



Hello Wediko Applicant!

We are thrilled that you have expressed interest in working for the Wediko Summer Program! We are looking for enthusiastic, creative, and determined individuals to add to our unique Summer Program.

Wediko Summer Program is:

- a strengths-based program for children that builds their self-motivation, decision-making capacities, and social skills.
- for children ranging in ages from 7-18 who struggle with social, emotional, and behavioral difficulties.
- located on a 450-acre wooded waterfront campus.
- a fun and safe place for staff and children to learn, grow, and be themselves!

Wediko Staff are:

- teachers, artists, athletes, philosophers, chefs, psychologists, musicians, nurses, nature-lovers, future business leaders, and everyone in between!
- undergraduates, college graduates, and graduate students from top colleges and universities.
- committed to helping children reach their full potential.

Wediko's benefits include:

- a diverse set of professional experiences in an outdoor, active environment.
- a chance to receive hands-on clinical training working alongside experienced professionals.
- a paid internship and opportunity for an AmeriCorps award.
- a strong, impressive addition to your resume.

Enclosed are the application materials for the Wediko Summer Program. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to give a call to a summer coordinator at (617-292-9200), email us (wediko@wediko.org), or check out our web page (www.wediko.org). We are excited about the prospect of having you as part of the Wediko team!

Sincerely,

Julie Sawkiewicz
Wediko Summer Program
Senior Coordinator

Boston Offices
72-74 East Dedham Street
Boston, MA 02118
Phone: (617) 292-9200
Fax: (617) 292-9275
wediko@wediko.org

Wediko Children's Services, Inc.

www.wediko.org

Tax ID #04 6002778

New Hampshire Campus
11 Bobcat Boulevard
Windsor, NH 03244
Phone: (603) 478-5236
Fax: (603) 478-2049
wediko@wediko-nh.org



Summer Program Employment Information

Every summer Wediko hires individuals from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences to work with children who struggle with social, emotional, behavioral and learning difficulties. We are looking for staff who are dedicated, energetic, and who have skills and talents that they would like to share. If you have any questions, or would like more information please feel free to call a summer program coordinator at 617-292-9200, email us (wediko@wediko.org) or find out more at our webpage, www.wediko.org.

ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

Residential Counselors: Participate, play, and connect! Facilitate daily activities and structures for a cabin group of 8-12 children or adolescents.

Special Education Teachers and Assistants: Share in the children's greatest successes! Plan and implement daily lessons in language arts, math and science for children from across the setting. Teachers and assistants are affiliated with a single cabin group when they are not in the classroom.

Activity Assistants: Share your skills through an activity! Create and implement daily activities for children from the entire setting. Activities include aquatics, athletics, biking, archery, and many more. Assistants are affiliated with a single cabin group when they are not at the activity.

Wediko School Affiliate: Reach beyond the summer! As an Activity Assistant create and implement daily activities for children from the entire setting, while also being closely affiliated with a group in the Wediko School.

Nurses: Help keep us healthy! Work as part of a team of licensed nurses to operate the community health system, administering medications, providing First Aid, and monitoring public health concerns.

Culinary Staff: Cook, teach, and nurture! With a team of culinary staff produce 900 meals a day for children and staff. Also provide pre-vocational instruction for students assisting in the kitchen.

Pre-vocational Instructor: Teach important life skills! Help adolescents develop work ethics and vocational skills through on-the-job training. Assistants are affiliated with a single cabin group.

QUALIFICATIONS

- willingness to work hard
- capacity for working on a team
- ability to use constructive feedback
- previous work experience with children is desirable, but is not a prerequisite
- staff must also be prepared to meet the physical demands of a rugged 450-acre campus

BENEFITS

- a stipend that is commensurate with experience
- an AmeriCorps educational award worth \$1,250 for eligible staff
- room & board
- professional training in a variety of fields, including: special education, therapeutic recreation, counseling and school psychology, research, social work, psychiatric and community nursing, and psychiatry

JOB DATES

- tentative dates are June 27 to August 23

APPLICATION DEADLINE

We **do not** have a set application deadline. Hiring is typically completed by late March, so it is to your advantage to submit your materials as soon as possible. The application and the recommendation form may be sent in separately. We look forward to receiving your application!

Wediko Children's Services, Inc. has an ongoing policy of equal opportunity employment. Recruitment, hiring and promotion of qualified individuals is conducted without regard to race, gender, creed, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, veteran or handicapped status.

