



Staff Testimonials

Hi! My name is Zoe. I am 23 and live in New York City, where I work as a Communications Assistant at a global nonprofit focusing on the rights of girls and women. I am a former Deerkill camper, and worked as a counselor throughout both high school and college. The summers that I spent working at camp are among my most treasured memories. I strongly believe that working as a Deerkill camp counselor was vital to my growth as an individual and future professional. The skills that you will learn as a counselor are invaluable. You will grow as a leader, learn how to think on your feet, and work with a team. Most importantly, you will gain confidence in yourself as a vital member of a community. As a counselor, I was given responsibilities that a typical internship for college-age students wouldn't have afforded me with. I am incredibly grateful for the unwavering support and loyalty that the Deerkill family gave me. I am a firm believer in the value of working as a camp counselor- so much so that my college-age brother followed in my footsteps, and is now gearing up for his second year at Deerkill. I am grateful that I get to live vicariously through him, because it still doesn't feel like summer without camp!

As always, I can't thank you enough for another amazing summer. I am so thankful to spend the summer time with amazing kids and staff in a positive, supportive environment. - Sam

I have worked at Deerkill for the past seven summers. I think I have loved being a counselor even more than I enjoyed being a camper. There's a real sense of camaraderie and joy among the staff; by the end of the summer, everyone is like a giant family. Corny as it may sound, there really is a lot of genuine love and laughter. I worked at Deerkill all through high school and college and even for some years beyond, and can honestly say that 99% of the skills I've needed in the workplace were developed at camp: leadership, organization, time management, teamwork, confidence (now if only they could add a Microsoft Excel special!) Your campers will not be the only ones growing, learning, and changing this summer! - Emily

Thank you so much for welcoming me into the Deerkill family! I have never felt like I fit into a place as quickly before...Deerkill is truly a magical place. I will forever cherish the memories I've made this summer and I hope to be back someday! Thank you for all your hard work in making Deerkill feel like home! - Renee

When I started out this summer I was really nervous. Like, REALLY nervous. I was worried that I would mess up horrendously, and/or do something to get myself fired. But for some reason, I cannot explain, you had complete faith in me. You guys weren't worried at all, and told me (and I'm paraphrasing here) that everything was going to be fine. And it was! I just wanted to say thank you for being so warm and welcoming to me this summer. It really feels lovely when the staff is cared about! Thank you for always being around to answer my endless amount of questions, and for encouraging them as well - because, up until now, I always felt I was being annoying when I asked "too many" questions. But I got a warm feeling. A safe feeling whenever you answered my concerns. - Kate

Thank you for giving me another opportunity to work at Deerkill Day Camp this summer. It has been a privilege to work in such a bright and exciting place, and to feel part of the Deerkill community. This years' experience of working in the

kitchen was the best I've had...The ability to work with friends and to befriend my coworkers to create an almost family bond is a dream I wasn't sure was possible...This year was truly an inspiration for me to work hard, work well, and be joyful doing it all. I feel the experiences between campers, coworkers, and the challenges the kitchen presents have all been building blocks in my development as a young person. Again, I'd like to thank you for a great summer! I hope and look forward to returning next summer for another year. - Anthony

I have to profusely thank you for the opportunity you've given me. I have grown to love the camp, kitchen staff, counselors, and other staff. I take pride in the little things around camp I've done... Also, I'm sure that my work in the kitchen helped me land my job! I spoke about it extensively in my two interviews as it has been a long series of "problem solving." - Justin

I had the most amazing summer this year working at Deerkill! Deerkill is a very special place for everyone who works there and everyone who goes there. I still remember my first day as a camper and I will always remember it. The thought of not being able to be a camper this year broke my heart but I quickly realized that working at Deerkill is just as great! I truly loved my group and working with my co-counselors. The memories I made this year I will always remember. Summer was always my favorite season but I did not fully realize that until I came to Deerkill. It was an honor being part of the 2017 staff. Thank you for everything that you do at camp. - Vincent

Thank you so much for the opportunity to work at Deerkill! I had an amazing time this summer working with the kids and my fellow counselors. Especially with everything going on this year, opening the summer camp was invaluable to all the kids and I am so thrilled that I got to be part of that experience. Once again, thank you so much and I look forward to next summer! - Cai