



## Welcome Counselor's in Training!!!

Dear CITs & Parents,

My name is Nicole Williams and I am your CIT Director. I am ecstatic to get started! Below you will find important information about what to expect for the summer.

### **Session Breakdown**

During the first week of session 1 (June 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>) and session 2 (July 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>), CIT's will participate in interactive trainings and workshops. They will gain skills in teamwork, leadership, supervision and communication, as well as participate in workshops about high school readiness, college prep, etc.

**Session 1 training week will be located at the Civic House, 124 Dunnell Rd. Maplewood.** **Session 2 training week will be located at Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel, 432 Scotland Rd., South Orange.**

After the training week, CIT's will choose where to spend the remaining two weeks at one of our many camps. CIT's will be able to apply the skills and knowledge learned from training at the camp of their choice. Here, all teens will be assigned to a senior counselor and group of campers. All of the South Mountain YMCA camps are located throughout Maplewood and South Orange. Please note, bus drop off and pick up is not available at all of our camps.

All session 3 CIT's (August 6<sup>th</sup>-August 10<sup>th</sup>) will be at the camp of their choice.

## Trips

We are visiting three colleges/universities: St. Johns University- Manhattan College (Session 1: June 27<sup>th</sup>), St. Peter's University (Session 2: July 18<sup>th</sup>) and Temple University (Session 3: August 8<sup>th</sup>). If you'd like your CIT to attend a trip during a session they are not signed up for, contact the CIT director about arrangements.

## What to Bring to Camp

CIT's should bring a lunch, snacks, refillable water bottle, wear their CIT camp shirt and sneakers every day. Shirts will be distributed on the morning of the in-person training before teen's board buses. Every CIT will receive 2 camp shirts and are expected to wear them every day. **Be aware, we are a peanut safe camp.** We ask that lunch does not include any nut, nut products or peanut butter items.

## Bus Transportation & Sign In/ Sign Out Waiver

Bus transportation is available free of charge to and from SOMAPY, Summer Quest and Teen Adventure camps. CIT's who sign up for a camp that does not provide bus transportation, it is the responsibility of the CIT/Family to make arrangements for drop off & pick up. All bus arrangements must be made with the Y Welcome Center one week prior the desired week of bus pick up/ drop off.

CIT's are required to have a parent/ guardian or authorized pick up sign them in and out daily. If teens will be walking to and from camp on their own, a sign in/ out waiver must be completed. Even if the CIT will ride the bus to a PM drop off location, a signature is required by a parent/guardian or authorized person for pick up. If there is no one at the bus stop for pick up, and no Sign In/ Sign Out waiver, the CIT will remain on the bus and return back to the YMCA office. Bus counselors will not hold the bus past its designated drop off time nor will they allow a CIT to walk home without a Sign In/ Sign Out waiver.

To avoid this, complete the waiver and return to CIT camp director or Y Welcome Center.

## **Background Check & Required Trainings**

**Prior to completing the required online trainings, all CIT's must complete a background check.** Background checks are mandatory by our HR department for anyone completing online trainings. It is important that the section asking for CIT's birthdate and social security number be filled out. The form should be signed by the CIT & parent/guardian. Once the form is completed, either scan and email it to the CIT director or drop it off at the Y Welcome Center office.

Online trainings must be completed prior to the first day of camp. Instructions on how to complete the trainings will be emailed to parent/guardian after teen has been registered for program. If your teen is having difficulty logging on to website, email CIT director.

CIT's will also be required to attend an in-person training at the Saw Mill YMCA on June 9, 2018. Bus transportation is available for all staff and CIT's. The teens will need to bring a bagged lunch, snacks, refillable water bottle, wear their sneakers & CIT T-Shirt and bring their amazing, infectious camp spirit!! This training focuses on camp culture, spirit and games.

If you have any further questions and/or comments, contact the CIT Director.

Best Regards,

Ms. Nicole, CIT Director

[nwilliams@metroymcas.org](mailto:nwilliams@metroymcas.org) or 973-762-0183 x14

\*\*Please Note: Voicemails are checked once daily

