

Skelton Summer Staff 2017 Community Covenant

We, the summer staff of the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake hereby covenant to use our individual gifts and talents to advance the qualities of camp. As a staff we recognize that we are to be representatives of 4-H and must continually lean on and depend on each other to fulfill our parts in accomplishing the goals of camp. As camp staff we recognize that we represent 4-H as a whole and should involve ourselves accordingly, we are examples and role models to youth, and we will use whatever gifts we have to serve kids and one another with:

- **EMPATHY** (recognizing and understanding what someone else is feeling) by being aware of what other people are going through. We don't demand information from anyone and we respect confidentiality.
- **DIVERSITY** (differences within a community that make us unique, both as individuals and a whole) by embracing and celebrating each other's difference and learning from them.
- **OPTIMISM** (finding the positive, making the best out of any situation and encouraging others to do the same) by challenging ourselves to reframe our perspective and trying to be a catalyst for the empowerment dynamic: "a little goofy goes a long way!" - Photon
- **INGENUITY** (creating the new and affecting creative change) by supporting and participating in/with each other's ideas and learning from the change that ensues.
- **SACRIFICE** (selflessness without compromising the 4 areas of human health*) by giving without expectation and needing no return on our own investments.

If we find one or more person to be in violation of this covenant, we agree to first take the issue to the person(s) in question. If no resolution is reached, we recognize that the chain of command requires that we "go up, not out," meaning we take our issues to our supervisor(s) instead of a peer.

We, the undersigned, enter this covenant consciously and with faith and hope in each other to create the best summer ever!

*Phertern Phertnert: The 4 areas of human health are **physical, mental, emotional, & spiritual**. We stress the importance of each area and strive for wellness and balance in all areas.