



April 16, 2008

Dear Interested Volunteer,

We are very excited to introduce you to Camp Wildflower!

Camp Wildflower is a one-day summer program to be held on Saturday, June 28th for grieving children and their families. The Garden: A Center for Grieving Children and Teens in Northampton is hosting this new program. Camp Wildflower will be held in Huntington, MA at the Camp Norwich facilities. For ten years The Garden has provided bereavement support to families with young children who have experienced the death of a close family member. Through Camp Wildflower, The Garden is offering support during its "off months". At Camp Wildflower the day has been carefully planned to provide a safe place for grieving children to share and be supported.

We are seeking caring and committed folk to serve as volunteers. All volunteers will be screened, trained and supervised. Volunteer training will be held on Sunday, June 8th from 9-3 p.m. Attendance is required. Volunteer positions include adult facilitators, big campers, floaters, nurses and photographers. Volunteer positions for young adults include a junior camper position. Descriptions of all volunteer positions are enclosed.

Additionally you will find volunteer application, statement of confidentiality and schedule of day at Camp Wildflower. Completed applications can be mailed to:

Shelly Bathe Lenn
c/o The Garden
286 Prospect St.
Northampton, MA 01060

To meet the Camp Wildflower coordinators and find out more information, please join us at one of the information sessions scheduled on May 8 or May 22nd at 6:30. Meetings are held at the YMCA in Northampton, which is located at 286 Prospect St. Or call us at 413 584 7086 ext 124.

Thank you for your interest in Camp Wildflower. We look forward to meeting with you!

Camp Wildflower Coordinators,

Jerry Costello

Shelly Bathe Lenn

Carlos Turriago

Camp Wildflower Volunteer Positions

All volunteers must complete a volunteer application, are subject to criminal background checks (CORI & SORI), reference checks and must complete volunteer training session on Sunday, June 8.

Big Campers:

Each camper is assigned their own (adult) **Big Camper** who serves as their mentor/anchor for the day. Campers are matched by same sex, hobbies and interests. **Big Campers** eat and do all activities with their assigned little camper. **Big Campers** complete six hours of volunteer training, criminal background and reference checks. *Camp Wildflower* needs between 20-30 big campers. **Big Campers** need to be available from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 28th.

Small Group Circle Facilitator:

Throughout the day several small group circles will be held. Each **Small Group Circle** is led by a trained facilitator. **Small Group Circle Facilitators** have experience facilitating support groups and working with children [addressing grief issues]. Big and little campers are assigned to a **Small Group Circle** and have the same **Small Group Circle Facilitator** for the day. Each **Small Group Circle** will have a theme that the **Small Group Circle Facilitator** incorporates into each session. **Small Group Circle Facilitators** complete six hours of volunteer training, criminal background and reference checks.

Floater:

Floater are individuals who assist with the “behind the scenes” running of the camp. **Floater** coordinate volunteer and camper registration, help set-up various activities, meals and more! **Floater** also assist with supervision during the big camper break at lunch time.

Junior Camper:

Junior Campers must be at least 15 years of age and have completed the six-hour volunteer training class. They are “runners” for the weekend and can be used to help with anything needed by any staff member throughout the weekend. **Junior Campers** are assigned to Small Group Circles and if they have experienced a personal loss, can help as a peer model by sharing their story of loss or sharing as the healing circle leader deems appropriate. **Junior Campers** also help supervise campers during the big camper break at lunch time. **Junior Campers** are to be ready to participate in all activities.

Camp Nurse:

There is at least one **Camp Nurse** on staff for the entire day to assist with any medical needs and administer prescription medications for the campers. The **Camp Nurse** is also present during registration to review medications and dosages. The **Camp Nurse** collects all medications by campers. The **Camp Nurse** also keeps a log of all their activities of the weekend.

Camp Photographer:

The **Camp Photographer** assigned to take candid pictures throughout the weekend documenting all activities. **Camp Photographer** also takes big and little camper photos for each to be sent home when camp has ended. The **Camp Photographer** helps to make photo cards and other displays.

