

Animal Exploration Kids Summer Kamp

Seeking Volunteers!

A unique day camp experience is being offered to children in the Greater Rochester/Finger Lakes area located at the beautiful, historic grounds of Sonnenberg Gardens with other Canandaigua community partners, the Wood Library and Arts Council.

Bridges For Brain Injury, Inc. is pleased to announce that a “Animal Exploration Kids Kamp” will be held for one week in August, offering 100 local children daily and interactive wildlife presentations, as well as activities and programs with visiting professionals in the fields of art, education, zoology, and wildlife in a natural setting at Sonnenberg Gardens. There will be animal career exploration activities and a special visit from Zoologist and television celebrity, Jarod Miller. The animal ambassadors that will be part of this great endeavor will include the many native and exotic wildlife from the USDA licensed Wildlife Defenders program from Bridges For Brain Injury, Inc, a non-profit organization helping survivors of brain injuries rebuild their lives.

The Wildlife Defenders

The Wildlife Defenders Program is a wildlife education outreach group run by the program members of Bridges for Brain Injury Inc, all who are adult survivors of brain injuries. Using live native and exotic species, the Wildlife Defenders visit schools, youth groups, nursing homes, community events, and the Canandaigua Veterans Administration, and present formal and informal programs and displays. They provide interesting and stimulating information about their animal ambassadors and encourage environmental and wildlife conservation awareness. Members also share their personal injury and rehabilitation stories and discuss the importance of safety and prevention practices. While running this community based program, members work on personal goals such as socialization, organization, communication, memory retention, planning and pre-employment skills in addition to improving their self-esteem and confidence by being viewed as role models by school aged children.

Volunteer Opportunities

We are seeking volunteers to work in the following capacities:

- Nurse(s) to administer medications and provide medical oversight to campers
- Group Leaders: help run daily group activities for a group of 20 campers
- Group Assistants to help with supervision, lunch duties and group transitions

All volunteers will be required to complete an application and criminal background check and will receive comprehensive training. All volunteers will be required to receive training prior to working!

If interested, please contact Loraine Luongo, Camp Coordinator at (585) 396-0070 or lluongo@bridgesforbraininjury.org or go online to access our volunteer application at www.bridgesforbraininjury.org