



**American
Camping
Association**

Southampton Fresh Air Home
36 Barkers Island Rd
Southampton, NY 11968
USA



Staff 2025

COUNSELOR INFO PACKAGE

Summer 25



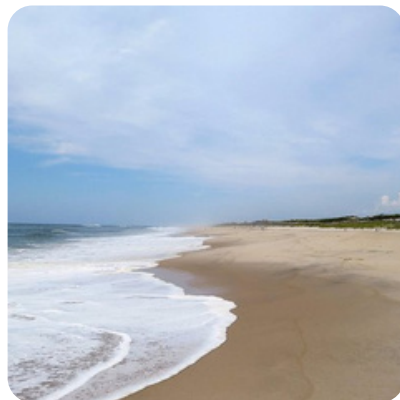
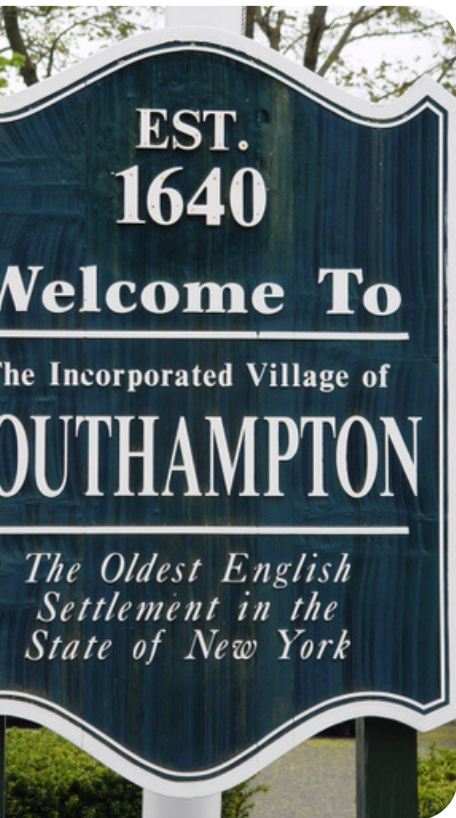
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Location

Southampton, NY, USA



Southampton

Our camp is located in Southampton, NY, on Long Island. By bus or train, it is approximately two hours East of New York City. Southampton is a very wealthy area, with many amazing homes and estates. There are beautiful ocean beaches, fifteen-minute bike ride away from camp by bike and the area is world famous as a vacation resort for many people from New York and all across the USA. Many celebrities and famous people have homes here or nearby areas. There are lots of places to relax at night including the beach, bars, mini golf, shops and movie theaters.



Getting here and things to do



Flights

The camp is a simple two hour bus/train ride from the JFK airport. Once you know how your travel plans, we'll work directly with you to give you all the details you need to make it as easy as possible to get to camp.

There is a stipend reimbursement for staff travel to camp. Please contact the camp directly for more details on how we'll be able to help you.

Getting around town

Once you are here, we want you to be able to see all that the Hamptons has to offer! On your days off, we run a drop off/pick up car for staff to go to the beach/town, but if you'd prefer a more leisurely ride, we do have a number of bikes for you to use every day. There are several stunning beaches close to camp and access to local stores and train stations is very simple. Once the sun has set, we'll make sure that there is plenty for you to do. It might be a campfire evening or a bus trip out to town, but we promise you that you'll never be bored at SFAH!



The Camp

Southampton Fresh Air Home

SFAH is over 122 years old.....but thankfully all of our facilities are not! We are lucky enough to have a modern, beautiful area that will take your breath away. The camp is a not-for-profit organization that is primarily funded by private donations, foundations and corporations. Originally, the camp was a private estate, and for many years the campers all lived upstairs in the main house. Today it is a thriving center for the physically challenged, and one of the only camps in the USA that work with our population of kids. Every summer around 150 physically challenged children come through our doors to spend time in a place that offers activities, friendship, and independence in an environment of love and understanding. Many children who come to our camp enjoy their first experience of leadership, competition, and acceptance; experiences that they carry with them throughout their lives. The campers at SFAH are not overprotected or expected to have a stronger code of morals than individuals without physical challenges. They are just kids at camp. Together we get to spend time in a place that creates amazing life experiences, from which we all us can learn and grow.

Facilities



Lifestyle



Life at SFAH is busy....but a lot of fun! We are passionate about what we do and we believe that camp should be amazing for everyone who comes through our doors, campers and staff. To make this happen we all work hard, but also believe that everyone being happy is essential for their job. If you are happy, the kids will be happy, and camp will be amazing.

