

# Camp Joy Information Packet

## Summer of Possibility

### 2023



**"Helping people grow and succeed through lifelong experience-based learning" ISEP**

*-The Camp Joy Mission*

#### **Camp Joy Team**

Camp Director: Erin Policinski

Program Manager: Bryce Cunningham

Client Relations Manager: Cori Cleveland

#### **Contact Information**

Physical Address

10117 Old 3C Highway

Clarksville, OH 45113

Mailing Address

PO Box 157

Clarksville, OH 45113

Phone: 937-289-2031 or 513-630-0260 (cell)

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## What is Camp Joy?

**Camp Joy** is an 85-year-old year-round camp that combines discovery, adventure, and fun while celebrating the growth and success of children. It includes everything one would hope to have at camp: campfires, nature hikes, swimming, crafts, face paint, songs, dancing, fishing, superheroes, S'MORES and so much more!

We are devoted to creating supportive and enriching experiences that provide campers with opportunities to grow intellectually, personally and socially as they develop healthy friendships and create long-lasting memories. Campers will participate in activities that foster development in relationships, self-esteem, purpose, and learning new skills. Our counselors teach and lead young people in a variety of activities utilizing safe, fun, intentional, experienced-based approaches.

Camp Joy respects the rights and dignity of all campers and staff, including individuals with varying abilities, cultures, genders, sexualities, races, and religions. Camp Joy is inclusive to all, and our staff are trained to set the highest examples of behavior for campers.

## Camp History

Camp Joy was founded in 1937 by St. Barnabas Episcopal Church. Today, Camp Joy operates as an independent not for profit organization. With a long history of service to communities in the greater Cincinnati and Dayton areas, Camp Joy has provided safe, fun, and innovative programs that provide campers from all backgrounds foundational life-skills.

## Camp Location & Facilities

We are located on 317 acres in Clarksville, Ohio, about 1 hour northeast of Cincinnati.

- Overnight campers stay in either cabins or yurts
- Miles of hiking trails
- Pond for fishing and canoeing
- Swimming pool (summer only)
- Nature center
- Creative Arts Studio
- Teaching kitchen
- Pioneer cabin
- High and low challenge courses



# Overview of Camp

## Typical Day at Camp

8:00am: Breakfast

9:00am: Morning Activities

12:00pm: Lunch

1:00pm: Cabin Time

2:00pm: Afternoon Activities

5:00pm: Dinner

6:00pm: Evening Program

8:00pm: Cabin time

9:30pm: Lights Out

### Camper Health and Safety

The health and safety of our campers is of the utmost importance. The past 2+ years have allowed for reviewing and revising Camp Joy's procedures for camper and staff health, cleaning (including disinfection), activity leadership, and meals to ensure that we are able to keep everyone safe and healthy. Camp Joy has implemented policies and procedures to deliver programs that keep our campers and staff safe and healthy. We ask for your help in making sure you send healthy campers to camp. If your child is not feeling well on the first day of camp, please do not send them to camp.

In order to keep everyone healthy, Camp Joy has implemented the following practices for all youth programs. These are subject to change.

- All participants must not have experienced any new illness/covid-19 symptoms in the previous 7 days
- **Handwashing/sanitizing** will occur frequently throughout the day
- **Physical distancing** will be encouraged at all times
- Activities will be **outside** as much as possible – dress for the weather

### Medication

Send **only the amount of medication your camper will need to take while at camp.** (ex. If your child takes 1 pill at 9 pm, send 4 pills for a 5-day program). All medications **must be in their originally prescribed containers** for each child. Please **do not send "loose" medication in pill packs/baggies, etc.**

### Meals

Please indicate any special dietary needs on the camper's health forms and we will work with you and your camper to meet those needs. We are prepared to serve campers with allergies of all levels. If your campers are "picky eaters", remind them that camp is a great place to try new foods.

### Activities

Campers will participate in a variety of activities while at camp. These activities will be both active (moving/running/etc.) and more sedentary (crafts/observation/etc.). Activities will take place **outside** whenever possible – please ensure your camper has appropriate clothing for the day. Some activities have specific eligibility requirements (ex. age). Campers not meeting these requirements will have other activity choices.

# Expectations

## **Behavior:**

Camp Joy expects that all campers demonstrate respect for themselves, others, our natural environment, and physical property. Respect comes in many forms and may include listening, tolerance, and doing no harm.

Camp Joy reserves the right to dismiss any camper from the program as a result of inappropriate behavior.

