



Dear future Sonshine Staff!!!!!!!,

I firmly believe that the desire to apply for Houseboat summer staff is from God. I praise God for calling you to hunger for His will and thirst for knowing Jesus and the new life that He gives. Please pause for a moment and pray for yourself and where God may be leading you this summer.

One thing I know that will happen to you if you fill out the Application and interview with Sonshine Ministries is this; everything will change, things will never be the same! As you seek to serve God with the life He has given you and bring Glory to His name, you will never be the same. He will lead you on the greatest adventure this life has to offer for the glory of it all – HIM!

**There is no other camp, ministry, or mission experience that I know of to better train, equip, develop and provide an opportunity for young people to grow in service, leadership, and maturity. As a staff member you will profoundly discover the joy, pain, sacrifice, and challenge, of humbly serving and leading one another and campers. Sonshine Ministries is so much more than just a summer camp. Sonshine Ministries is the leading organization and experience in discipleship and leadership for Jesus Christ.**

Planning for the summer is underway. We are anticipating hiring 100 staff members to adequately serve and lead church youth groups from all over the western United States on houseboats on Lake Shasta and on the Delta.

**If you are interested in being considered for a staff position, please fill out the Application that is attached to this email in a WORD DOCUMENT. Return it via email or regular mail. With each Application we will need 2 Reference Forms. The Reference Form is also attached to this email in a WORD DOCUMENT. You can FORWARD via email the Reference Form to two people who know you well. Your two references can then email the form to me directly. You can also print it out and deliver it to them in person and have them mail it to me directly or they can fill this out online at [www.sonshinemministries.com/reference.html](http://www.sonshinemministries.com/reference.html). Please do not wait for your references to turn in your Application. Return your Application promptly. Your references can come in at a later time.**

**The Application should take you no longer than 10 minutes.**

**PLEASE TRY TO RETURN YOUR APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at (209) 663-0131 (cell). Even if you are not sure what you will be doing next summer I encourage you to fill out the application and send it back. This will leave the door open for God to move in your life!

In Christ,

Reid Delgado - Operations Director, Sonshine Specialized Camping Ministries

**What is Sonshine?** A CAMP COMPLETELY ON WATER! Put 13 students, 2 leaders from a youth group, and 2 Sonshine Staff on a houseboat with skiing, wakeboarding, banana boats, and floaties; add Bible study, sharing, worship, exploring, fishing, sun tanning, swimming, lounging around and enjoying life on the water, and you come up with one of the greatest weeks of your life!

**Why Specialized?** We are a non-profit / non-denominational Christian resource ministry for churches and have our main office in Lodi, California (between Sacramento and Stockton). We offer a variety of unique houseboat experiences for middle school and high school age groups on the Sacramento River Delta and Lake Shasta. Sonshine began in 1975 when a group of people committed to serving God had the desire to help churches equip their people for ministry. Since then, we've seen the Lord use our ministry to draw thousands of young lives to Him.

**What's a typical day like for Campers?** Campers wake up to the early morning sun (or get woken up) and notice the beauty and peaceful quiet of being on the water. After breakfast, there is quiet time and Bible study. Bible study can be individual or conducted in small groups. Then it's time for skiing and water recreation. After lunch, the afternoon is filled with skiing, Wakeboarding, swimming, reading, rafting, fishing, sun tanning and exploring. There is also time for good, meaningful conversations. After dinner, there is a night meeting with the whole group. Often this is a time for worship, sharing and perhaps a message from one of the church leaders. After the night meeting, many play group games or talk before it's time to go to sleep! It's a very full, fun day.

**So what does the Sonshine Staff do?** There are 3 different staff positions.

**Team Barnabas** is a person who ultimately responsible for creating an atmosphere for ministry on the boats. Team Barnabas members quickly pick up the nick name "Barney". It is the "Barneys" job to facilitate keeping the campers fed and the boat clean. The Barney person is also there to help the driver park the boats and get campers ready to ski. The Barney person probably spends the most time on the houseboat with campers engaged in one-on-one and group conversations that may or may not be about Jesus, but definitely have an impact on the campers. Additional "jobs" for the Barney vary from group to group as some may need help with small groups, worship, or something like that. Barneys serve as a volunteer for 3-4 weeks of the summer and can choose which session to serve.

The **Trainee** position is for those who have the desire to be boat drivers. To be a Trainee you must have at least been a Team Barnabas member or be one year out of high school. The Trainee position is a mixture between team Barnabas and the driver position in which they will learn to drive both the house and ski boats while at the same time getting to know campers and helping the youth group in any way needed. During the 5-week volunteer program the trainee will rotate from boat to boat to learn from different drivers. It is essential that trainees are patient, flexible, teachable people who love students and love serving Jesus Christ.

The **Driver** – officially titled Program Coordinator – does a combination of the two other titles. The driver works the entire summer, usually about 8-10 weeks, driving the houseboat they live on as well as a ski boat shared with another driver. They teach campers to ski, wakeboard, kneeboard and banana. The driver is ultimately responsible for the safety of everyone on both boats and directly communicates with the youth pastor to make sure the program is running smoothly. Drivers meet daily with their trainee and Barneys to pray for their boat and discuss how the week is going. Drivers complete a week of training before campers arrive.

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## NEW STAFF APPLICATION

Please email completed application to: [reid@sonshineministries.com](mailto:reid@sonshineministries.com) Or mail to: SONSHINE MINISTRIES P.O. BOX 1527 WOODBRIDGE, CA 95258 Please return this application promptly. If you have questions or concerns please email [reid@sonshineministries.com](mailto:reid@sonshineministries.com) or call 209-663-0131

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

1. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ON HOUSEBOATS WITH SONSHINE MINISTRIES BEFORE?
  2. IF SO, WITH WHAT CHURCH?
  3. ON WHAT LOCATION -THE DELTA OR LAKE SHASTA?
  4. HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU BEEN AND WHO WAS YOUR BOAT DRIVER EACH YEAR?
  
