

# MJCCA Day Camp Inclusion Information

## **What is Inclusion in a Day Camp Setting?**

Inclusion provides the opportunity for children with special needs to attend camp with their typically developing peers. ALL of the MJCCA Day Camp options are part of the inclusion program.

## **Is this a good fit for my child?**

Our goal is to include all campers. In order to best assess if a child is a good fit for our program, we ask families to participate in an intake process. If a child is aggressive, a threat to themselves or others, or even with extra support from our staff, cannot participate in our program safely, MJCCA Day Camps may not be a good fit for them.

## **What if My Child Needs Support?**

Many campers benefit from additional support in order to have the most successful experience. You will work with the Inclusion Director to determine if a facilitator will be beneficial and available for your child. We **do not** assume that all children with special needs require a facilitator. If it is determined that your child will benefit from additional staff support, the level of support will be specifically catered to the needs of your child. Our goal is to fully integrate your child into the camp program. We observe each child in the inclusion program throughout the summer and communicate with counselors and parents to help ensure success and make modifications when needed. Parents will incur an additional \$110 per week fee for the facilitator, for one-on-one facilitation, and the fee is decreased if the support person is shared. This fee will not increase regardless of the amount we pay the facilitator for your child.

## **Who are the facilitators (Inclusion Counselors)?**

Our facilitators are specifically hired to work with children with special needs. They have backgrounds in special education, or a related field, and/or other life experiences that provide them with the necessary skill set. Additional training is provided and required for all facilitators. All of our staff must participate in an application, interview and background check process.

## **Can my child attend Before-Camp or After-Camp Care?**

Yes, your child is welcome to attend before and/or after camp care. However, we ask you to keep in mind that the camp day is long and will provide many different “demands” of your child. We need to ensure that participation in any extended day program is appropriate. We can arrange for an inclusion counselor to attend before/after camp care with you child for a nominal additional fee.

## **Can my child ride the camp bus?**

Yes, your child is welcome to ride the bus. Many inclusion campers ride the bus to and from camp each day. Although we do have a good number of staff on each bus, we cannot guarantee a facilitator will be on your child’s bus route. Specific accommodations for the bus can be discussed with the Inclusion Director.

## **What if my child has behavior issues at camp?**

We will work with you and your child to be as proactive as possible through program accommodations, positive behavioral management strategies, and redirection. Behavior challenges will be documented and shared with the parent. If your child exhibits aggressive behavior that is harmful to staff, other campers, or themselves, your child **may** need to be picked up immediately, suspended, or terminated from the program. We will work with a child as much as possible to ensure a successful experience.

## **TO GET STARTED**

1. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child before registering please contact Jennifer Lieb our Inclusion Program Director at 678-812-4094 or [jennifer.lieb@atlantajcc.org](mailto:jennifer.lieb@atlantajcc.org).
2. You can go online and register your child for camp. Here is the link to our camp website where you can get additional information on our day camp options and pricing. <http://www.atlantajcc.org/landing-pages/day-camps/>
3. When registering there is a place to indicate that you are interested in the Inclusion Program. You will then be contacted to begin the camp inclusion intake process.