



JANE BROWN
Executive Director

2016 Camp Season

Family Connections Specialists are now taking referral calls for the 2016 camp season.

Many children enjoy attending some type of summer camp program and many working parents are in need of child care during the summer months. Summer camps give children the opportunity to further develop their talents, experience new activities, and learn new skills.

In New York State, all camps, Day and Residential, need to have an "Operating Permit" awarded by the local Department of Health (364-2603). The local Department of Health (DOH) visits the camp after the camp submits the application packet for the camp permit. Once awarded, the permit must be displayed in a conspicuous place on the premises.

If you are interested in a camp's history, i.e. complaints, investigations, etc., you may go to the Department of Health's Environmental Health Department, located at the Robert Yeager Health Center, Building D, in Pomona to fill out a "Freedom of Information" form and receive such information. They can be reached at 364-2608. The form is available online at:

<http://rocklandgov.com/departments/law/freedom-of-information-law-foil/>

Camps can also become accredited by the American Camp Association on a voluntary basis. The American Camp Association is a non-profit organization, designed to educate the public about camps. They are located in Manhattan and can be reached at (212) 391-5208 or 1-800-777-CAMP. Their website is www.aca-nynj.org

You may also ask the camp director to provide references from families that have used the camp recently and if the camp will be hosting an "Open House" or visiting day.

If your child is enrolled in day camp while you are working you may be able to declare the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit on your income taxes. For additional information, contact the IRS at 800-829-1040 and ask for Publication 503 and Form 2441 (website: www.irs.gov). Also, if you have a Flexible Benefits Plan through your employer, you may be able to claim a portion of the camp fee. You may also ask the camp director if they offer scholarships or use a sliding scale fee.

In accordance with the Compliance Policy of CCRR, all referrals will be made without discrimination based on race, creed, color or place of origin. The information provided during your consultation is not shared with any other party and is used for the sole purpose of providing a quality resource and referral service.

Please keep in mind that Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. makes referrals – not recommendations.

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