  5. WRITE A BRIEF PARAGRAPH DESCRIBING YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY UP TO THE PRESENT.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  6. DO YOU ATTEND OR ARE YOU INVOLVED IN A CHURCH YOUTH GROUP, OR SOME OTHER TYPE OF FELLOWSHIP? IF SO, BRIEFLY EXPLAIN THE GROUP AND YOUR INVOLVEMENT.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  7. PLEASE LIST AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN ANY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS THAT YOU HAVE HAD.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  8. WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A SONSHINE STAFF MEMBER?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  9. AS A STAFF MEMBER YOU WILL PROFOUNDLY DISCOVER THE JOY, PAIN, SACRIFICE, AND CHALLENGE, OF HUMBLY SERVING AND LEADING ONE ANOTHER AND CAMPERS. WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND THIS TO MEAN?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  10. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME? NO\_\_ YES \_\_ IF YES, EXPLAIN:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  11. DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS A VOLUNTEER POSITION?
- USE THE REST OF THIS SHEET FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS THAT WOULD HELP US KNOW YOU BETTER.

**REFERENCE FORM #1** (Applicant, please give this to someone who knows you to fill out and send in or they can fill this out online at [www.sonshineministries.com/reference.html](http://www.sonshineministries.com/reference.html))

REFERENCE FOR: \_\_\_\_\_

**The applicant above has applied for a volunteer position on Summer Staff at Sonshine Specialized Camping Ministries, Inc. He/She must have a willingness to work hard and the ability to live and serve in close proximity with others of widely varying backgrounds. We desire that our staff be positive encouraging people growing in Christian maturity. Please provide a candid and prompt evaluation based on your knowledge of the Applicant.**

HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN THE APPLICANT?

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE THE APPLICANT'S STRENGTHS?

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE THE APPLICANT'S WEAKNESSES?

DESCRIBE THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY TO FORM, EXECUTE AND FOLLOW THROUGH ON PLANS OR ASSIGNMENTS:  NEEDS CONSTANT SUPERVISION  BEGINS BUT DOES NOT FINISH  MEET AVERAGE EXPECTATIONS  DOES OVER AND ABOVE ASSIGNMENT  SUPERIOR ABILITY & FOLLOW THROUGH

DESCRIBE THE APPLICANT'S EMOTIONAL TEMPERAMENT:  
 OVER RESPONDS EMOTIONALLY  INCLINED TO BE APATHETIC  SOMETIMES WELL BALANCED  USUALLY BALANCED AND CONTROLLED  WELL BALANCED

HOW DOES THE APPLICANT RESPOND TO AUTHORITY?  REBELS OPENLY  COOPERATES WITHOUT QUESTION  REBELS INWARDLY  RESPONDS WHEN APPROACHED  SOMETIMES RESENTFUL AFTER DISCUSSION

IN RELATIONSHIPS IS THE APPLICANT:  AVOIDED  WELL LIKED  TOLERATED  SOUGHT BY OTHERS  LIKED

PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE APPLICANT'S SPIRITUAL JOURNEY OR GROWTH.  
 IMMATURE FAITH  LIMITED BIBLE KNOWLEDGE  SOME KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST  HAS MADE BASIC COMMITMENT  ACTIVE AND GROWING FAITH  EXCEPTIONAL INSIGHT & DISCIPLINE  WELL ESTABLISHED BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE

DESCRIBE THE APPLICANT'S HEART FOR SERVICE:  
 UNMOTIVATED  RELUCTANTLY SERVES  SERVES WHEN ASKED  EAGER AND HUMBLE SERVANT

WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE APPLICANTS MOTIVATION FOR MINISTRY?  PERSONAL GAIN  TO BE REWARDED  DESIRE TO TAKE RISKS AND RESPOND TO CALL TO SERVE  GENUINE LOVE FOR OTHERS  GENUINE LOVE FOR CHRIST

HOW DOES THE APPLICANT WORK WITH A TEAM?  FREQUENTLY CAUSES FRICTION  PREFERS TO WORK ALONE  KNOWS HOW TO FOLLOW  WORKS WELL WITH OTHERS  MOST EFFECTIVE IN TEAMWORK  USUALLY ENDS UP TEAM LEADER

PLEASE CHECK ANY YOU FEEL APPLY TO THE APPLICANT: (Please explain if necessary)  IMPATIENT  ARGUMENTATIVE  DOMINEERING  COCKY  IRRATABLE  EASILY OFFENDED  PERFECTIONIST  CRITICAL OF OTHERS  WITHDRAWN  INFLEXIBLE / DOESN'T LIKE CHANGE  EASILY EMBARRASSED  LACKING A SENSE OF HUMOR  EASILY DISCOURAGED  REBELLIOUS  ANXIOUS  TIMID  IRRESPONSIBLE  INSENSITIVE  INAPPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX

ARE THERE ANY TENDENCIES OR TRAITS WHICH YOU FEEL MIGHT REDUCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE APPLICANT?

DO YOU RECOMMEND THE APPLICANT?  ENTHUSIASTICALLY!  WITH FEW RESERVATIONS  NOT SURE THE APPLICANT IS READY THIS YEAR

**YOUR NAME: PHONE NUMBER: YOUR POSITION AND/OR RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT:**

**REFERENCE FORM #2** (Applicant, please give this to someone who knows you to fill out and send in or they can fill this out online at [www.sonshineministries.com/reference.html](http://www.sonshineministries.com/reference.html))

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