

2021

# VOLUNTEER FAQ



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## *Who We Are*

The mission of Flying Horse Farms is to enrich the lives of children with serious illnesses and their families by providing magical, transforming fun through medically-safe, cost-free camping experiences.

## *What is Family Camp and what do volunteers do?*

Throughout the spring and summer, Flying Horse Farms will hold weekend-long family camps (beginning on Friday evening and going through to early Sunday afternoon). We can host up to 10 families each weekend. Families get to play, relax, create, unplug and reconnect while they are at Flying Horse Farms. Our goal is to provide families of children with serious illnesses the opportunity to experience what camp can do for the child and their family.

As a family camp volunteer, you will be placed as an activity counselor, Family Liaison, on our medical team, or on our kitchen crew.

## *What is an Activity Counselor?*

From archery to boating to Angie's Arts and Crafts, the activities at Flying Horse Farms are a large part of the magic. Campers and/or families use activity spaces to explore, create, laugh and get a little bit messy. Activity areas include: archery, arts and crafts, boating and canoeing, fishing, nature and discovery, indoor/outdoor sports and activities, wood-working, performing arts and more. Activity counselors are responsible for planning fun projects for our campers, preparing the space and materials and operating any equipment necessary in their area. Activity counselors also have the important job of making sure that all campers can participate in all activities. They are responsible for setting up, leading the activity and cleaning afterward. Activity counselors must be at least 19 years old.

## *What is a Family Liaison?*

During Family Camp weekends, Liaisons will arrive to camp Saturday morning for a brief COVID-19 screening and orientation for the day. After Volly-O, volunteers will be assigned to their program area. As a Liaison, you will be responsible for staffing the Liaison table, gathering or calling the program team to gather supplies for families such as games, puzzles, activities, and blankets or pillows, and at times helping to sanitize in between families. Liaisons are only required to be at camp on Saturday from 8:30am to 9pm.

## *What do medical volunteers do at camp?*

Campers come to Flying Horse Farms with a range of unique needs. Our medical staff is responsible for helping to meet these needs. During family camp weekends, families will bring any equipment, supplies and medication that their child may need. The medical team acts as a resource for the family and provides general first aid.





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### *Does Flying Horse Farms need lifeguards?*

We do! Flying Horse Farms has a handful of water activities including swimming, boating and fishing. We need lifeguards to help keep campers, families, volunteers and staff safe at these activities. Lifeguards will work lakeside or poolside during any time that water activities are open to campers and families. Lifeguards can choose to volunteer for an entire camp session, for a day or for a shift during a family or summer camp. Lifeguards must provide proof of current lifeguard certification and current CPR for the Professional Rescuer with AED certification.

### *Will there be an orientation?*

Yep! All volunteers, new and returning, attend an orientation. Orientation, or Volly-O, consists of three parts. E-Learning is an online course designed to give you an overview of Flying Horse Farms and your role. New for this year is the introduction of Virtual Volly-O. This will consist of videos aimed at going into a bit more detail about camp policies and procedures. And maybe learning a camp dance or two along the way! The third and final piece of Volly-O is an in-person training. We'll put it all together and make sure you're prepared for a day at camp!

### *What are the days/hours I'm expected to be at camp?*

Camp days typically begin at 8:00 am (sometimes there are early morning activities beginning at 7:00 am) and end at 10:00 pm. Time is provided for counselors to take breaks during rest times. This year, volunteers will arrive on Friday evening and Saturday morning.

### *Who can volunteer?*

As long as you're 19 or older, we would love to have you join us as a Flying Horse Farms volunteer! We've had students, professionals and retirees all volunteer their time at camp. Anyone can apply!

### *Can I leave camp during the time I am volunteering?*

We ask all of our program volunteers (counselors and activity leaders) to stay at camp the entire session.

### *Can I volunteer at more than one camp session?*

There will be a place on your application to list your availability. If your free time matches our staffing needs, we may place you in more than one session.

### *What should I bring to camp?*

After you are approved to come to camp, we'll send you a confirmation email. The email will have a packing list, driving directions and other information. Along with your sunscreen, positive attitude and willingness to have fun, please remember to bring clothes that you won't mind getting a little bit messy.

### **WE WANT CAMP TO BE A SAFE EXPERIENCE FOR EVERYONE. PLEASE FOLLOW OUR DRESS CODE:**

- Wear a mask that has ear loops or ties around your head - no gaiters/buffs/bandanas, please
- Always wear closed-toe shoes or open-toe shoes with a heel strap (you can bring your flip flops for the pool and showers)
- Make sure your shorts are below your fingertips or just above your knees (at least)
- Feel free to wear tank tops, but please leave the tube tops and spaghetti straps at home
- All clothing must cover your stomach/midriff
- Keep necklines of shirts appropriate
- Please bring camp-appropriate bathing suits
- Clothing and any visible tattoos that reference drugs/alcohol/obscenities/anything offensive are not allowed
- Avoid wearing perfume or cologne as some campers are sensitive or allergic



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### *When should I submit my application?*

Deadlines for applications will be posted on the online application site, but volunteer positions are all filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Space fills up quickly so we recommend getting your application in ASAP.

### *What information do I need to submit?*

#### **REQUIRED:**

BCI or FBI background check  
Tetanus and Pertussis Vaccine (DTaP or TDaP)  
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine (MMR)  
Varicella Vaccine (Chickenpox/Shingles)  
Tuberculosis PPD skin test  
Basic Health History

#### **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:**

Flu Vaccine  
Meningococcal Vaccine  
Hepatitis B Vaccine  
COVID-19 Vaccine

**If receiving live vaccines, please do so at least 4 weeks prior to arriving at camp**

### *Do you provide transportation to camp?*

Unfortunately, no. But we'd be more than happy to connect you with other volunteers from your area, and you can arrange carpools, etc. If you are willing to carpool with other volunteers, please let us know at [volunteer@flyinghorsefarms.org](mailto:volunteer@flyinghorsefarms.org).

### *Can I bring a cell phone or computer?*

We try to keep camp low-tech so our campers are focused on exploring and having fun. You can bring your cell phone, but we would love if you try not to use it. Computers and valuable items should be left at home. We have computers at camp, but only for emergencies.

### *How do I apply?*

Visit our website at [www.flyinghorsefarms.org/get-involved](http://www.flyinghorsefarms.org/get-involved) to learn more and begin the application process. We have an Application Guide available on the website to help you get started!

### *I can't come for a week or weekend, can I still volunteer?*

Please! Camp relies on a variety of different volunteers to keep camp running, and not just during the camp season. Check out the 'Get Involved' tab on our website to see all of our volunteer opportunities. You can also send an email to [volunteer@flyinghorsefarms.org](mailto:volunteer@flyinghorsefarms.org).

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS THAT WERE NOT ANSWERED HERE, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL US AT 419-751-7077.**

