POSITION: Heart to Heart Counselor

Heart to Heart is seeking two Heart to Heart Counselors to join us for short-term positions supervising participants and leading summer camp programming. The period of employment will be from June 27th to July 26th, 2018 based at our summer camp in Perth, Ontario.

ABOUT HEART TO HEART:
Heart to Heart is a joint program of Givat Haviva in Israel and Hashomer Hatzair – Camp Shomria in Canada. Our mission is to support a new generation of young Jewish and Palestinian citizens of Israel to become leaders who recognize the importance of building a shared society, and possess the relationships and skills to make it a reality.

Our core program is the Heart to Heart summer program. Each year, a group of 20 youth aged 14-15, half Palestinian citizens of Israel and half Jewish citizens of Israel, are selected to participate in an immersive three-and-a-half-week camp-based program which runs in Canada at Camp Shomria in Perth, Ontario. The Heart to Heart camp program runs concurrently with Camp Shomria’s regular summer camp program. During camp, the group lives together and participates in relationship building activities and facilitated dialogue about the narratives, politics, and power dynamics that shape their daily lives back home. These activities are facilitated by Heart to Heart staff. The group also participates in full camp activities (sports, swimming, arts and crafts, games, etc.) with Camp Shomria campers led by Camp Shomria staff.

The summer program is complemented by programming in Israel prior to the summer and once the group has returned. Throughout the year following the summer program, the group works together to implement their “taking it home” project conceived during camp with the goal of taking leadership within their communities to build shared society. A conference for all Heart to Heart alumni is held annually at Givat Haviva.

WHO WE ARE: We are a team of people that are passionate about building shared society in Israel and we believe that young people play a critical role in developing this shared society. We are so passionate, you will usually find us going above and beyond to get to know all the participants and support them in the program. We are problem-solvers and creative thinkers that also enjoy taking a break to go for a swim in the lake or enjoy the camp garden.

WHO YOU ARE: You are a team player and are passionate about working with and inspiring young people. You really enjoy spending time in camp environments and leading fun activities for campers. You are able to relate to young adults, while also acting professionally. You feel fulfilled when you are able to connect with people, and support them. You are comfortable working in a fast-paced environment and are flexible based on the needs of the program participants. You have unique talents and interests that you would like to share with young people. You are passionate about making change in the world and you have experience in a cross-cultural context. Most importantly, you are ready for an unforgettable experience this summer that will allow you to impact the lives of young people.
JOB DESCRIPTION:
- Prepare activities with co-counselor to help develop relationships, a sense of community, and group cohesion among participants through team building experiences.
- With co-counselor lead and organize fun camp activities for all participants while at camp.
- Support the participants emotionally and socially in their experience at camp and during the Toronto portion of the program.
- Take a genuine interest in all participants and spend time getting to know each of them.
- Act as a mentor and role model for participants.
- Make sure that participants are on time and arrive at all camp activities prepared to participate.
- Communicate with chaperones, Educational Manager and Summer Program Director around participants’ experience, especially any participants that may be experiencing challenges at camp.
- Work to make sure that all participants are safe and feel comfortable at camp.
- Other duties as needed to support the success of the program.

REPORTS TO: The Counselors report directly to the Summer Program Director. A performance review will take place weekly. Performance will be measured according to quality of work and ability to meet deadlines.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
- Familiarity with the Israeli Palestinian conflict.
- Previous experience at a summer camp or with similar youth programs.
- Previous experience working with youth (aged 14-16).
- Previous experience working in cross-cultural contexts.
- Demonstrated interest in building shared society in Israel.
- Proficiency in oral and written English (required), Hebrew (asset), Arabic (asset)

REQUIRED PERSONAL QUALITIES
- Interest in the mission of Heart to Heart
- Ability to empathize with others
- Patience and flexibility
- Willingness to work in a team
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills

COMPENSATION: CAD $1250

JOB REQUIREMENTS:
- Must be able to live at Camp Shomria from June 27th - July 22nd and be in Toronto from July 23rd - 26th (accommodations in Toronto can be arranged if necessary)
- Must be a Canadian citizen or have a valid work visa.
- Must be available for in-person pre-camp staff trainings to take place monthly in Toronto beginning May 1st
- Must be available for occasional in-person or remote pre-camp communications beginning May 1st
- Must have access to a working computer, and stable internet connection.
- Occasionally working on religious or civic holidays may be required in order to meet specific deadlines.
TO APPLY: Send a cover letter and CV to Heart to Heart Interim Summer Program Director, Erika Richter at erika@heart-to-heart.ca. References will be required upon request. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but preference will be given to candidates that submit their application prior to Friday, March 9th at 6:00pm.