



317 E. Call St. Tallahassee, FL 32301

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www.TheOasisCenter.net

Improving the lives of women and girls through celebration and support

SUMMER 2017

Dear Campers and Parents:

Thank you for your interest in our 10th annual Girls Can Do Anything! Summer Camp Program. We are excited about this year's plans for camp – your camper(s) will have a great summer! Our camp program is designed around an empowerment based philosophy. While your camper should expect to have loads of fun at camp, the Girls Can Do Anything! Summer Camp is also filled with an empowering summer of adventures. An important aspect of the camp is the diversity of experiences and family circumstances of our campers. Our goal is to promote self-efficacy and support girls in developing an expansive vision of who they can be and what they can do in their lives. Each week consists of a new and exciting theme which will coincide with field trips, activities, and guest speakers. In addition, every week will also include a service project, two athletic or physical activities, creative and fun learning about what girls can accomplish when working together, and more. We provide many opportunities for girls to learn new skills, make lasting friendships, embrace their strengths, and develop leadership and self-reliance. We do this in part by designing field trips that include meeting amazing women who are doing incredible things in our community. Additionally, our camps are focused on increasing the connection between girls as early as possible and to chip away at barriers that divide them – things like race, socio-economic status, family makeup, body image, and much more.

Our campers have a great time embracing how fun it is to be a girl. While it is permissible to enroll your girl for a single week, we strongly encourage you to register your camper for at least two weeks of camp. In our experience, campers very much enjoy building friendships with their peers. Please review the following pages for more information on this summer's camp and feel free to contact us with any questions. Thank you and we look forward to working with you and your family!

Kind Regards,

Jenny Swagar

Interim Girls Empowerment Coordinator

Jenny.Swagar@TheOasisCenter.net

SUMMER 2017 CAMP DATES AND THEMES:

June 5-9: Girls to the Rescue!

Make a difference, and save a life! Girls will learn about professions that help keep others safe in our community. Girls will spend time with women in public safety fields like firefighters, police officers, doctors and paramedics. Activities may include learning age appropriate skills for crime scene investigation with the Tallahassee Police Department and practicing CPR with paramedics.

June 12-16: Adventures of a Girl

Girls will tap into their adventurous side this week. Girls` may experience thrilling excitement like reaching new heights rock climbing, getting a birds-eye view while zip lining, or learning how to roller skate from the best with the Tallahassee RollerGirls. Other activities will include things like practicing skills to survive in the great outdoors!

June 19-23: Girls Can Build Anything!

Together we can build anything! Girls will engage in many hands-on experiences this week. They will learn how to draw and construct models with local architects and engineers. Girls will engage in a community service project to build something that benefits the community. They will also learn how to build it digitally, spending the day learning all about coding and robots!

June 26-30: I Heart Art!

I Heart Art! Girls will explore all kinds of different arts, whether it be with a camera, through dance, with a paintbrush, in clay, through song, and much more! Campers will spend time with successful local women artists and learn more about the artistic journey while embracing their own strengths and creativity. This week of camp will culminate in an art gallery exhibition that will be open to the public on Friday, June 30th.

July 10-21: Girls Mean Business! (2 week session)

Together, girls will have the opportunity to plan and create their very own business! In a fun setting, girls will explore all the components of starting and running a company from public relations, product design/marketing, financials, sales, operations, and even corporate philanthropy. The girls will learn from women business leaders in our community and launch their enterprise on Friday, July 21st. This is a two week camp session. To participate your girl must be enrolled for the full two-weeks.

July 24-28: Science Rocks!

Girls will explore a variety of scientific and technical fields from oceanography to physics and will be led in hands on projects by women scientists in our community. Field trips will include awesome and experiential trips to real labs and the Challenger Learning Center. Girls will also get to do their own experiments for some silly science fun.

July 31-August 4: Animal Expedition

This week is all about animals! Girls will meet many critters including those that swim, fly, stomp, and roar. Girls will go horseback riding and meet many women in a variety of animal-related professions such as veterinarians, those who use pets to help others through animal therapy, and more!

In addition to field trips and activities based on the weekly theme, girls in every week will go swimming, engage in physical activities, eat healthy snacks, participate in a community service project, and have lots of silly camp fun.

*Specific activities listed are tentative

Junior Leader Program:

For campers ages 11-13 includes leadership skills development in a fun and nurturing environment.

CAMP FEES:

- \$200/week for household incomes over \$50,000
- \$150/week for household incomes under \$50,000
- 10% discount for sisters who are both attending
- Limited reduced-fee scholarships available for families experiencing financial hardship. Priority given to those

referred by local human service organizations or families led by a single mother

- **A non-refundable deposit is required at registration to hold your spot and will be applied as a credit to your girl's last week of camp during the summer. Deposit amount is equal to one week of camp for your girl.**

SCHOLARSHIPS: Limited Scholarships are available for families referred by local human service organizations and/or for single mom's facing financial hardship. Please complete the registration form, indicate that you are requesting a scholarship and stand-by for someone to call you within 5 business days. Our intent is not to embarrass people by asking about your financial situation but rather to be supportive and helpful to families who need help paying for the increased costs of summer. If you or your camper are receiving services from any social service organization in town, please have your case manager contact us regarding the camp fees. Scholarships are also available for single moms experiencing financial hardship. Please call for more information.

