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# ADOPT-A-STAFF PROGRAM

## INSTRUCTIONS

Below is a pamphlet to print or email to potential sponsors that explains this program as well as tips for writing an email or letter to potential sponsors.

### TIPS FOR WRITING A SPONSOR LETTER

A few tips to writing a letter to relatives, family friends, your church congregation & church leaders, and others to ask for Adopt-A-Staff sponsorships.

- Tell your story (briefly). If your audience doesn't know you well, introduce yourself, your role at Beaver Camp (counselor, TLT, etc), and explain in just a few sentences how Beaver Camp has helped you grow over the years you've attended.
- If your audience isn't very familiar with Beaver Camp, explain what it is.
- If you have a story of how you've impacted a kid at camp, this is a great time to explain that. If you don't have a specific example, still explain camp's impact on kids.
- What is your specific goal with fundraising? Are you trying to work in ministry, while also attending college or high school? Are you trying to impact kids, and grow your leadership, but you have other obligations that make it difficult to work through college? You don't need a sob story, just a "you're helping me do ministry and go to college."
- Make a SPECIFIC request. Explain that you are trying to raise additional support through the Adopt-A-Staff program, to supplement the ministry salary offered at Beaver Camp. The best way for them to support you is by: explain the steps to donating to your Adopt-A-Staff. Make sure their instructions on how to give to you are clear, and concise.
- End by thanking them for helping you in your ministry. Thank them in advance for their donation.
- Personalize the letter. It's easy to hit send on an email to your parents' contact list of 100 people, but it's more difficult to write each name out and send individual emails, or print/write out individual letters to each person. It's more intentional, more personal. You're asking them to be a part of your ministry. It should be personal!
- If you've worked at camp before, I strongly recommend attaching a photo of you working with campers in the past. If not, perhaps a photo of you as a camper could be included. If you don't know how to find a photo from a previous summer, reach out to year-round staff at camp!

### SPONSOR FORM AND RESPONSE

The sponsor may complete the response form and return it to Beaver Camp with their contribution. At a minimum, the sponsor **MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME** on the check or, if giving online, choose "Other" under designation and then email our office with your name and the amount they are giving. This will help ensure donations get to you!

By participating in the adopt a staff program you acknowledge that in the event that you do not complete your term of service, the unused balance of sponsored funds will be transferred to our campership fund.

We are grateful for your willingness to serve in camping ministry this summer! We trust you will receive God's blessing as you serve and that those you serve may experience His presence through you. We hope you will be successful in arranging for sponsors and that this program will be beneficial to you in meeting your college expenses.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

My name is [Joshua], and for the last few summers, I've been working at Beaver Camp. As a kid, I grew up attending camp, and it profoundly impacted my faith, my leadership, and my confidence in myself. As a camper, I always looked up to my counselors as role models, and I learned a lot from them. Now, I have the opportunity to be a counselor(or insert other staff role) myself!

Beaver Camp is a summer camp in Lowville, NY, right at the edge of the Adirondack park. Their tagline is "A Place to Grow," and they have been that for me, and for hundreds of campers every year.

I am also in college, earning a degree in [Outdoor Leadership & Education]. I want to [work at camp full-time in the future]! Working at Beaver Camp is an incredible ministry opportunity, helping me gain practical skills for my future, but it's difficult to support myself through college on the camp's summer salary.

That's why I am participating in the Adopt-A-Staff program. Through this, I can raise additional support, helping me work in ministry and attend the [Outdoor Leadership program] at [Toccoa Falls College], while also supporting myself. I am asking you to partner with me, pray for me, and financially contribute so that I can continue this ministry opportunity. Will you support my summer of ministry? Any donation helps! You can donate by filling out the form I've provided, and sending it to Beaver Camp, or you can donate online at [beavercamp.org/get-involved/charitable-giving](http://beavercamp.org/get-involved/charitable-giving)! Make sure to note the online donation is for Adopt-A-Staff: [staff member name]

Thank you in advance for your support. If you have any questions please contact me at (phone or email), or you can reach Beaver Camp at 315-376-2640 or [mike@beavercamp.org](mailto:mike@beavercamp.org).

SIGNATURE

Joshua Bogoniewski

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**•ADOPT-A-STAFF MEMBER PROGRAM•**

Yes! I / We would like to participate in this program.

Name of staff person \_\_\_\_\_ Amount you are giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Mail to: Beaver Camp, 8884 Buck Point Road, Lowville, NY 13367***

Please include **staff member's name** in the check memo. If you wish to give online please choose "Other" under designation and email [office@beaver.camp](mailto:office@beaver.camp) with the staff member's name and amount.

## *Beaver Camp: An Investment in People*

Beaver Camp is a non-profit organization owned and operated by the Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association. The camp began in 1969 to provide a Christian outdoor experience for youth and adults. Beaver Camp continues to offer a year-round Christian camping experience for churches and individuals.

Beaver Camp is an investment in people. Using the unique environment of the out of doors, Beaver Camp seeks to present Christ in a meaningful way, strengthen faith, and provide opportunities for Christian fellowship and good clean fun.

The growth that happens in a summer for both the camper and staff member can be a life changing experience. *Invest in the future, invest in people.*

We encourage you to consider joining this ministry by becoming a sponsor of this individual. Many capable individuals would not be able to do this type of summer mission work without additional support. This is your invitation to participate in the "Adopt-a-Staff Member" program.

With your participation, this staff member can qualify for additional support. Money contributed will be set aside in a special assistance fund until the end of the summer, at which time it will be given to the staff member to use for school and other living expenses.

Contributions to the fund should be sent to Beaver Camp as this allows you to claim the contribution as a tax deduction. To be properly credited to the individual, your contribution should be received before August 31st and the staff member's name placed in the check memo. In the event that the individual does not complete the term of their contract, the donation will be transferred to our campership fund. To take part in this ministry, simply complete the attached form and return it with your contribution.

The ministry of camping has a significant impact on the lives of youth, adults, families, and the staff who serve. Thank you for your prayerful consideration in becoming a part of Beaver Camp's ministry.



**Beaver Camp**  
invites you to participate in  
the summer mission work of our staff  
by taking part in the  
***Adopt-a-Staff Member***  
Program!

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