

New Jersey 4-H Camp Statement of Belonging

It is the New Jersey 4-H Camp's utmost priority that each and every camper feels welcome in our community, and that after their time here they feel the camping program was specifically designed to support their success. Our staff always look for the opportunity to tailor our 4-H Camp program to the needs of each individual camper, and when possible to move the program toward the camper instead of the other way around.

4-H Camp operates under Rutgers University's policies of Diversity and Inclusion and follows the University's dedication to building a beloved community. President Jonathan Holloway describes a beloved community, as one in which all members are working together and are heard, respected, and valued. Inclusion refers to creating environments where individuals and groups feel welcomed, supported, respected and valued by eliminating practices and behaviors that marginalize. Rutgers University seeks to promote the comfort and safety of students, staff, and faculty members by utilizing chosen/preferred names. An inclusive environment embraces differences and offers respect in words and actions so all people can fully participate in the University's opportunities.

At 4-H Camp, cabins are assigned based on both age and by gender, as selected on the Registration Form filled out by the camper's parent/guardian. The cabins are constantly supervised areas of camp, and campers are never in the cabin without a counselor present. Within the cabin and 4-H Camp as a whole, our staff strive to ensure that campers are called by the name they wish to be called, referred to as they like to be referred, and in general treated as they wish to be treated. A gender neutral restroom/shower is available to any camper who wishes to utilize it.

Everything wonderful we are able to achieve at 4-H Camp is achieved because we are a community dedicated to treating each other well. All members of our community are expected to strive toward our cardinal principles of "kindness and respect" - to treat each other, our 4-H Camp environment, and ourselves with thoughtful, respectful decision making and kind, generous actions.



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