

# Job Posting: **Counselor-in-Training**

## El Ranchito

Summer Camp 2015

Austin, Texas – [www.elranchito.org](http://www.elranchito.org)

<b>Title:</b>	Counselor-in-Training (1-2 positions)
<b>Supervisor:</b>	Assistant Camp Director
<b>Employment Dates:</b>	8:00am June 6 until 3:00pm July 6, 2015 (at El Ranchito; overnight full time)
<b>Camp Sessions:</b>	June 14 – July 3, 2015 (these dates include all three Nature Discovery Camp sessions)
<b>Salary:</b>	\$1350 plus all meals and tent lodging during staff training and camp sessions; \$11/hour outside contract period
<b>Classification:</b>	Seasonal Employment, health benefits not provided
<b>Closing Date:</b>	March 31, 2015, or until filled
<b>To Apply:</b>	Please submit application to <a href="mailto:employment@elranchito.org">employment@elranchito.org</a> or to El Ranchito Camp, 16037 Hamilton Pool Rd. Austin, TX 78738.

### **Camp Description**

*El Ranchito's* mission is to connect children with the natural world by providing an extraordinarily fun nature-immersion camping experience. Campers intimately experience the land, its plants and animals, its creeks, and the starry night sky. A primitive tent camp, where staff and campers sleep, makes experiencing the natural world fun and safe for the campers. The camp site is located on the Shield Ranch, just 20 miles southwest of Austin. El Ranchito is a project of the Shield Ranch Foundation in collaboration with El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission and Westcave Preserve.

### **Position Description**

The Counselor(s)-in-Training (CIT) will work under the supervision of the Assistant Camp Director to support camp programs and activities. The CIT(s) serve as role models for Junior Counselors who are transitioning from camper to staff member, provide direct support to the Counselors, fill in as Counselor when needed, and actively engage campers in group circle times, a variety of nature-focused activities, recreation, field trips, and journaling. CIT(s) take on more Counselor responsibilities as training progresses through the sessions.

Additional duties include but are not limited to:

- Work with the staff to help prepare camp site and take part in staff training week as directed.
- Assist Counselors with nature and recreation programs, including the backpacking overnight trip for Session III.
- Help Camp Cook with food services, and work with Program Assistant and other staff on camp support as needed.
- Facilitate at least one curriculum activity each week and co-lead recreation activities with Program Assistants.
- Model 100% involvement with the program and commitment to the campers having fun in nature.
- Promote conservation values with children and staff.
- Participate in camp duty rotation with assigned crew.
- Serve as a healthy role model and guide providing insight, direction, nurture and support for campers.
- Cultivate effective working relationships with staff, volunteers, and camp participants.
- Live in a tent for camp duration – sharing quarters with one or more staff members.
- Participate in daily meetings and training with Assistant Camp Director.
- Participate in Counselor/Director staff meetings once per week and as assigned.
- Contribute to weekly camp evaluations and end-of-camp evaluation.
- Help with camp take down.

### **Qualification Requirements**

- Must have successfully completed an El Ranchito summer as a Junior Counselor
- High school graduate at the time of Employment Dates (noted above)
- Preferred qualifications: Spanish fluency; experience working with children ages 9-14
- Experience tent camping, hiking and exploring in natural areas
- Experience working with children in outdoor and organized residential camp settings preferred
- Willing to follow the camp dress code, accept supervision, work independently and as part of a team
- Willing to live in a tent camp setting without running water, air conditioning and use of electronics
- Completion of a sexual misconduct prevention course (as part of training)
- Background check required. Any candidate with a felony conviction will be disqualified.
- No tobacco, drugs, alcohol or weapons are permitted at El Ranchito.

### **Off-duty Time and Transportation**

Counselor-in-Training may provide own transportation to and from El Ranchito according to the camp schedule, or to designated El Ranchito pickup locations to join camp staff carpool.