



**A member of Camp to Belong
International Association of Camps*

Summer Camp for Siblings Separated in Foster Care!

Camp To Belong New York is a five-day camp for children ages 9 to 14. Camp To Belong (www.camptobelong.org) is dedicated to reuniting brothers and sisters who are in separate foster care, kinship care, and adoptive home placements for events of fun, emotional empowerment, and sibling connections to create lifetime memories.

When: June 25th-July 1, 2016

Location: YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George

Camp activities include fun and meaningful opportunities for siblings to have experiences together such as theme night, swimming, canoeing, and even a birthday party!

- ✓ **Sibling Enhancement Program** is designed for brothers and sisters who are struggling to communicate with each other because they've been separated from each other
- ✓ **Skills Classes** teach all campers in classes selected based on interests and include rock climbing, nature exploration, canoeing, photography, and others.

Referrals

Step #1

- ✓ Caseworker or guardian complete the required referral information.
- ✓ Kids ages 9-14 can be referred.
- ✓ Referrals must be sent via email to satri@parsonscenter.org
- ✓ Please provide **ALL** of the information requested. It is critical for us to understand the needs of the children and what kind of relationship they currently have with their sibling(s)

Step #2

- ✓ A Committee reviews all referrals and makes recommendations for applications to be submitted
- ✓ **NO APPLICATIONS** are needed until your sibling group has been selected to attend camp

Step #3

- ✓ Once approved for camp, caseworker will be required to submit:
 - Application for each camper
 - Copy of Medical ID card for each camper
 - Mandatory Media Release for each camper
- ✓ Caseworker remains as **KEY CONTACT** to receive and communicate camp details up through the entire camp experience
- ✓ Caseworker is key contact to assist in arranging for transportation
- ✓ Caseworker identifies emergency contact who will be available the week of camp

Please provide the following via email:

Names, DOB, location (foster home, group home, residential treatment, or other location) for each camper being referred. **If child is in a therapeutic type living situation, provide additional information regarding the reason for that placement and any other information that will help us understand the needs and behaviors of the child.**

Names and contact information of caseworkers / responsible person for each referred camper.

Briefly state:

- a. What benefits would be gained by these siblings sharing the camp experience?
- b. What is the reason that the siblings are not living together?
- c. Do they visit each other now, and if so, how often?
- d. How would children respond to the possibility of going to camp together?
- e. How would their caregivers respond to the children going to camp?
- f. Would this summer camp experience change anything about their current living situation?

Financing the camp experience - Camp costs \$600 per camper. Please indicate how much your county is able to pay for camp so we can secure a partial scholarship for the balance. We encourage all caseworkers who have appropriate referrals to make those referrals. Financing can be discussed on an individual basis.