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Dear Staff Member,

Hello and welcome to Chipinaw @ Silver Lake. I'm sure you have lots of questions and you're very excited about your travels to America. In addition to this letter, expect to receive an email from us every few weeks. It is our hope that these will answer some, if not all of your questions and give you an insight on what to expect at camp.

Chipinaw @ Silver Lake is located in the Catskill Mountains of New York State, about 2 hours from New York City. If you look on a map, we are actually in the Town of Bethel which is about 10 minutes from Monticello, New York. Chipinaw has about 500 campers and about 250 staff members, many of which are international like yourself.

Our international staff fly into one of three New York City area Airports: Newark Airport in Newark, New Jersey, LaGuardia Airport or Kennedy Airport (JFK) (each about 30 minutes outside of New York City). Plan to arrive on one of our scheduled pick-up days, make your own way into New York City and we will pick you up from Columbia University. (See - International Staff Pick-Up Information Sheet) **Please send an email to jobs@chipinaw.com to let us know which pickup you will be at.** Don't rely on your sponsoring agency to tell us.

In accepting a job with Chipinaw @ Silver Lake, please be aware that most of you have been hired to arrive on June 23rd, 2009. Others have been selected to arrive on June 16th, for you this first week is considered "Set-up week". We work from 9am-6pm getting the camp ready. Lots of manual labor, painting and cleaning. Bring a set of clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Set-up week is a lot of work but it is also a lot of fun. It gives our international staff a chance to know their way around and unwind from their long journey. It also gives you a chance to get to know us as well as each other.

Many of you are looking for ways to make extra money. You are eligible to join our "Pre Camp" staff on May 26th or June 2nd for two or three extra weeks work. We pay \$180.00 US per week including room and board. Again, we work from 9am to 6pm, six days a week. We also look for people to work a week of Post camp from August 19th to the 25th. We choose people for this option during the summer.

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Chipinaw @ Silver Lake's orientation begins on June 24th and is different from your sponsoring agency's orientation. We have a four day orientation to give you as much insight as possible about what the summer is going to be like, what is expected from you, and how camp works. The kids arrive on June 28th and camp will end on August 17th.

Another question that is often asked is "What will be my specific duties at camp"? This will be answered in a future letter that you will receive via email, **please make sure we have your current email on file.** We will also go over this in detail during orientation. Keep in mind that as a specialist you will be teaching in your specialty area five to six hours a day. As a general counselor you spend the day with your campers guiding them and participating with them.

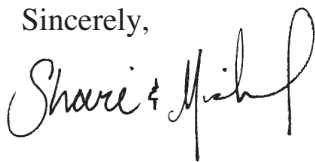
For those of you that have been hired to work as lifeguards, unfortunately, your bronze medallions and Aussie Swim certificates are not acceptable. New York State will only accept American Red Cross (ARC) certifications. They are - ARC LIFEGUARDING, ARC CPR FOR THE PROFESSIONAL RESCUER, and ARC FIRST AID RTE (RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES). The ARC - WSI course is accepted for people who want to teach swimming. However, we tend to need more people with the lifeguarding certification that can also teach. All Waterfront, Pool and Ropes Course staff need to be certified. The appropriate courses will be held at Chipinaw during setup week.

Also for your information, we do have computers and pay phones in our staff lounge at Chipinaw. In your free time, you will be able to keep in touch with your friends and family once you are at camp.

Finally, please remember that working at a children's summer camp is a lot of work. This is in no way a holiday. If you speak to others that have done this they will agree. They will also tell you that if they could do it again they would and many do. It might just be the most rewarding experience you will ever encounter. As questions arise don't hesitate to e-mail us at jobs@chipinaw.com.

We look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shari & Michael". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed names of the signatories.

Shari & Michael Baer
Directors