

**Hi-Hills Camp**  
**Summer Day Camp**  
**at Gill St. Bernard's School**



PO Box 604 - Gladstone, NJ 07934  
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We would like to tell you a little bit about the CIT program at Hi-Hills and give you some tips for filling out the enclosed application. It is our hope that this information will be helpful to you.

The CIT program is intended for **students entering the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade** in school who are **very serious about becoming a camp counselor in the future**. It is our sincere belief that the CIT program develops some of our strongest counselors. In order to be a paid staff member at Hi-Hills you must be 16 years old at the beginning of camp. Therefore, some applicants must participate in the program for two years before working at Hi-Hills. **The dates of the 2008 CIT program are June 23rd to August 15th. The charge for this program is \$1750. The program lasts for eight weeks.**

The program content will include exploration into most aspects of the camp operation. CIT's will have an opportunity to work in many camp areas on a weekly rotating basis. They will spend time in preschool, athletics, at the pool, and in the lower bunks. As the program progresses, they will be given more responsibility in planning and supervising activities. CIT's will also participate in weekly group and individual meetings to develop techniques for working with children, supervisors and co-counselors. It is also a time to discuss individual strengths and weaknesses.

Enclosed, is a CIT Program Outline, which you should read carefully.

CIT program participants are selected on the basis of their application, references, and a personal interview with the Camp Director. We look for people who are self-motivated and love working with children. **Try to think about how you will make an impact at Hi-Hills as well as what you hope to gain personally from your experience as a CIT.** Priority will be given to those applicants that will be available for the full eight-week session and those that are able to serve as bus counselors. Please note that participation does not guarantee future employment with the camp, but exceptional performance will clearly make you a superior candidate.

**When filling out your application, we urge you to take time and care.** Your written application is your first impression. You may want to type or make a rough draft of your answers to the questions before submitting them. It would also be a good idea to have an adult proof-read your draft and offer suggestions, but remember that your *application must be your work!*

If you or your parents have any other questions, or if we can help in any other way, please let us know. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Hi-Hills Staff

## CIT Program Description

### Week One:

*All CIT's will be grouped together. During this time the CIT's will:*

- get acquainted with each other
- participate in team-building activities,
- learn some basic group development theories,
- think about their own personal and program goals for their eight weeks as a CIT,
- have fun, work hard, eat well, get plenty of exercise, and feel good about themselves.

### Weeks Two through Eight

*To get an overview of many aspects of camp operations, each CIT will:*

- rotate working on maintenance, in the camp office and in the nurse's office.
- spend some time with Bunk Supervisors in Preschool, Upper and Lower Bunks.

*To gain experience in working with children, various staff members, and the program. Each CIT will:*

- rotate working with a different bunk group of children and counselors each week.
- **OR** rotate working in a different activity area each week.
- assist with care of campers in the bunk group.
- observe, assist, and co-lead activities with the bunk group and activity groups.
- plan and implement activities with supervision and assistance of staff members.
- assume varying levels of leadership in every level of camp program and activities.

*To maximize learning from all the experiences a CIT has, CIT's will meet regularly with the CIT Director as a group and individually, as appropriate, to discuss:*

- personal experiences people want to share and discuss.
- general topics of child development, camp policy, program, any other issues that arise.
- ongoing goals and expectations; progress reports, and plans for accomplishment.
- evaluation of strengths and weaknesses observed by staff, and plans for improvement.
- self evaluation and group support.
- relaxation, snacks, and fun.

Many CIT's have shown exceptional leadership abilities and gained the self-confidence, knowledge and skills needed to be a good Counselor. Often, these exceptional CIT's are invited to stay at Hi-Hills and join the staff as Assistant Counselors.



## Counselor in Training Application

### CAMPER INFORMATION

Camper Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School (Fall 2008): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

List any clubs, groups, programs, or hobbies that you are involved in.

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### WORK AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

List any jobs or volunteer experience that you have had.

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### PLEASE COMPLETE THESE ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER AND ATTACH TO THE APPLICATION

Why do you want to participate in the CIT program at Hi-Hills?

What do you hope to learn from this program?

What qualities can you bring to the camp program?

What are the top 5 things you do best?

Describe your experience working with children.

Personal References (Please do not choose family members. Try asking a teacher, coach, neighbor, etc.)  
You must also provide **one** written reference from one of the individuals listed below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

***Release and Personal Certification of Applicant***

I certify that all statements on this application are true to the best of my knowledge. I grant permissions to Hi-Hills Day Camp to solicit and investigate statements from any person or organization with regard to my personal history and prior employment and agree to hold all persons harmless with respect to the information they may give receive or publish. I understand that I may not be accepted into this program. If offered a placement I will conscientiously abide by all camp rules and conditions of the program. I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to all the above and voluntarily sign this application.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Release and Personal Certification of Parent***

I certify that I have read the paragraph above and approve of all language, information and privacy waivers as they pertain to my child. I approve of Hi-Hills Day Camp conducting reference checks about my child. My child has my full approval to participate in the CIT program. I understand that my child may not be accepted into the program. I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to all the above and voluntarily sign this application.

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Checklist**

- Have you answered all the questions and attached them to this page?
- Have you signed this form?
- Has your parent or guardian signed this form and submitted a Registration form?
- Mail your information to Hi-Hills Day Camp – PO Box 604 Gladstone, NJ 07934

You will be contacted for an interview by one of our Camp Directors when we receive your completed application.