When you're not working, we want to make sure that life is as simple as possible. On your days off, we have a car service to the town and beach (10 mins away), plus there is a number of bikes if you just want to ride to one of the beautiful bays that surround us during your breaktime (10 mins away). On site, there is a staff recreational room with TV and pool table, a gym, and lots of indoor and outdoor areas for you to hang out. Our staff accommodations are divided into two main living areas; Main & South. Both areas have 5 bedrooms, with two bunk beds in each, for the 20 staff that live in each area. There are three bathrooms in both Main and South. There are also four staff rooms above the bunks that house three people in each, with an individual bathroom. There is a full staff laundry onsite. Most evenings we run a staff activity (Game nights, trips to town, Movies nights, Spa nights, Campfire, etc.) There is also a local bar and gas station within a 15 minute walk. We promise you that you won't ever be bored!



Who Does Well At SFAH?



Is SFAH right for you?

The person who does well at SFAH has three essential qualities: They are nice, willing, and hard working. To make this summer successful, we will be there to help you every step of the way during your time at camp, but these qualities are the only three things that we can't teach. But if you are nice, willing and hardworking, and we fill camp full of people who also have these three things, then I promise you that this summer will be the most amazing of your life!

You don't have to be loudest or the funniest person to work at SFAH, you just need to be yourself.... and trust us when we say that won't be hard! We are a camp that's smaller in size than others which makes meeting people and making friends super easy. Our facilities span 4 acres, is filled with 120 people, and we promise that there won't be a name on camp you don't know very quickly. When you work and live with everyone, you find that closeness quickly follows. Working here can be an intense experience but one that gives you an opportunity to do some important work, while also have a big impact on a lot of lives, yours included!



A Typical Day

8am Arrive in the bunk

9am Flagraising

9:10am Breakfast

9:45am Back to bunk for morning clean up

10:30am 1st Activity

11:30am 2nd Activity

12:30pm Lunch

1pm Back to bunk/prep kids for rest hour

1:15pm Rest Hour Begins

2:15pm Back to bunk/swim prep

2:30pm 3rd Activity

3:45pm 4th Activity

5pm 5th Activity

6pm Flag

6:10pm Dinner

6:45pm Evening Hang Out

7:30pm Evening Activity

8:35pm Back to bunk/prep kids for bed

9pm Evening Meeting

9:30pm Finish (unless on duty)

Overnight On Duty (2 nights a week, see note on next page)

A Typical Day, Arrival Dates & Pre-Camp

Typical Day Additional

Notes:

The counselor role also includes supervising the kids during 'break times' (Rest Hour & Overnight) twice a week.

Counselors covering Rest Hour & Overnight will receive additional time off.



Arrival Dates

We have two windows for staff arrival.

- Regular Arrival (June 21)
- Pre-camp (must be confirmed with camp prior to arrival)

Regular Arrival

This is when the majority of staff will arrive. Regular arrival at camp will be Saturday June 21st. On the Sunday, you will begin training and the campers will arrive to camp on the following Saturday (June 28th). It's an intense first week, with a lot to learn, but it's also a lot of fun and a time when you begin to make friendships that will last a lifetime.

There are some variations to the dates above according to your roles/availability and we will discuss these with you individually. Please do not book your flights without contacting camp first to confirm your arrival date and time.

Pre-Camp Arrival

Pre-camp is not mandatory. If you are interested in pre-camp work please let us know. Pre-camp work is different than the camp work as we know it in the summer when the kids are here. Work during pre-camp is usually a 9am-5pm day with a 5-day week. The work during this time is split into two 'roles' which is discussed upon arrival.

Between May 27th and June 6th, we set up for a fundraiser that we have on June 7th and 8th. This work involves lots of general jobs such as moving furniture and cleaning. After the event is over (June 9th-June 20th) we unpack everything and get the camp ready for the summer. This is when we get out all the camp equipment, set up the beds, etc. Everything that we need to do to make it ready for everyone to arrive on June 21st!

Days Off

General Model

During the course of a nine week contract you will receive 12 and a 1/2 days off. Your days will fall into two categories; days off during a camp session, and days off between sessions.

There are three camp sessions and each of them is two weeks in length. During each of these you will have two days off, one each week.

There are two breaks between session and during each of these you will have three days off.

There is also an additional half day off during orientation.

The exact dates for days off will be explained in more detail in the the staff acceptance pack but please know that we value your time and the need for you to get enough rest to enjoy your summer at SFAH.

Staff Notes

Most staff will arrive June 21st. (Staff arriving before June 21st will receive additional pay, as agreed upon prior to arrival)

The last day of work for all staff is Aug 24. Staff are welcome to stay at camp that night and many staff choose to leave on Aug 25.