This type of dismissal may result from behavior such as, but not limited to refusal to cooperate, or endangering the emotional or physical safety of any person at camp, including themselves.

Campers who are asked to leave due to behavioral misconduct will not be offered a refund of any kind. It is at the discretion of the Camp Director if your child can return for another session or in future sessions.

## **Homesickness:**

While not common in day programs, homesickness may occur during your camper's time at camp.

Camp Joy prides itself on how we handle homesickness or "missing home." Below is information that will help your child succeed at camp and come home full of stories and pride.

1. Homesickness is 100% normal.
2. **Avoid** saying the following statements:
  - "Call me if you need me." Camp Joy has a strict no phone-home policy.

Homesickness can turn into severe homesickness the moment *after* a child is done speaking with a parent or loved one. Even the most content campers that speak with their parents while at camp can experience homesick feelings. Write encouraging letters or emails instead.

- "I can pick you up if you want to go home..."

Of course you can, but is that the only option? This statement shows campers that you think they'll want to go home, that you don't fully trust them, and that you are nervous when they're gone. Please don't say this to your camper. Remember at some point most children want to go home. Try "I'll see you Friday", instead.

3. Homesickness and overcoming it is a normal process that helps children develop independence and self-confidence.

## **Your Whereabouts:**

If at any time you will be at an address and phone number different from what you submitted during registration, please let us know by emailing [summercampregistrar@camp-joy.org](mailto:summercampregistrar@camp-joy.org) or calling/texting the camp cell phone at (513) 630-0260.

## **Phone Calls:**

We have a strict no-phone-home policy.

We ask that parents/guardians only attempt to contact campers by telephone in the case of a family emergency. Please *avoid* saying things like "Call us if you have any problems" or "We're only a phone call away!"

# Health & Safety

**MEDICATION:** Send **only the amount of medication your camper will need to take while at camp.** (ex. If your child takes 1 pill at 9 pm, send 4 pills for a 5-day program). All medications **must be in their originally prescribed containers** for each child. Please **do not send “loose” medication in pill packs/baggies, etc.**

**First Aid/CPR:** Camp Joy staff have, at a minimum, training in First Aid and CPR. Basic First Aid kits are carried at all times by staff. A healthcare administrator is designated for each camp and will work with staff to attend to all health and safety needs of campers.

**Emergencies:** All staff receive training in responding to various types of emergencies and practice responses at staff meetings. In the event of a medical emergency, EMS (911) will be called for help. EMS response time to camp is approximately 8 minutes and the nearest hospital is 20 minutes away.

Camp staff monitor the weather and will sound the alert in the event of a weather emergency (ex. tornado) and direct campers to appropriate shelter.

Camp Joy takes the safety and security of campers very seriously. Video surveillance is used to monitor entrances and exits and other key locations on campus. In the event of an unauthorized visitor, camp staff will remove participants from the area and alert the appropriate people (other camp staff, law enforcement, etc.).

**COVID-19 and Other Communicable Illnesses:** In order to protect campers, staff, and the families they return home to, Camp Joy asks that all campers self-monitor for symptoms of illness (fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea, etc.) for a minimum of 7 days prior to coming to camp. **If your camper feels ill on the day of camp, please keep them home.**

As listed above, the following practices will be implemented for all youth programs.

- **Handwashing/sanitizing** will occur before and after every activity
- **Physical distancing** will be encouraged at all times
- Activities will be **outside** as much as possible – dress for the weather

**PARENT NOTIFICATION:** Camp Joy will notify parents/guardians by phone of any incidents of illness or injury to their camper that requires more than basic first aid (ex. vomiting, fever, suspected broken bone, etc.). If we cannot reach the parents/guardian, Camp Joy will contact the emergency contact. Campers who are ill will not be able to remain at camp and camp staff will work with parents/guardians to arrange transportation home.

# Transportation

## At Camp

- Check-in is at **3:30 pm on Monday** at Camp Joy (10117 Old 3C Hwy. Clarksville, OH, 45113)
- Follow Camp Joy staff directives for parking, luggage drop off, sign in, and health checks
- Parents/guardians are required to sign all campers in/out. You may be asked to show and ID when picking up a child
- Campers will only be released to the individuals listed on their registration form
- Check-out is at **10 am on Friday**

## Bus Transportation

- Check-in for bus riders is from **1:30 pm – 2 pm on Monday** at TQL Stadium Workhorse Gate (approximate address 1550 Central Ave. Cincinnati, OH) **(unless otherwise specified)**
- Parents/guardians are expected to remain with their camper(s) for the duration of the check-in process
- Parents/guardians are required to sign all campers in/out. You may be asked to show and ID when picking up a child
- Campers will only be released to the individuals listed on their registration form
- Check-in/out may take between 15 and 30 minutes
- Follow Camp Joy staff directives for check-in, luggage, and health checks
- Bus riders will be dropped off at TQL Stadium Workhorse Gate between **10:45 am and 11:15 am on Friday**

## Behavior Expectations

Camp Joy utilizes a transportation company to provide bus service to and from camp. All bus riders are expected to follow posted rules as well as directions given by the bus driver and Camp Joy staff.

