

**Generations Camp Ministries**  
**JOB DESCRIPTION**  
(revised 1/2013)

**Position Title:** Camp Chaplain

**Responsible To:** Camp Director

**Statement of Philosophy:** As the Chaplain, you will be primarily responsible for being available to address spiritual and psychological developmental issues arising during the course of camp.

**Qualifications:**

- GCI elder in good standing who is recommended by his/her senior pastor (or by his/her district pastoral leader when the elder is a senior pastor)
- College graduate preferred
- Experience at a Generations Ministries camp preferred
- Counseling experience desired
- Well-versed in the scriptures and teaching thereof
- Passion for working with young people (children and teens)
- Highly motivated
- Teaching experience with teens preferred
- High level of understanding of and support for GCI doctrine and theology
- Willingness and ability to engage in spiritual and psychological counseling of children and/or teens as needed or requested—this counseling is to be conducted in a dignified and professional manner, as defined by the counseling profession
- Familiarity with the requirements for reporting in cases of alleged sexual or physical abuse—such matters are to be handled **ONLY** by the Camp Chaplain in consultation with the denomination's legal counsel (see the GenMin Manual for details)
- Good organizational skills
- Willingness to assume responsibilities on behalf of the camp as directed

**General Responsibility:** To be available for counseling related to spiritual and/or psychological issues on behalf of the camp. GenMin camps are not immune from the abuses rampant in this world. Additionally, the amount of legislation undergirding the entire realm of abuse is significant. Most abusive situations encountered at camp have to do with abuse that a camper or staff member experienced prior to camp. If this information becomes known to anyone within the camp community, we have a legal responsibility to respond. As mandated reporters, we must handle such situations with great care and sensitivity, but we must deal with them.

Our mandated response model is as follows:

1. Become aware of a reported (alleged) abuse
2. Have the Camp Chaplain (*ONLY*) validate the report with the camper or staff member in question.

3. Once validated, the Chaplain contacts the Church's legal office to discuss the abuse and appropriate next steps. Following the reporting, the Chaplain ensures that records are developed and retained. Generally, information is shared only with the church's legal counsel and then with others only as legal counsel directs. We will work diligently to protect the camper or staff member—especially from unnecessary awareness from others within in the camp community. See the GenMin manual for further detail.

As evidenced by this brief synopsis, it is the intent of GenMin that the Chaplain be the one responsible *alone* for responding to alleged abuse, when such allegations relate to abuse that occurred prior to camp. When an alleged abuse occurs *at* camp, in every case we ask the Chaplain to be involved directly with the Camp Director as directed by legal counsel.

**Specific Responsibilities** for Camp Chaplains:

- In conjunction with the Church's legal department, utilize the appropriate response mechanism to all psychological-based emergencies or circumstances requiring professional counseling assistance. In other words, utilize an emergency protocol.
- Provide staff development regarding appropriate response related to abuse situations.
- Seek opportunities to be available for counseling with campers. Give them an opportunity for dialogue.
- Respond in a timely manner to requests from the Camp Director.
- Assist Camp Director in other duties as called upon. Such additional duties may include directing all chapel and Christian Living class teaching, overseeing worship services, etc. All such matters are at the discretion of the Camp Director in consultation with camp staff and advisors.