

We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

October 23, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I had the pleasure of working with Joe Jakesy during the 2010 summer season at YMCA Camp Ohiyesa. During this time, Joe was our Resident Camp Specialist, serving as a camp counselor for both our day and resident camp programs. Joe displayed leadership among the summer camp staff by planning evening activities and assisting less-experienced staff by providing advice and setting an excellent example.

Joe maintained a professional demeanor at all times during his interactions with campers, parents, and fellow staff. When working with campers with any special needs, Joe exhibited patience and understanding. In one case, Joe developed his own reward system to help manage camper behavior in his group. Joe communicated well with his supervisors, keeping them informed of any camper issues, and asked for additional support if needed.

The camp environment requires many staff members to take on many different roles. In addition to his counselor duties, Joe supervised our high ropes activity area, planned and led specialty camp activities, and drove a mini bus for day camp transportation. Joe's attention to detail and planning skills were essential for camp's success in these often high-risk areas. One example of Joe's accomplishments during specialty film camp was completing a Harry Potter remake with 11 campers in five days, also giving the campers a great sense of pride in their work.

Throughout my months working with Joe, I was continually impressed by Joe's performance. He exhibits responsibility and professionalism on a daily basis, making him an exceptional staff team member. Joe would be a great asset to any organization.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jessica Miller

Program Director

YMCA Camp Ohiyesa

Camping Services - YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit

jmiller@ymcametrodetroit.org

(248) 887-4544