



Kids All Together Summer Inclusion Program Summer 2010

What is KAT

KAT stands for Kids All Together, the Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit's inclusion program. The mission of KAT is to include children with a disability into general youth programming at the Center. KAT's goal is to provide a safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment for all children to make new friends, learn life-long social skills, and just have fun being a kid in a safe, welcoming and nurturing environment.

Summary of Program:

Kids All Together (KAT) will offer programs to facilitate inclusive summer programming to children and teens with developmental disabilities. Specific programs include:

- One-to-one staff support for a limited number of children with disabilities to be included in a general camp bunk. (pre-school-9th grade)
- Staff support provided to a small bunk of children with disabilities within the general day camp program on Main Camp. (kdg – 4th grade)
- A new Teen Travel (Travel KATs) camp staffed and designed specifically for campers who have disabilities. (grades 5-10)

Program Structure:

One to One Inclusion: A set number of children with disabilities will be included in a general camp bunk with the support of an Inclusion Counselor. The number of children included in this fashion will vary for each camp program and will be based on the 2009 enrollment statistics. The goal will be to have one child/one inclusion counselor per bunk of 12 campers.

Bunk Inclusion: Bunk Inclusion will take place on Main Camp. Each Unit will have a bunk of 5 campers who have a disability and 3 counselors trained to work with children with disabilities. These campers will participate with general campers in all aspects of main camp including: bussing, rauch, swimming, lunch, snack, weekly field-trips, Shabbat and special activities. With the smaller camper/staff ratio than a general camp bunk, activities and transitions can be modified to meet the needs of entire bunk.

Travel KATs: A new Teen Travel Camp, specifically staffed and designed for children/teens with disabilities, will be added. Community-based field-trips will be taken each day and will be based on the needs and interest of the participants. Travel KATs will have 2 bunks of 6 campers each. One bunk will be for campers entering grades 5-7 and the other for campers entering grades 8-10. This will allow children/teens with disabilities to attend camp for one additional year (going into 10th grade).

Teens All Together: The Teens All Together (TAT) program will continue to focus on Life Skill Development through vocational, and recreational field-trips in the community for 11 and 12 grade students with disabilities. Due to the addition of the Travel KATs, teens with disabilities will have one additional year of camp before beginning the TAT program