## Changes

Parents/guardians will be notified by phone in the event that circumstances arise that would require a change in pick-up/drop off time or location.

## Absence/Camper Not Attending

If a camper cannot attend their camp session, please contact Camp Joy at 513.360.0260 (call or text) as soon as possible so that their spot may be filled with another camper. Camp Joy staff will attempt to verify all camper absences by 8 pm on the session start day.

# Camper Packing List

- It is recommended that your child wear comfortable, well-used clothing & shoes that are appropriate for hiking, playing outdoors, and getting muddy.
- Laundry facilities are not available except for emergencies.
- Include a laundry/plastic bag for dirty clothes. Discuss how often clothes should be changed, where dirty or wet clothing should go, etc.
- Everything should fit into your camper's duffel/suitcase and backpack combined. Campers carry their own luggage to and from cabin.

<p><b>Luggage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Small duffel bag or suitcase. Must slide underneath bunk beds (no more than 16" in height)</li> <li>➤ Backpack for daily use</li> </ul>	<p><b>Bottoms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 1 pair of pants</li> <li>➤ 4 pairs of shorts</li> <li>➤ 5 sets underwear</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tops</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 5 t-shirts</li> <li>➤ 1 sweatshirt</li> <li>➤ 1 rain jacket</li> </ul> <p><i>* Please avoid plastic/vinyl ponchos. They get ruined</i></p>
<p><b>Personal Items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Proper fitting mask/face covering</li> <li>➤ comb/brush</li> <li>➤ toothbrush</li> <li>➤ toothpaste</li> <li>➤ shampoo/conditioner</li> <li>➤ soap</li> <li>➤ sunscreen and lip balm – both should have SPF 30 or higher.</li> </ul> <p><i>*Make sure your camper is prepared and ready to apply sunscreen 3x a day.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 1 reusable water bottle</li> <li>➤ functional swim suit</li> </ul>	<p><b>Linens</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 1 set of pajamas</li> <li>➤ Sleeping bag OR blanket and sheets. <i>Beds are twin sized.</i></li> <li>➤ 1 pillow and pillow case</li> <li>➤ 1 bath towel</li> <li>➤ 1 pool towel</li> <li>➤ 1 wash cloth</li> <li>➤ 1 large laundry bag for dirty clothes</li> </ul> <p>If your camper needs assistance providing linens, please contact Camp Joy at 513.630.0260 (text ok)</p>	<p><b>Feet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 4 pairs of socks</li> <li>➤ 1 pair tennis shoes</li> <li>➤ 1 pair boots (rain or hiking)</li> </ul> <p><i>Please, DO NOT BRING FLIP FLOPS! Camp is a rocky, muddy place not suitable for flip flops</i></p> <p><b>Head</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 1 ball cap or bucket hat</li> <li>➤ 1 pair sunglasses</li> </ul>
<p><b>DO NOT BRING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Electronics</li> <li>➤ Cell phones</li> <li>➤ High value/new clothes</li> <li>➤ Money</li> <li>➤ Personal sports equipment</li> <li>➤ Skateboards, rollerblades, etc.</li> <li>➤ Jewelry</li> </ul>	<p><b>DO NOT BRING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Aerosols</li> <li>➤ Food and Snacks</li> <li>➤ Fire making devices</li> <li>➤ Weapons of any type</li> <li>➤ Animals</li> <li>➤ Alcohol, drugs, tobacco</li> <li>➤ Bikes, scooters, vehicles, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>If any <b>DO NOT BRING</b> items are found on your camper, they will be held by Camp Joy Staff and returned at pick up.</p>

## PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING!

- Camp Joy is not responsible if your child loses or damages anything while at camp.

Camp Joy wishes to maintain a safe environment free of illegal drugs, alcohol, firearms, or other inappropriate materials. To enforce this, a Camp Joy representative may inspect cabins and belongings upon reasonable suspicion.