Camp Assistant:

The **Camp Assistants** are responsible for aiding the **Small Group Circle Facilitators** and offering support for the big campers in their assigned Small Group Circle. They are responsible for organizing their group’s supplies into a caddy, working with the **Small Group Circle Facilitators** to discuss materials needed for each Small Group Circle.

Camp Wildflower Volunteer Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Alternate Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Emergency Contact: _____

Serious Medical Conditions: _____

How did you hear about volunteering at *Camp Wildflower*: _____

I am interested in volunteering as a (check appropriate box):

Big Camper **Small Group Circle Facilitator** **Junior Counselor**

Photographer **Nurse** **Floater**

Employment/Volunteer History

(Please feel free to write on the back or attach additional sheets if more room is needed)

Employer	Location (City/State)	Occupation/Title	Date(s)

Please circle your responses to the following questions:

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No
 If yes, please explain:

Have you ever been arrested for a sex offense or physical assault? Yes No
 If yes, please explain:

I am willing to commit to volunteering at *Camp Wildflower* for the day, June 28th from 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Yes No

I am available for the full volunteer training, to be held June 8th. Yes No

I hold up-to-date certification in CPR/First Aid? Yes No

Please complete the following questions and feel free to attach additional papers as needed.

Please list all education and experiences (work or volunteer) that you have had working with children. Please include teaching, childcare, camp counseling etc.

Please tell us why you are interested in volunteering at *Camp Wildflower*.

Have you had a family member or close friend die within the last year? Please explain.

Have you been affected by another kind of major loss or change with the last year? Please explain.

Have you had a family member/close friend die or another kind of major loss or change within your life? Please explain.

Have you ever been a participant in 1-1 counseling or support groups?

Please list the names, addresses and telephone numbers of 2 references:

1. _____

2. _____

- Because our first concern must be the families who come to *Camp Wildflower*, we reserve the right to decide whether an applicant would fit with our program needs. By signing this application, you are agreeing to that policy as well as to reference and background checks (CORI and SORI).
- While a facilitator at *Camp Wildflower*, you are agreeing not to date *Camp Wildflower* family members and to participate in all *Camp Wildflower* activities drug and alcohol free.
- Further, you are confirming that all statements made on this application are correct and that you know of no reason that would prevent you from being a qualified volunteer at *Camp Wildflower*.
- Finally, you are acknowledging that acceptance to *Camp Wildflower* volunteer training does not guarantee a position as a *Camp Wildflower* facilitator.

If you agree to these conditions of application, please sign below.

Signature

Date

Camp Wildflower Volunteer Statement of Confidentiality

First Name: _____ MI: ___ Last Name: _____

I understand that information regarding Camp Wildflower campers, their families, staff and any persons receiving support or services in any capacity is privileged information for use by and with authorized person(s) only.

I will disclose such information only in the discharge of my assigned duties and responsibilities with Camp Wildflower or person(s) authorized to receive such information through the signed consent or patient, family member or affected party.

I will not disclose any information with anyone unauthorized to receive this information. I will handle any and all paperwork and forms with proper procedure of control so that no information is accidentally observed or released to any unauthorized person(s). I also understand that the causal sharing of camper/camper families/staff information in public places or settings is inappropriate.

I have read and understood the preceding Statement on Confidentiality and agree to abide by it.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Camp Wildflower Schedule of the Day

Camper plan:

- 8:00 campers arrive and registration
- 8:30 bus departs
- 9:00 large group “ice breaker” activities, big camper sharing
- 9:30 small group sharing
- 11:00 small group-building activities
- 12:00 large group lunch
- 1:00 large group energizers
- 1:45 small group sharing/activities
- 3:15 large group arts/crafts
- 4:15 small group planning of memorial activity
- 5:00 dinner
- 6:00 closing ceremony—all campers and adult caregivers included

Adult caregiver plan:

- 1:00 check in
- 1:30 long art and craft project
- 3:30 short activity
- 4:30-5 more adult caregivers arrive
- 5 Dinner
- 6 closing ceremony—all campers and adult caregivers included