

MISSION

To provide a safe, nurturing, dynamic learning environment where children and teenagers are empowered to succeed.

PHILOSOPHY

- To provide a safe physical, social and emotional recreational camping environment for children with special needs or disabilities, that adheres to the highest standards of general camping practices. The primary focus of recruitment and service will be to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Aspergers Syndrome
- To design and provide a camp program that will allow children to increase their understanding of themselves and of their individual disabilities.
- To design and provide a camp program that will teach children and teenagers the social and physical skills that will encourage them to take the risks necessary to increase their opportunities for success.
- To provide staff training that will increase understanding of the children who have disabilities and special needs, demonstrate how best to work with these children and encourage and foster personal and professional development.
- To work cooperatively with the families of campers and other professionals whose involvement is critical for a successful experience.
- To be an advocate for people with disabilities and special needs



The North Suburban YMCA is a volunteer-led, non-profit community organization serving 12 communities of the North Shore. These communities include Buffalo Grove, Deerfield, Glencoe, Glenview, Highland Park, Highwood, Lincolnshire, Northbrook, Northfield, Riverwoods, Winnetka and Wheeling.

The YMCA is a community-based organization and believes that its programs and services should be available to everyone. That's why the YMCA offers financial assistance that is designed to fit each individual's financial situation.



The Center for Psychological Services, LLC has provided comprehensive psychological services to the metropolitan Chicago area since 1994. It started as a group of psychologists with experience in the area of clinical psychology and special education and has provided psychological services to over 25 school districts and special education co-ops.

NORTH SUBURBAN YMCA

2705 Techny Road
Northbrook, IL 60062

Phone: 847-272-7250
Fax: 847-272-7587
www.nsymca.org

Contact Trina Vander Ark, Camp Director, for an application. You can reach Trina at 847.272.7250, ext 1233 or via email at tvanderark@nsymca.org.



A NEW Special Needs Summer Camp presented by North Suburban YMCA in partnership with Center for Psychological Services



SESSION I
JUNE 15–JULY 10
SESSION II
JULY 13–AUG 7

TEL: 847.272.7250

We Build Strong Kids, Strong Families, Strong Communities

Camp Overview

Camp H.A.W.K.S. (*Helping All Wonderful Kids Succeed*) is a partnership between **North Suburban YMCA** and **Center for Psychological Services, LLC (CPS)**. North Suburban YMCA will be the host camp and is expert in recreation and fitness for children of all ages. CPS, a private practice in Northfield, Illinois has clinical psychologists, school psychologists, and postdoctoral fellows with training and expertise with children and adolescents with special needs.

Camp H.A.W.K.S. is a needs-based program for ages 8-14 and 14-18, serving primarily those with high functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder or Aspergers Syndrome. Each group will be staffed by a professional psychologist and an experienced camp counselor and will feature ratios of no less than 1 staff to 2 campers.

We will engage campers in typical fun-filled camp activities, during which we can “review and redo” social interactions, as needed, in a safe, small group environment.

The primary goal of Camp H.A.W.K.S is for children to have a fun and positive summer camp experience in a safe physical, social and emotional recreational camping environment while using real-life opportunities to teach social skills.



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Junior H.A.W.K.S.

Junior H.A.W.K.S. is a five day a week, partial day, four week camp where children will have an opportunity to enjoy a camping experience designed specifically for their success.

Session 1: June 15, 2009
Session 2: July 13, 2009
Days: M – F
Time: 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Ages: 8-14
Cost: \$1690/Y Member
\$1990/Non-Member



Sign up for both sessions and receive a 5% discount!

Senior H.A.W.K.S.

Senior H.A.W.K.S. is a four day a week (M-Th), partial day, four week camp for GBN and GBS students who attend Glenbrook Off Campus and other similar programs Curriculum will be coordinated with the faculty of the GBN Off Campus program to provide a continuity in their experience.

Session 1: June 15, 2009
Session 2: July 13, 2009
Days: M – Th
Time: 12:15 pm – 2:30 pm
Ages: 14-18
Cost: \$1290/Y Member
\$1590/Non-Member

Non-Members: Be sure to check out our **Youth & Family Membership** options. Which can pay for themselves over the course of the summer.

Sample Themes

Camp H.A.W.K.S. will run parallel to other Y camps and will be integrated as much as possible when it will be beneficial to the children. Some of the camp themes include:

- Y Camp's Got Talent
- Aloha Summer
- Spirit Week
- It's a Jungle Out There
- Y Olympics
- X-treme Sports
- Holiday Hoopla
- Carnival

Staff Training

All **Camp H.A.W.K.S** staff will be trained in service to special needs populations by the Center for Psychological Services as well as participating in in-service training to the general staff of all camps at the NSYMCA.

Staff will prepare and employ individualized positive proactive behavioral and cognitive strategies to enable each camper to enjoy optimal functioning at camp.



Camper Application, Screening & Placement

CPS and the YMCA will conduct the screening and placement of the campers through review of records, interview with the camper and parent(s), and an observation in an typical setting where the camper is involved in order to insure that each camper will be able to enjoy a successful camp experience. Application is not a guarantee of placement.

The YMCA is a membership organization open to all people. We welcome women and men, girls and boys of all ages, races, ethnicities, religions, abilities and financial circumstances. The YMCA is fully accessible with programs that embrace diversity, reflecting the needs and composition of the communities we serve.