

Dear Lodge Camp Chair;

April 2009

Congratulations! You have accepted a wonderful opportunity to provide many deserving youth an experience at the MN Elks Youth Camp! Many of you are returning as the camp chair, but for anyone new, the information on this Website will help you through the process.

This will be our ninth year as the camp directors and we are excited to be continuing our job. It is rewarding to see so many deserving children having fun and experiencing new things.

On this Website you will find:

Medical form

Application form

Family size and income form as soon as they become available from the state dept.(English and Spanish)

Summer Food Service Program eligibility sheet (income guidelines)

Detailed instructions and suggestions (for any new camp chair)

News release

First letter to the prospective camper (To be used as is or change as you find appropriate)

Letter to the committed camper and parent/guardian (To be used as is or changed as you find appropriate)

Directions to camp

This year we would like to increase the amount of eligible campers in the food service program. We need your help to do this. Each camper is required to have 3 forms: the registration (or application), medical, and family size and income form (state). The families may need your help in completing the state form as it is somewhat confusing. Also we will have family size and income forms available in Spanish on the website. In order for a child to qualify, the form must include: a MFIP/FOOD STAMP/ FDPIR number and signature **OR** family names, monthly incomes, and parent's social security number. If a family knows that they do not qualify please have them complete the information portion and simply write not applicable. We receive approximately \$40 per child that does qualify for the program. There are **many** more that would qualify if we have complete forms. Thanks for the help!

Our medical problems have been greatly reduced! Sometimes there are medical problems that we are not equipped to handle, so please call us and ask if you think there might be a problem (seizures, hemophilia, chemical dependency, etc). Also, if a camper has a prescribed medication it **must come in the prescription bottle not in daily pill containers**. We have received some sample packets (**Claritin, Allegra**), which, by law, we **cannot give to the child**. It generally takes 2-3 days to get prescriptions faxed from doctors, or the prescription bottle sent to camp. Sometimes the lodge chair will have to make an extra trip for the medication. We **DO have over-the-counter medication** so they do not need to bring those. We must, by law, keep them locked in the Health House.

This summer head lice has not been an issue at all! However, a quick reminder: The campers should be checked by a medical professional as they get on the bus. If there are **ANY** signs of lice **DO NOT bring** the child. If a child has had lice it usually takes more than 2 weeks to be free of nits. If there are ANY questions please call us. We will send a camper back with the chaperone if there is ANY sign of lice, including nits.

Please refer to the checklist for any other information you'll need. Also, feel free to call us with any questions or concerns. Our home phone is 320-597-4936 until we move to camp in early June.

We hope to have a wonderful summer helping to provide many children with an unforgettable experience at the Elks Youth Camp!

Sincerely,

Joel & Kim Baumgarten, Camp Directors