



- Job Title: **Cabin Counselor**  
Classification: **Volunteer (non-paid)**  
Reports to: **Group Leader**  
Benefits: **Lodging and food during the week of camp, professional development and training in youth development prior to camp, develop leadership and problem-solving skills, join a community of passionate individuals dedicated to providing a safe and empowering experience for burn survivors**

Position Purpose:

Counselors are an integral part of the Midwest Children's Burn Camp (MCBC) team. A counselor is a mentor, a teacher, a companion, and a guide. Although all positions are vital to the success of camp, the Counselor's job is by far the most demanding and the most rewarding.

A Cabin Counselor will be directly responsible for the health and welfare of a group of up to 10 campers (depending on age group) with one or two co-counselors over a one-week period for 24 hours a day. All the campers in a Cabin Counselor's care will be survivors of burn or smoke inhalation injury. Cabin Counselors are expected to supervise engagement in camp activities and facilitate the social and emotional growth of campers.

Essential Job Functions:

1. **Supervision:**
  - a. Maintain 24-hour visual supervision of all campers, in coordination with co-counselors, including sleeping in sight of campers in cabins
  - b. Apply basic youth development principles in working with campers through communication, relationship development, respect for diversity, involvement, and empowerment of youth
  - c. Facilitate group discussions according to program guidelines to promote goal setting, problem-solving, and smooth transitions
2. **Health and Safety:**
  - a. Make sure campers who need medication stop in the Health Center at the scheduled time
  - b. Make sure campers who need medical attention seek care from the medical staff in a timely manner.
  - c. Make sure that campers are wearing appropriate clothing for camp activities
  - d. Always pay attention to and comply with appropriate safety guidelines to minimize risks and prevent injury to both campers and counselors
  - e. Tend to health, hygiene and first aid care of your campers to your level of training
3. **Mental, Emotional, and Social-Related:**
  - a. Establish and maintain appropriate professional relationships and interpersonal skills
  - b. Interact effectively with individuals and groups while respecting social and cultural diversity
  - c. Recognize and consider the needs of others (including campers and staff members) in daily interactions and decision-making
  - d. Use effective and appropriate self-care practices for maintaining overall wellness in a fast-paced environment

## Midwest Children's Burn Camp Job Description – Cabin Counselor

- e. Promote emotional safety for campers and staff through maintaining an environment of encouragement and respect

### 4. **Guidance:**

- a. Contribute to the development of a good attitude in campers by:
  - i. Set a good example for them to follow.
  - ii. Discuss problems on their level without showing anger.
  - iii. Consult fellow counselors, group leaders or administrators for advice.
  - iv. Use positive reinforcement.
  - v. Display a positive attitude yourself.
- b. Display traits that are conducive to a successful camp:
  - i. Be compatible with other counselors and administrators.
  - ii. Display good leadership and communication skills.
  - iii. Initiate new ideas and take on jobs not assigned.
  - iv. Support camp objectives, goals, philosophy & rules.
  - v. Accept criticism in a positive way.

### Other Job Duties:

- Contribute to verbal and written evaluations and communication as requested
- Use approved methods for facilitating resolution of problems and conflicts, including the group process, natural consequences, and time-outs
- Keep Group Leader informed of all behavioral issues, and consult with Group Leader or Camp Director for assistance
- Participate as a member of the camp staff to deliver and supervise evening programs and other all-camp activities and camp functions

### Qualifications:

- Be 21 years of age by the first day that campers arrive
- Able to live in a cabin with others, eat meals in a large, noisy dining room, etc.
- Able to address stressful situations appropriately in a fast-paced, interactive environment
- Must pass a background check and pre-hire interview
- Be comfortable working with children with a burn or smoke inhalation injury
- Be comfortable spending long periods of time outdoors, sometimes in wilderness settings
- Ability to interact with all age levels

### Physical Aspects of the Job:

- Possess strength and endurance required to maintain constant supervision of campers in both structured and unstructured activities
- Ability to carry a backpack that is 1/3 of your weight, and work on your feet all day outdoors
- Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards

*MCBC does not tolerate harassment or discrimination based on an individual's race, creed, color, religious beliefs, gender, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, military status, and any other legally protected characteristic.*