

# Welcome to Camp TREK 2020

TOGETHER IN RECREATION, EXPLORATION AND KNOWLEDGE

August 16-21, 2020

**Camp Application, staffing and policies have changed, please read carefully!  
Camp Applications are due no later than FRIDAY MARCH 12, 2020**

Camp TREK is the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey's (Alliance) summer respite and recreation program. Its primary purpose is to provide respite to family members and caregivers of people with brain injury. It also allows the person with a brain injury to experience a week away in a social and recreational atmosphere. The program is designed to serve adults, age 18 and older, with the primary diagnosis of brain injury. This week-long camping program for adults with brain injuries will take place **August 16 – 21, 2020** at **CAMP SUN 'N FUN** in Williamstown, New Jersey (Gloucester County). This summer will be Camp TREK's 34<sup>th</sup> year!

**The Director of Camp TREK is Laura Jacobs.** Laura is new to Camp TREK but not new to the Alliance. She has worked at the Alliance for 8 years and during her tenure has worn many hats. Currently, Laura is an Education and Outreach Coordinator at the Alliance and is thrilled to add Director of TREK to her title. Shannon O'Connor will be assisting Laura at TREK this year. Shannon works at the Alliance as an Information and Resource Specialist and since Nicole Orellana had such a good time last year, she will be returning to TREK again this year.

Planned program activities may include a variety of physical/recreational opportunities such as crafts, nature, photography, swimming, cooking, sports, yoga, music and evening social activities.

Those interested in attending TREK must complete and return the application no later than **March 13, 2020**. When filling out the application you must use the **electronic application found on our TREK website**. **After you have completed the application, please remember to click SUBMIT (lower right hand corner) at the bottom of the last page. WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING PAPER APPLICATIONS.** If you experience any problems with this application, please call Laura Jacobs at 732-745-0200. Ext. 230.

We have a lot of interest in Camp TREK this year. **Spots will be filled by applicants who meet the preliminary requirements, on a first come, first served basis.** Prior camp participation does not guarantee acceptance. After we receive your application, and if you are approved, you will be sent additional paperwork. Application and all required documentation is subject to review by the TREK Camp Committee prior to final acceptance. An updated photo, as well as copies of medical insurance cards will be needed prior to final acceptance.

Each individual is unique and has different needs; therefore, staff to camper ratio will be based on clients' needs. Safety of the campers and staff is paramount. Individual needs change over time; they might need more supports this year than in previous years or might need less support. The final decision of staff to camper ratio will be made by the TREK Camp Committee. Please do not ask Camp Sun N Fun about camper acceptance. Camper acceptance and placement will be based on the amount of supports needed and whether we are able to meet those needs safely. TREK does not provide 1:1 staff to client ratios.

When filling out the application, please answer each question regarding camper's medical, behavior and self-care needs thoughtfully. Consider a day/time period when the camper would need the most supports. A camper might be independent at home showering, but might need additional assistance in a camp environment. If someone is in a wheelchair-please explain to us specifically what type of needs are required for self-care needs, hygiene, eating, etc. If a returning camper, think about changes that have taken place this past year, is there something we need to know to safely meet the needs of the individual. The application now asks you to specify changes from last year in medical, behavioral and self-help needs. We will call families as we review applications for follow up information if needed. Again, safety is our number one concern!

Personal Care Attendants (PCA) are required for campers with involved medical, physical or behavioral challenges which require one on one care. **PCA's must be the same gender as the camper for whom they are responsible. Space is limited; therefore, the PCA and individual must be able to share a cabin with other campers. In the past we were able to accommodate separate cabins for clients with PCA's. Due to limited space we will not be able to continue that arrangement.** PCA's responsibilities include 24-hour a day one-on-one care as described above for your camper, in a physically demanding outdoor camp environment.

The administrative fee for TREK is \$405.00 per participant. Campers who attend with a personal care attendant (PCA) must also submit \$405.00 for the PCA. All fees are due with submission of medical forms. Campers denied placement will be reimbursed. **DO NOT delay filling out the application due to financial reasons, call us and we can discuss financial arrangements. NOTE: BIANJ Camp TREK does not participate in the DDD Supports Program.**

**Please make check out to Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey. Write Camp TREK in the subject line.**

**Mail checks to:  
Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey/TREK  
Attention: Jan  
825 Georges Road, 2nd Floor  
North Brunswick NJ 08902**

Transportation will not be provided. Applicants are responsible for providing reliable transportation to and from camp. Please read the Camper Handbook for specific information. If you are accepted to Camp TREK, you will be required to sign off that you have received and understand the contents of the Camper Handbook.

If you have specific questions, please call the office at 732-745-0200 and state that you have a TREK related question. Your call will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

Thank you,

*Laura*

Laura Jacobs  
Director Camp TREK