**Children At Risk, an Ottawa area based charity supporting families dealing with Autism is pleased to offer March Break Camp. This is a dedicated Specialty Camp catering to upwards of 40+ youth aged 4 to 20+years of age on the Autism Spectrum that require 1 to 1 or 2 to 1 Counsellor to Camper ratio due to behavioural or developmental needs.**

**Location**: 235 Donald Street, Ottawa, ON K1K 1N1

**Reports to:** Specific Group Leader & Senior Group Leader

**Program Dates:** 11th to 15th March

**Hours:**  8:45 a.m. – 4.15 p.m. Monday to Thursday till 5 p.m. Friday

**Pay:** Based on level of experience. Paid for a 36 hours week

**Compulsory Training:** Sunday 10th March 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**JOB SUMMARY:**

A Higher Needs Camp Counsellor is responsible for working with an autistic youth on a one-to-one basis that requires a higher level of care due to medical, physical or behavioural needs in their specific group. The Counsellor needs to look after the higher needs campers’ daily needs and follow the daily program as outlined by the specific groups Group Leader. There will also be on off-site trip via school bus to a swimming pool as well as a walk to a local bowling alley. Additional trips maybe taken by some groups using OC Transpo.

***Essential Job Functions:***

* Needs to follow the daily program with their Campers but may need to make modifications based on their Campers specific needs. Needs to follow the daily program with their Campers but may need to make modifications based on their Campers specific needs if the Camper finds a particular activity too challenging or aversive. May need to create own fun to entertain the camper during unstructured times without the use of materials or props. This can be action songs, eye spy, hand clapping games etc.
* Be watchful as Campers can be runners or will wander if unsupervised or be prone to eating non- edibles, pulling fire alarms or other identified behaviours. Be aware of Campers lack of safety sense and take appropriate precautions.
* Where there are life skill deficits, deal with these whilst maintaining the dignity of the Camper as female counsellors maybe assigned to male campers. Implement toileting routines to prevent accidents, timely changing of diapers, assist with opening food containers or actual feeding of the Camper. Implement good hygiene of washing hands before cooking, eating and after the use of the bathroom.
* Understand sensory needs, and other forms of over stimulation which may cause the Camper distress or lead to meltdowns.
* Use visual Schedules and Pictures (PECS) to communicate with non-verbal Campers and to provide transition warnings or to explain wait periods to avoid meltdowns. Use scale charts so that non-verbal Campers can communicate their hunger level, frustration level, mood, feedback on activities etc.
* Have fun and model play skills where Campers can learn in the natural environment the art of sharing, taking turns, clean-up, caring for toys etc.

#### Experience –

* Experience volunteering/working with youth in a day program atmosphere
* Previous background/knowledge about working with people with special needs, specifically autism.
* Knowledge of PECS and visual aids, Non Violent Crisis Intervention an asset but not mandatory but must have a CPR/First Aid certificate and social insurance number.

### Personal Attributes - This individual must be:

* Calm, Dedicated, Patient & Dependable to show up each day
* A problem-solver and ability to go with the flow in stressful situations
* Able to deal with strong smells, feces and nudity without reacting
* Able to swim and communicate effectively in English, other languages a bonus

Interested candidates should complete the March Break Camp Application form link at <https://goo.gl/forms/x9gRGlbxXj20Ztj83>