



## Character Ambassador Job Description and Responsibilities

**Overview:** Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC) seeks to enhance leadership and staff development opportunities at Jewish summer camps by introducing the *Character Ambassador Stipend Program*. This stipend is intended to fund a seasonal camp position dedicated to promoting character development and integrating character-building values into your camp culture. The Character Ambassador will focus primarily on training and supporting bunk staff to lead impactful activities and programs centered on character development. In addition, the Ambassador will be responsible for proactively refining character-building programs and processes for camp.

The Ambassador stipend program is part of the *Character at Camp Initiative*, a research and resource development grant from the [John Templeton Foundation](#). Over the past two years, FJC has collaborated with a cohort of 10 camps, developing resources and conducting research to identify effective strategies for fostering character growth in young people in our camp communities. Learn more about the *Initiative* [here](#).

In collaboration with camp leadership and experts in the field of social-emotional learning and character development, FJC has created *The Character at Camp Pocket Guide*, a collection of programs and activities designed to promote character development in middle school campers. This guide is a practical resource meant for bunk staff to carry in their back pocket and use to engage campers, promote character development, and teach critical social-emotional skills in a camp setting. Prior to summer, you will receive training by FJC to use the pocket guide and be prepared to train other staff in camp to use this resource. By the end of summer you will modify the pocket guide to make it specific and “just right” for your camp culture.

### **This role may be great for you if you are:**

- A returning staff member familiar with your camp and its culture, eager to take on a leadership role.
- A person of high moral character who is motivated to cultivate character in campers and the camp community.
- Capable of working independently and holding yourself accountable.
- Willing to be a role model and thought partner for bunk staff, leading by example.
- A creative thinker with the ability to design engaging, practical resources.
- A strong communicator with interpersonal skills and the ability to motivate peers.
- Committed to being at camp for the entire summer or almost all of summer.
- ***Available to attend an online FJC training for the role on either May 8<sup>th</sup>, May 28<sup>th</sup>, or June 3<sup>rd</sup>.***
  - **May 8 –3:30-5:00 PM EST**
  - **May 28 –2:00-3:30 PM EST**



- **June 3 –4:30-6:00 PM EST**

## **Character Ambassador Role and Responsibilities:**

**Overview:** This is a great leadership opportunity and a way to grow in your contributions to camp culture. You will play a key role in staff training and ongoing mentorship, ensuring staff are comfortable and confident using the pocket guide and helping bunk staff to successfully implement character-building activities and rituals. Over the course of the summer, you will also observe and gather feedback from campers and staff to refine the pocket guide to align with your camp's unique culture, creating your camp's own resource by the end of the summer for use in future years.

**FJC expects that at least 50% of Ambassadors time will be spent on the following:**

### **1. Training Staff:**

- a. Serve as the primary trainer for bunk counselors on the "Character at Camp Pocket Guide."
- b. Facilitate interactive training sessions, workshops, and discussions to help staff integrate character-building strategies into their interactions with campers.

### **2. Ongoing Support and Mentorship, Training of Staff:**

- a. Act as a resource and mentor for staff, providing guidance on how to model and encourage positive character development among campers.
- b. Observe and provide feedback to counselors on their implementation of the Pocket Guide strategies and programs.

### **3. Resource Development:**

- a. Work throughout the summer to develop a customized character-building resource tailored to the specific needs, traditions, and culture of camp.
- b. Collaborate with camp leadership and staff to gather input, ensuring the resource is reflective of the camp community.
- c. Submit the new camp-specific resource back to FJC at the end of the summer in the mandatory reflection form.

### **4. Leadership and Collaboration:**

- a. Lead by example, embodying the values and character traits promoted in the Pocket Guide.
- b. Partner with camp leadership to align character initiatives with broader camp goals and programming.
- c. Attend a 90-minute pre-summer training by FJC.
- d. Utilize FJC resources and office hours to get support and guidance.
- e. Share back progress in a weekly reflection form.



- f. Share the newly designed pocket guide with FJC at the end of the summer (by the last day of camp or August 30<sup>th</sup>, whichever comes first).