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Wediko Summer Program Overview

PROGRAM The Wediko Summer Program is a 45-day residential treatment program, located on a 450-acre, waterfront campus in Windsor, New Hampshire. For seventy years, the Wediko Summer Program has provided a safe, nurturing, therapeutic environment where children are helped to develop mastery in the areas of social, emotional, and academic functioning. The environment is carefully structured to provide a predictable, consistent, and normalizing atmosphere. Building on each child's strengths and relying on a safety net created by staff, children are encouraged to take risks, make mistakes, and meet challenges they have historically associated with failure. Simultaneously, clinicians work with families to identify and address family issues and to make plans to support each child's summer accomplishments, in turn helping the child to maintain gains over time.

CHILDREN Wediko's highly-structured, psycho-educational environment serves boys and girls ranging in age from 6 to 18. In the summer of 2004, 121 children attended the Wediko Summer Program (74 boys and 47 girls). Fifty percent of the children were members of an ethnic minority group. The majority of the children who attend the Wediko Summer Program come from Massachusetts. Others came from Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

All of the children in the Wediko Summer Program present major deficits in age-appropriate social and communication skills. When children are unable to effectively get their needs met, their repeated failures impede the development of a sense of competency and self-worth. Learning disabilities and attention and other neurological deficits further compromise children's belief that they can be successful.

Many of the children have histories marked by abuse, neglect, disruptions in attachment, and/or multiple losses. Inconsistent home lives, limited community resources, and repeated failure in school situations can be experienced as insurmountable obstacles for many children. More than 70 percent of the children qualify for subsidized meals based on family income or adopted status.

STAFF Unique learning experiences abound in the 45-day intensive treatment setting. Beginning with the application process, staff are involved in a process of self-observation, critical thinking, and in-depth learning. When staff live with children 24 hours per day, they quickly come to understand, in a profound manner, the challenges that parents, family members, and teachers face on a daily basis. As a result, when staff leave the summer setting, they are prepared to provide clinical service with an enhanced level of empathy.

Wediko's training program includes a weeklong orientation, didactic presentations, small group seminars, bi-weekly group supervision meetings, and hands on training. Program administrators and clinical supervisors are in the setting, working with children and staff, on a daily basis. Staff are immersed in an experiential learning experience unequalled in other work settings. Staff are participants in, not simply agents of, the process of change and growth that the children are experiencing. Staff members can see the impact of their interventions as they interact with children across areas of functioning (e.g., in school, at play, in social situations, at times of calm, and at times of crisis). A summer at Wediko enhances the rate, depth, and breadth of learning for every staff member in the setting.

Most direct care staff are enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs, preparing for a career in human services but staff ultimately pursue careers in a wide variety of industries. A summer at Wediko brings classroom lessons to life, and staff report that their academic studies are accelerated after their summer experience. Clinical staff are recruited across the nation, and alumni can be found in hundreds of schools, mental health agencies, and treatment programs where they apply what they have learned at Wediko. Wediko's senior administrators have all started their professional careers in the intensive milieu setting in New Hampshire.

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Wediko Children's Services and AmeriCorps

Wediko Children's Services is an AmeriCorps host site of Campus Compact for New Hampshire. Eligible Wediko staff will receive an Educational Award worth approximately \$1,250 for their efforts as a SERVE-NH member, in addition to their Wediko room, board, stipend, and training.

What is AmeriCorps, Campus Compact for New Hampshire, and SERVE-NH?

AmeriCorps is a national service program under the Corporation for National Service. Campus Compact for New Hampshire is Wediko's AmeriCorps sponsoring agency. SERVE-NH (or Students Engaged in Redefining a Vision for Education) is an acronym for what you will be doing as a Wediko Summer Program staff member.

What does this mean for Wediko Summer Program Staff?

Wediko Children's Services is a host site for AmeriCorps SERVE-NH members. Wediko Summer Program Staff who qualify and complete all required paperwork will receive an educational award (if they are available) worth approximately \$1,250 that may be used for the following: college tuition, repayment of college loans, and further schooling (to be used within 7 years). If you qualify, it is your responsibility to complete all required AmeriCorps paperwork.

As a Wediko Staff person, how do I know if I qualify for the AmeriCorps educational award?

To qualify, Wediko staff must:

- be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National or lawful permanent resident of the U.S.
- be at least 17 years of age and have a high school diploma.
- complete 450 hours of direct community service by the end of the Wediko Summer Program.
- make less than \$4,500 in stipend/living allowance for their service at Wediko.

What if I have further questions?

Please call the Summer Program Office at 617-292-9200 or e-mail wediko@wediko.org

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Employment Paperwork Checklist

Before completing your application, please read the following documents:

- “Hello Wediko Applicant” Letter
- Summer Employment Information
- Wediko Summer Program Overview
- Wediko Children’s Services and AmeriCorps

A completed application includes all of the following:

- Recommendation Form (Can be sent separately)
Your recommender should enclose the completed form in an envelope and sign the seal.
- Completed Staff Application
- One copy of your updated resume

Return Recommendation Form, Staff Application, and Resume to:

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Administrative Coordinator
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