

2023 CAMP FAMILY

Partnership Agreement

CELEBRATING 97 YEARS OF EXCELLENT CAMPING

February 10, 2023

Dear Campers and Camp Parents,

This summer, Camp Mont Shenandoah celebrates her 97th season of excellent camping, continuing with her legacy of providing girls and young women with safe, age-appropriate, and memorable experiences.

With few exceptions, we have been able to serve all girls accepted into our programs and, year after year, parental praise for our work has been the rule. We are grateful for all of your words of appreciation and expressions of satisfaction with our efforts. We have every intention of continuing to care for your child with the same concern, interest, and energy this summer.

The success of our program is based on:

- High standards of care for your child.
- High expectations of ourselves and our staff.
- A value system clearly communicated to our staff, campers, and families.
- Boundaries clearly defined for campers and staff.

Camp Mont Shenandoah is a community and a family. The physical and emotional well-being of your daughter continues to be our top priority. With that in mind, we live in an age where access to information of all kinds continues to be more readily available to our children, age-appropriate or not. Young people are bombarded by sexually explicit and violent material via the Internet, on TV, in films, and in music where drugs and alcohol are frequently idealized. Our young people cannot escape seeing, hearing, and absorbing these negative influences. What may be acceptable in some households may not be acceptable in others or at Camp Mont Shenandoah.

With this said, at Camp Mont Shenandoah we strive to teach campers to:

- Recognize that they have a responsibility for themselves and to those around them.
- Make good choices for themselves and others and to take responsibility for these choices.
- Respect and appreciate others in spite of differences.
- Accept that they are accountable for their actions and that there are consequences for inappropriate behavior.

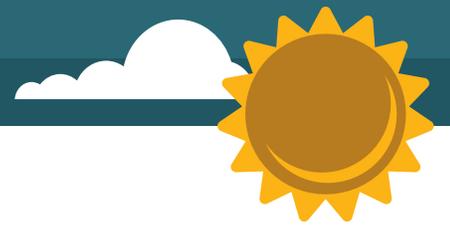
To help us achieve our goal of creating positive and long-lasting memories for every girl, it is important for you to discuss with your daughter behaviors that we will not tolerate at camp and with which you, as parent, are in agreement. Unacceptable behaviors include: bullying (including cyberbullying outside of camp); physical or verbal abuse; repeated profanity; disrespect of fellow campers, staff, or camp property; bigotry; racist comments; homophobic comments; inappropriate sexual behavior; use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products (including vaping or "juuling"); hurtful

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Internet, cell phone, messaging, or social media use outside of camp; or any other harmful behaviors. Campers must understand that a consequence of unacceptable behavior can mean their dismissal from Camp Mont Shenandoah.

A camper asked to leave camp because of inappropriate behaviors detailed above and in our **2023 Parent & Camper Handbook** may not be permitted to return in future summers. There will be no refund of tuition.

A second and equally important area of concern for us has been our experience with some campers who have been sent to CMS with “family secrets” not documented in our paperwork. Specifically, campers:

- With psychiatric issues, including suicide gestures or ideation,
- With serious medical issues,
- Who are taken off important medication for the summer,
- Who were hospitalized for physical or emotional reasons in the past year,
- Who are experiencing a traumatic reaction to family issues such as parental separation, divorce, illness, or death.

In fairness to our counselors, staff, and campers, we need to make informed decisions about all of the girls we care for in our community. “Family secrets” serve no one. Our purpose in having pertinent physical and mental health information is to better serve each child. Our expectation is that parents have provided Camp Mont Shenandoah with all of the necessary information needed to keep all children safe. Please know that this information remains confidential and will not be shared with anyone except the healthcare & program staff. (The latter on an as-needed basis only).

As caretakers of your daughter, we accept the responsibility of partnering with you and ask for your full support by partnering with us. **Parents and campers are to sign and return this letter by June 1.**

We are looking forward to having your daughter join us this summer!!

Sincerely,

Ann M. Warner
Director

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CAMP FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LETTER.

CAMPER NAME PRINT

PARENT SIGNATURE / DATE

CAMPER SIGNATURE

PARENT SIGNATURE / DATE

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