

CHIVA Summer Camp

Camp Leaders

Information Pack



What is the CHIVA summer camp?

In the USA there have been summer camps for HIV+ children for many years. They have been a great opportunity for HIV+ children to meet one another, learn more about living well with HIV and to have fun. CHIVA is running a pilot project to organise a similar summer camp in the UK the last week of August 2010 (exact dates to be confirmed).

The camp will bring together 100 young people aged 13-17 years-old who are fully aware of their HIV diagnosis. The camp will run for 4 days and will be a combination of fun activities alongside age appropriate information and space for discussion about living with HIV.

The event will be run by a small team of expert staff, adult volunteers and a team of young Camp Leaders. Together they will be responsible for the participants safety and well-being throughout the week.

What is a Camp Leader?

A Camp Leader is a HIV+ young people aged 18 – 24 years old who will help to run the Summer Camp. They will offer support to participants and helping to plan and deliver events.

We are recruiting up to 15 camp leaders. We want to have a team of fun, energetic and responsible Camp Leaders. Whilst being a Camp Leader will be a lot of fun, it also has responsibilities. You will help us to run the camp and have responsibility for the health, safety and wellbeing of young people who attend. We are looking for people who are willing for taking on this type of responsibility.

The qualities which we feel are important for Camp Leaders are:

- Being committed and enthusiastic
- Sensitivity able to empathise with other people
- Confidence to talk with children and young people about HIV
- Having a strong commitment to equality and non discrimination on grounds of race, ethnicity, country of origin, religion, gender, sexuality or disability.

The skills and abilities which we feel are important for Camp Leaders are:

- Excellent communication skills
- An ability to motivate and inspire others
- An ability to work in a team
- Confident in building rapport with young people
- Good organisational skills
- Able to be a role model for other young people living with HIV

Camp Leaders do not need to have worked with young people before as they will be given lots of support, information and training to take on the role.

What would I gain from being a camp leader?

You will be working alongside other like-minded HIV+ young people with plenty of opportunities for fun and time to relax too.

If selected all Camp Leaders must attend a four day training residential from Thursday 10th – Monday 14th June 2010. At this residential you will get the chance to develop new knowledge and skills in working with children and young people. Many of these skills will be useful in other jobs. If you attend all of the training you can gain an OCN Level II qualification in working with young people. This qualification can help you get jobs in working with young people in the future.

All travel expenses will be covered and food provided when you attend meetings. If you attend all of the training and the camp, we will provide you with a small 'honorarium' of £150.

Who is organising this?

CHIVA is the Children's HIV Association of the UK and Ireland. It is an association of professionals who are committed to providing excellence in the care of children infected or affected by HIV and their families. There are currently over 150 members which include nurses, doctors, psychologists, social worker, dieticians and pharmacists.

Who can answer my questions?

Tom Burke is the Camp Leaders Co-ordinator. He has a lot of experience of working with young people and organising summer camps. He will be able to offer you any training and support you might need to be the best camp leader you can be.

The best way to contact Tom is to email him on (tom.burke@chiva.org.uk). You can also call him on 07870428337.

How do I become a Camp Leader?

1. Read all of the sheets in this pack first to help you decide if this is something you would like to do and are able to commit to. If you have any questions – give Tom a call on 07870428337.
2. There is a very short application pack on the CHIVA website (www.chiva.org.uk). The aim of this application is to learn a little bit about you. If you find writing difficult or if you would like any help in completing your application then please contact us. We can always have an informal chat over the phone instead.
3. The application form MUST be filled in and returned no later than 5pm on Friday 30th April 2010. You can either send it by email to: tom.burke@chiva.org.uk or send it to:
CHIVA Projects, St. Nicolas House, 31-34 High Street, Bristol, BS1 2AW.
4. The application form will be assessed by the Camp Leaders Co-ordinator, the Summer Camp Manager and a HIV+ young person.

You will need to complete a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) form. This checks whether you have been convicted for any crimes which might make you unsuitable for working with children and young people. All camp leaders must complete this form. CHIVA is committed to confidentiality and this information will be stored securely. If you would like to discuss matters related to any criminal convictions further with us, please contact Tom Burke.

5. We will invite up to 15 young people to attend the training weekend Thursday 10th – Monday 14th June 2010. After the residential, we will confirm who will attend the Summer Camp. You will be asked to sign a 'Camp Leaders Agreement' with CHIVA.
6. You will join us for fun times and hard work at the CHIVA Summer Camp 2010!

At the June residential training we will ask you to sign a copy of this agreement.

Camp Leader Agreement

What Camp Leaders can expect from CHIVA:

CHIVA commit to the following:

- To provide adequate information, training and support for you to be able to meet the responsibilities of your role
- To take account of any specialist skills/qualifications/experience held by you
- To respect that your time is limited and that this may change
- To listen and seriously consider your ideas and suggestions
- To reimburse you with out of pocket expenses (where receipts are provided).
- To provide confidential one-to-one support and supervision on request
- To provide a certificate detailing your experience and skills and references for future employers if required

CHIVA will not:

- Expect you to offer a greater time commitment than you are willing or able to offer
- Expect you to undertake tasks that you do not have the skills or ability to perform or that you are unwilling to undertake. If you are unable to carry out your duties for whatever reason please inform the Camp Leaders Co-ordinator.

What CHIVA can expect from Camp Leaders:

To continue the smooth operation of the Summer Camp we ask that you:

- Work in line of the values of CHIVA
- Perform your duties to the best of your ability
- Follow all CHIVA policies and procedures
- Represent CHIVA in a responsible manner
- Be free from drugs and alcohol whilst on official duties
- Remain respectful to all CHIVA staff and volunteers and young people who come to the camp
- Regularly check your email and respond to any messages from the Camp Leaders Co-ordinator.
- Notify the staff of any change in availability; contact details or any problems/issues you may be experiencing

By becoming a Camp Leader you are confirming that you:

- Have received a copy of, read and understood, CHIVA policies and procedures and agree to abide by the terms and conditions expressed in these documents.
- Understand that my details may be stored on a computer and give permission for staff to view this information.
- That, in case of an emergency, to receive medication as instructed and any emergency dental, medical or surgical treatment, including anesthetic or blood transfusion, as considered necessary by the medical authorities present. I understand the extent and limitations of the insurance cover provided.