HOW TO APPLY: Please apply online. You can access the registration link from our website at www.TheOasisCenter.net.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Our goal is to provide many opportunities for girls to learn new skills, make lasting friendships, embrace their strengths, and develop self-reliance. An important aspect of the camp is the diversity of experiences and family circumstances of our campers. Because of that there is a fee scale based on family income. If you are a family paying the highest weekly fees, we hope you will be pleased to know that you are providing your children with the rich opportunity of interacting with girls from diverse backgrounds and experiences – and at the same time you are making it possible for girls to attend the camp who live in more challenging circumstances.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE: All Camp Sessions begin on Monday. Drop-Off is between 8:00 am – 9:00am. Pick-Up is between 4:00-5:30 pm. If a scheduling conflict comes up, requiring you to drop-off or pick-up your camper any time between 9am and 4pm, special arrangements will be made. Early drop-off beginning at 7:30am and late pick-up until 6:00pm are available for an additional \$25/week.

PICK-UP: Please designate who will pick your child up each day on the sign-in sheet. Campers will only be released to people who are indicated on the paperwork. If there is a change in plans and someone different will be picking your girl up, please call the Girls Empowerment Coordinator. Anyone picking up your child other than you will need to show government issued photo ID to camp staff before your child will be released to them.

CLOTHING: We will be participating in indoor and outdoor activities and ask that campers be dressed according to each week's activities. Please be sure your campers wear either sneakers or strap-on sandals. Flip-Flops are discouraged. Campers may bring hats or sunglasses as well as their own sunscreen or bug spray. Bathing suits and towels are required on swimming days. Each week you will receive a schedule of activities which should assist you in making decisions about your child's daily dress for camp.

LUNCHES: Campers are to come with a packed lunch each day. Please pack lunches that do not require microwaving or refrigerating. Heating options will not be available. We will be away from the building most days, so please make sure that your camper has her lunch with her at drop-off. For the safety and security of all of our campers, we ask that you please not have food delivered to the building at lunch time.

SNACKS: Healthy snacks will be provided twice each day. We serve snacks low in sugar and without HFCS,

artificial colors, or flavors.

WATER BOTTLES: Please provide your child with their own reusable water bottle with their name clearly marked on it. If you do not have one, we will be happy to provide one for your child, please let the camp team know.

EMERGENCIES: The phone number to reach the Girls Empowerment Coordinator or the Executive Director of the agency is 850-222-2747 (office). If there is no answer, leave a message with your phone number and the Girls Empowerment Coordinator will return the call as soon as possible.

MEDICATIONS: ALL medications (whether prescribed or over the counter) must be turned in to the Girls Empowerment Coordinator upon arrival at camp each morning. Medication will be administered with proper supervision only. Medication must be in its original container and properly marked (indicating what the medication is, whom it is for, and what the proper dosage is).

SWIMMING: The girls swim once a week at a location with certified life guards. Please be candid on the application form about any concerns that you have with your daughter's swimming ability.

TRANSPORTATION: We rely on a professional, regulated and insured transportation company for most of our camp transportation. At least one camp staff member is always in the vehicle with campers. Additionally, we are grateful to Kia Autosport of Tallahassee for donating a minivan to The Oasis Center for Women & Girls to help cover any additional camp transportation needs. Approved team members transport campers in our minivan. When necessary, we occasionally use personal vehicles (staff and volunteers) to transport the girls. Everyone that drives is required to have a clean 3-year driving record, and provides us with a current copy of their DMV report and proof of insurance.

FLEXIBILITY REQUIRED: Program activities and schedules are secured in advance. However, there may be days when unforeseen circumstances, scheduling conflicts or weather necessitate a shift in planned activities for the day.

“ADOPT-A-DAY” PROGRAM: Because we are a non-profit on a limited budget, we are asking those interested (parents, supporters, and volunteers) to “adopt-a-day” providing snacks, transportation, activity fees, or supplies for one day. Please indicate on your application if you are interested in being a part of this program. Participation is **NOT** required. **In the interest of including all campers in special snacks, we ask that you contact the camp team before bringing food for the girls as allergies and food restrictions may change week to week.**

YOUR FEEDBACK: Many of our current camp practices have been informed by meaningful input from parents and girls. At Oasis, we pride ourselves in evolving and growing. We appreciate any feedback and ideas that will improve the camp experience! At the end of the summer both you and your child will receive evaluation forms and you are also welcome to provide input throughout the summer to Jenny, our Interim Girls Empowerment Coordinator, the Program Director and/or Executive Director.