All staff are free to stay at camp on intersession breaks and days off. We will continue to supply board, lodgings, and transportation for those staff who choose not to leave camp during the intersession breaks.

We will also have extra work for those staff who wish to work during the intersession for extra pay. Work placements for the intersessions are limited however so please let the office know that you are interested when you arrive at camp.

Staff who come to us through an international staffing agency are contracted to receive a minimum of 9 days off during their summer contract. We have 12 and a half days off scheduled for every staff member as we believe that this is a healthier model for everyone involved in SFAH.

All staff, regardless of role, are required to stay on-site 2 nights a week when camp is in session for an on-duty. On-duties vary according to job roles but for the counselor role your duty nights will be the two nights a week that you sleep in the bunk with the campers. You will receive additional time off for these on-duties.

Staff Salary

General Info

When it comes to pay, the big question all camps get asked is about hourly salaries. Very few camps in the US use an hourly salary scale to outline your pay rate. This is for two reasons:

- Lifestyle
- Board & Lodgings (housing, food, transportation, etc)

Lifestyle

Anyone working at a camp, works long hours. When you are part of a place that runs 24-7, the hours have to be long. However, that is also what makes working at camps such an amazing experience to work through. It's all about loving what you do, and being asked to have as much fun as possible in your work. That's why camps are such great places to be for the summer. They are full of people who live, work and play together in a place that is designed to maximize fun at every opportunity. When you are a part of that world, where work doesn't feel like work anymore, it's an amazing feeling.

Board & Lodgings

From the moment that you set foot on camp, you should have no costs to you personally. We will supply you with an air-conditioned shared bedroom, three meals a day, and additional snacks in the evening. There is a free staff laundry and we supply you with 6-8 staff t-shirts to wear everyday, as well as a staff sweatshirt to wear in the evening. Life on camp is free!

Salaries

If you are an international staff member your pay is set by the agency that helped you with your visa (e.g. Camp America). Please contact camp before you arrive at camp to discuss your pay rate. There is a guide given to us by your agency that we follow. This pay guide has different rates for your age, flight details, etc. We will need to give you your individual pay-rate according to your status.

If you are an American staff member please contact the camp directly to discuss your pay-rate.

Your basic contract is for nine weeks (June 21– Aug 24).

If you any work days outside of your contract (e.g. pre-camp or intersession) you will receive additional pay. Please contact the camp directly to discuss these opportunities.

Staff will be paid 4 times during the summer (bi-weekly).



Staff Testimonials



Staff 2024 Testimonials

‘The place was like a home. From the day I arrived at SFAH the people received me with love and affection, they became like my second family’

‘Southampton Fresh Air Home is the best camp ever, everyone is so kind, they respect your hours, and if you have a problem they help you to solve it. You won't ever get lonely! Im so grateful to have been there.’

‘Very welcoming and lovely staff. All the kids are also lovely to work with and its enjoyable and interesting to learn from them and have a great summer. You also get trained and managed really well.’

‘I had the most amazing, life-changing experience of my entire life’

‘The camp atmosphere itself is absolutely incredible! It is such a friendly place and you develop a family for life. The work is hard but so rewarding! My summer there was beyond amazing and I am hoping to return!’

‘It really is a huge family and I've made some friends for life from camp! Just the bonds you have with the kids and the activities, there really is nothing like it!.’



Additional Resources



www.sfah.org

A great place to start

After Campfire Podcast

The camps podcast, featuring many previous staff will give you a real sense of who we are and what we do

Instagram:
[@sfah_1901](https://www.instagram.com/sfah_1901)

Where you can see photos, reels, videos, and flyers showing fun activities, laughter, and events!

Facebook:
Southampton Fresh Air Home

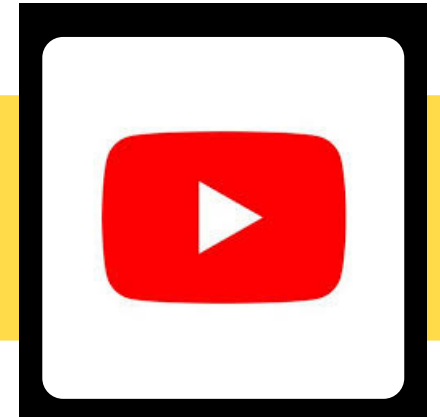
Find more information about our community and events.

Zoom

Meet our team, get to know your colleagues, and ask us any of your burning questions.

You Tube:
Southampton Fresh Air Home

Find videos from our summers, events, and travel information.





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Contact us for further inquiries!

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