

## Camp Echo Lake:

"Dedicated to Human Development" through the summer camp experience.

**The Complete Camper Experience** at Camp Echo Lake consists of three components:

- 1) *A social experience* that enhances a child's self-esteem and ability to positively interact with his or her community.
- 2) *A programmatic experience* that broadens a child's range of experiences and improves a child's skills.
- 3) *A healthy living experience.*

### **The Social Experience:**

In order to enhance a child's self-esteem and ability to positively interact with his or her community, the following factors are essential:

- 1) An environment that holds as it's standard the core human values of respecting yourself and those around you, and giving your best effort.
- 2) An environment in which a child feels safe and supported, whether doing something he or she is comfortable doing, or doing something he or she has no comfort level with.
- 3) Specific and timely encouragement of positive behaviors and specific and timely encouragement to change negative behaviors.
- 4) Focused attention on each individual camper's needs and helping each camper move further along in his or her own social development.

### **The Programmatic Experience:**

In order to broaden a child's range of experiences and improve a child's skills, the following factors are essential:

- 1) Campers must have the opportunity to try the full range of activities offered at camp.
- 2) Campers must have the opportunity to improve their skills. Campers must achieve measurable improvement by virtue of receiving hands-on, age- and skill-level appropriate instruction and experiencing meaningful "output" experiences (competitive athletic situations, theatre productions, art projects, trek trips).
- 3) Measurable, written feedback to parents outlining each camper's programmatic experiences. This will reinforce each camper's interests and assist them in pursuing those activities of particular interest, should they choose, when they are not at camp.

### **The Healthy Living Experience:**

In order to ensure that a child's social and programmatic growth are as significant as they can be, it is critical that campers and staff live as healthily as possible. In order to do so, the following factors are essential:

- 1) Campers and counselors will live in cabins that are kept clean.
- 2) Campers and counselors must maintain a healthy standard of personal hygiene.
- 3) Campers and counselors must eat enough food and drink enough water in order to maintain their health throughout the summer.
- 4) Campers and counselors will participate in activities areas and facilities that are well-maintained and kept neat.