

Job Posting: **Junior Counselor**

El Ranchito

Summer Camp 2017

Austin, Texas – www.elranchito.org

Title: Junior Counselor (2-3 positions)
Supervisor: Assistant Camp Director
Employment Dates: 7:00am June 9 until 4:00pm July 11, 2017 (at El Ranchito; overnight full time)
Residency Dates: June 9 – July 11, 2017 (with limited weekend time off)
Salary: \$950 (includes meals and tent lodging; \$10/hr. outside employment dates)
Classification: Seasonal Employment, health benefits not provided
Closing Date: March 31, 2017, or until filled
To Apply: Please submit application and resumé to employment@elranchito.org or to El Ranchito Camp, 11719 Bee Caves 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 Junior Counselors will work under the supervision of the Assistant Camp Director to support camp programs and activities. The Junior Counselors will have daily check-ins with supervisor and will primarily provide support to the Counselors, engaging campers in group circle times, a variety of nature-focused activities, recreation, field trips, and journaling. Secondarily, Junior Counselors will help with food services and camp maintenance.

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Help with camp set-up and take-down, and take part in staff training and evaluations as directed.
- Assist Counselors with nature and recreation programs, including the backpacking overnight.
- Help Camp Cook with food services, and support Program Assistant as needed.
- Learn to facilitate nature-immersion and recreation activities with campers.
- 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 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.

Qualification Requirements

- One or more years of El Ranchito experience with Nature Discovery Camp and/or Conservation Corps.
- High school graduate at the time of Employment Dates (noted above). Must be at least 18 years old.
- 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 child protection 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

Junior Counselor may provide own transportation or El Ranchito will provide transportation between El Buen and camp at specified times. Junior Counselor must have own transportation to and from El Buen per the camp schedule

- First day of work (Friday, June 9): meet camp staff at El Buen at 7:00am with personal gear to live at camp
- Last day of work (Tuesday, July 11): travel with camp staff to El Buen to be picked up by parents at 4:00pm
- Off-duty time in between sessions (staff leave camp; no food provided at camp during these times):
 - 7:30pm Fri, June 16 until 12:00pm Sun, June 18
 - 9:00pm Fri, June 23 until 12:00pm Sun, June 25
 - 9:00pm Thurs, June 29 until 12:00pm Sun, July 2
 - 9:00pm Sat, July 8 until 7:00am Monday, July 10