

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

**Position Title:** Climbing Specialist

**Revised:** February 2004

**Reports To:** Youth Programs Coordinator

**General Function:** The Climbing Specialist manages the activities of the camp's tower climbing program, including instruction, supervision of belayers, and control of equipment.

**Requirements:** As the lead climbing instructor, the incumbent must be at least 19 years of age, and must have documented training in tower climbing management. It is very important that the Climbing Specialist be a person of integrity who is able to serve as a positive role model to youth. To properly support and interpret the mission and values of the camp, the incumbent must be a person of strong personal faith, with a positive relationship with the Catholic Church.

Because the Climbing Specialist manages high-risk activities, it is essential that the incumbent be a self-starter who requires minimal supervision. Because each staff member lives and works closely with the members of the staff community, it is important that the Climbing Specialist is able to collaborate with others, communicate clearly and honestly, and be willing to contribute as community needs change. The Climbing Specialist must hold current certification in First Aid and CPR, as he/she might be called upon to provide emergency medical assistance to program participants.

### **Principal Activities:**

- Provides instruction for daily recreational climbs and climbing lessons on the camp's climbing tower
- Provides for the supervision and evaluation of staff belayers
- Evaluates the soundness of climbing equipment; keeps records necessary for documenting use of all equipment; alerts the Operations and Development Manager of the need to retire or replace equipment
- Assist program staff in leading evening activities and other all-camp activities
- Serve as a "co-pilot" for a cabin group; sit with them at meals, attend evening activities with them, and assist the cabin counselor with bedtime preparations and evening devotions
- On a rotating basis, supervise daily camper free time
- Assist with Sunday camper registration
- After Friday camper departure, participate in the cleaning of cabins, bathrooms, and common areas
- Attend daily staff meetings
- As needed, temporarily supervise campers in the absence of their counselor
- Play with campers!!

**Essential Functions:**

- ◆ Ability to communicate procedures and regulations to staff and campers
- ◆ Ability, both visual and auditory, to identify safety hazards and monitor camper and staff behavior
- ◆ Ability to understand and implement behavior-management techniques
- ◆ Physical mobility and endurance to maintain constant supervision of campers
- ◆ Ability to communicate with and collaborate with staff peers and campers in providing program leadership and instruction
- ◆ Ability to understand and communicate the camp's spiritual vision
- ◆ Physical strength and endurance to climb 40 feet and safely belay climbers weighing up to 220 pounds for up to 3 hours at a time