you are staff (e.g., eating in living unit).
  - ♦ Set a good example to kampers and others in regard to general kamp procedures and practices including sanitation, schedule, and sportsmanship.
  - ♦ Set a good example in demonstrating care and respect for the facility, environment, and equipment by taking due care and cleaning up after oneself.
  - ♦ Demonstrate a positive attitude in the face of change or adverse circumstances (e.g., weather cancelation of desired activity).
  - ♦ Demonstrate Christian principles of love, peace, and acceptance. "Be the change you would like to see in the world."
  - ♦ Share personal faith journey with kampers in manner developmentally appropriate to their needs and abilities.

### Relationships:

- ♦ Reports directly to Waterfront/Aquatics Director and indirectly to Kamp Director and Executive Directors.
- ♦ Relationship with Counselors: Lifeguards may serve as counselors during times they are not on duty at the waterfront or assisting with boating activities. This includes providing breaks or evening coverage in living units. Therefore, Lifeguards and Counselors serve as peers outside of the waterfront environment. Personal conversations with staff during scheduled shifts should be minimized. While staff are encouraged to develop personal friendships and professional relationships, this should never detract from opportunities to interact with kampers and provide adequate and appropriate supervision.
- ♦ Work closely with Counselors, Activity Specialists (e.g., outdoor recreation), and Health Director/Nurse pertaining to individual camper health, safety, and participation needs.
- ♦ Report directly to Waterfront/Aquatics Director and should provide feedback on kampers' experiences at the waterfront or during boating activities, report any risk management concerns, and report any facility grounds or equipment maintenance requests.
- ♦ Lifeguards should report any health or safety concerns to the Health Director/Nurse regarding individual kampers and or environmental threats/hazards at kamp outside of the waterfront domain.

### Equipment Used:

- ♦ Private 45-acre lake with designated beach & swim area, two docks, and remote waterfront campsites
- ♦ Lifeguarding equipment: rescue tube, whistles, buddy board
- ♦ First-aid equipment: first-aid kit, backboard
- ♦ PFDs
- ♦ Boats: canoes (Rotomold plastic and aluminum), kayaks (Rotomold plastic), row boats (aluminum) including paddles/oars and painter/tie-off lines
- ♦ Boat rack
- ♦ Boat trailers
- ♦ Rakes for beach and swim area
- ♦ Floating swim and bouldering rafts
- ♦ Water slides: permanent and inflatable.

### Qualifications: (Minimum qualifications and experience)

- ♦ Must be 17 years of age, 18 years of age or graduated high school preferred as also must meet minimum age requirements for a residential kamp counselor position.
- ♦ Minimum current certification in approved lifeguarding. Waterfront lifeguarding required and water safety instructor (WSI) certifications preferred.
- ♦ Current certification in first aid and CPR as mandated by the American Red Cross to maintain lifeguarding certification.
- ♦ Prior experience lifeguarding, preferably at a waterfront and/or residential kamp.
- ♦ Experience canoeing or kayaking preferred especially current American Canoe Association certification.
- ♦ Experience working with people of differing physical and developmental abilities preferred.
- ♦ Must complete health profile 10 days prior to first day of staff training or work.

### Knowledge Skills and Abilities:

- ♦ Training and experience in waterfront activities that are offered at the kamp including swimming and boating.
- ♦ Desire and ability to work with children outdoors in and on the water.
- ♦ Knowledge and prior use of a rowboat as used for water rescues.
- ♦ Willingness to live and work in a kamp setting, working irregular hours.

### Physical Aspects of the Position:

- ♦ Ability to communicate and work with kampers ages 6 (+) and adults providing necessary instruction to kampers and staff.
- ♦ Ability to observe camper behavior and assess its appropriateness, ability to assess and proactively avert risk management threats, enforce appropriate safety regulations and emergency procedures and apply appropriate behavior-management techniques in accordance with kamp philosophy and policies.
- ♦ Ability to observe staff behavior and assess its appropriateness, enforce appropriate safety regulations and emergency procedures, and apply appropriate management techniques. Ability and self-confidence

to communicate concerns to the appropriate superior staff (e.g., Kamp Director, Waterfront/Aquatics Director, Health Director/Nurse or Executive Directors) depending upon the nature and severity of the concern.

- ♦ Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards related to the activity.
- ♦ Physical ability to respond appropriately to situations requiring first aid. Must be able to assist kampers in an emergency (fire, evacuation, illness, or injury) and possess strength and endurance required to maintain constant supervision of kampers.
- ♦ Endurance and agility for prolonged standing, sitting, bending, stooping, or stretching as required for different activities. Normal range of hearing/eyesight to observe, record, prepare, and communicate appropriate kamper and staff activities.
- ♦ Endure daily exposure to a variety of weather conditions including heat/cold, sun/rain.
- ♦ Endure routine exposure to insects (e.g., mosquitos, ants, bees, or spiders). May encounter other wildlife such as fish, snakes, bats, deer, fox or domesticated animals (e.g., dogs or chickens) though direct contact not required.
- ♦ Ability to swim, tread water, hold breath underwater, and physically assist distressed kampers or staff in the water, in accordance with current American Red Cross requirements.
- ♦ Ability to lift and carry 50 lbs. for short distances.