

Teen Life Program

Summer 2021

Thank you for your interest in the South East Consortium Teen Life program. The following information will provide you with insight into this unique and fun life skills program offered by SEC. Please review the information listed in this letter which will give you a basic understanding of the program. If you decide your teen meets the eligibility requirements and you wish to pursue registration, please contact the office to register. Registration is not available on our RecDesk site this Summer. If you are new to South East, your teen will have to be OPWDD eligible, and you will be required to make an appointment with your teen for a brief in-take interview to assess your teen's readiness for Teen Life Program and to finalize registration.

The Teen Life program is developed for teens, ages 14 to 25, who have outgrown our summer day camp. With this in mind, we have designed a program that takes the fun of going out into the community and applies functional daily living skills. The opportunity to apply these skills as we build them will allow us to scaffold and progress further towards our goals. Our individuals will work on socialization, executive functioning/independent living, daily living skills, self-regulation (social & emotional), wellness and fitness.

We have many additional fun activities planned throughout the week like water day, field day, BBQ, game tournaments, arts and crafts, sport activities, hikes and swimming. There will be at least one trip per week where your teen will visit different places of interest in the surrounding communities. Because of the nature of this program, individuals need to demonstrate behaviors that are conducive to participating in community settings and functioning within groups.

Teen Life Season: First Day of Teen Life starts Tuesday, July 6th and runs through Friday, August 6th (24 Days).

Days and Times: Teen Life will take place M-F 9:00am -3:00pm, unless otherwise noted. For Special trips time may be extended.

Location and Transportation: Pick-up and drop-off will be at different locations depending on the day. Please be sure to review your program calendar carefully!

Eligibility: Teens between the ages of 14 and 25, who are diagnosed with a Developmental Disability who reside in one of the component municipalities and is eligible for reimbursement under New York State/Medicaid Wavier guidelines, will be given priority. Individuals must demonstrate behaviors that are appropriate for functioning within the community and follow group instructions. Due to staffing limitations South East cannot accept any teen requiring specialized health care or supervision. Unfortunately, we will not provide 1:1 staffing for the Summer Teen Life Program.

Participants residing in Pelham qualify for transportation to and from program through Pelham Recreation.

Program Cost: Cost per Individual \$850.00. Additional money (on average of \$20) is needed weekly for special admission cost. The total expense incurred by SEC for your teen to attend camp is approximately \$3000.00. Interpretation of Medicaid Wavier regulations permit SEC to assess families a cost of \$850.00 based on expenses related to internal transportation, consumable supplies, food, special entertainment and admission costs.

Family Orientation: A family orientation meeting will be held on Zoom on June 22nd from 6:00-7:00 PM. We will discuss the program in detail and will be available to answer any questions and concerns that parents have.

COVID-19 Policy:

While we are excited to return to in-person program this summer, we must stress and emphasize the importance of the COVID-19 restrictions that we will be adhering to. As per New York State's Board of Health, all individuals and staff must wear masks while at program. Your individual must be able to tolerate mask wearing for the full day (excluding water/mask breaks and swimming) in order to attend. Social distancing will also be enforced at all times when masks are not worn.

Counselors will be provided with PPE (hand sanitizer, alcohol wipes, non-latex rubber gloves, extra disposable masks, etc.) and additional supplies will be made available to them as needed. SEC Staff who are fully vaccinated should file their vaccine status in the SEC office. South East Consortium follows NYS guidelines for COVID-19 Protocol.

Drop off and pick up procedures will be changed this Summer to adhere to COVID guidelines. Parents/guardians will approach the drop off location (TBD) and will not leave their vehicle. An SEC staff member will approach your vehicle and will take your individual's temperature. You will need to submit a daily screening form agreeing to the guidelines that South East must follow. Parents will not be permitted to leave their vehicles. Once your individual has had their temperature taken and recorded, they will be escorted from the vehicle.

Pick up will run in a very similar way. The teens will wait at the pick-up location (TBD) while maintaining social distance. When a parent/guardian arrives, their individual will be escorted to the vehicle. Like at drop off, parents are not permitted to leave the vehicle.

Group sizes are reduced this Summer to adhere to the state's guidelines. Your teen will be grouped with the same cohort each day to limit any unnecessary exposure. These groupings will be organized by taking age, ability and previous relationships into account. Program groupings are final, barring any extraneous circumstance.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these dates, please let me know immediately.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 914-698-5232 or email acunney@secrec.org

I look forward to a wonderful and safe summer!
Austin Cunney
Program Supervisor