



THE BRIDGE SCHOOL

545 Eucalyptus Avenue • Hillsborough, CA • 94010
650-696-7295 • Fax: 650-342-7598 • www.bridgeschool.org

January 25, 2012

Dear Friends and Families:

Enclosed you will find information regarding this year's Building Bridges Camp and Training Institute program. Again this year, we will be utilizing Camp Harmon, in Boulder Creek, CA as the site for Building Bridges Camp. Camp Harmon is owned and operated by the Easter Seal Society of Central California.

This year, Building Bridges Camp and the corresponding Training Institute will be held in July. Training Institute participants (adults) will begin on Wednesday, July 11th. Camp participants (kids) will begin on Thursday, July 12th. Camp will conclude on Tuesday, July 17th with the award ceremony and traditional celebration barbecue.

Building Bridges Camp is extremely fortunate to have the support of donors. Their generosity allows us to continue to improve the services, training provided to camp participants and contribute to the Camp Scholarship Fund. Without this support Building Bridges Camp would not happen.

Please read the enclosed information carefully. Space is limited to: 40 Campers, ages 5-17 years; 40 Training Institute participants and 10 siblings. Campers who apply with a Trainer receive priority acceptance to the program. It is very important that you return your forms and the \$50 non-refundable deposit to us as quickly as possible. We will fill available slots on a "date received" basis.

If you are interested in applying for a Camp Scholarship, please be sure to return the appropriate forms, and supporting documentation as soon as possible. If your child is a client of Regional Center (CA residents only), Camp Harmon is registered as provider of respite care (vendor number H10711). You can request that Regional Center pay a portion of the camp fees directly to Camp Harmon in lieu of respite hours. Contact your Regional Center case manager for more information (see Important Information enclosed).

Thank you for your interest in Building Bridges Camp. We look forward to seeing old friends, and meeting new ones. Please do not hesitate to write or call with any questions.

See you at Camp!

Kristen N. Gray
Outreach Program Manager
camp@bridgeschool.org





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Important Information about Building Bridges Camp and Training Institute

Packet 1

July 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Training Institute Begins Trainers arrive in morning. No campers	Campers arrive after noon	Building Bridges Camp & Training Institute BBC & TI cont.	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
BBC & TI		Campers & Trainers go home at noon ☺				

Cost of Building Bridges Camp and Training Institute

Building Bridges Camp and Training Institute fees are as follows:

Camper (AAC User)	\$1,200.00
Training Institute Participant (adult)	\$1,200.00
Sibling (non-disabled child)	\$ 800.00

Eligibility

Campers (AAC users)

Building Bridges Camp is a unique overnight camp opportunity for children and young adults who use Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices (AAC). Building Bridges Camp is designed to serve children ages 5-17 years of age that use Augmentative/Alternative Communication devices. Each child must have their own prescribed AAC device during the week of camp. Children who attend camp must be able to function under a camper/staff ratio of 2:1. Campers stay together in a cabin with approximately 4-6 campers and 3-4 camp counselors in the cabin, therefore they do need to be able to enjoy the “group living” camp environment. If a camper requires a full time nurse, a care attendant application may be considered.





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Siblings

Building Bridges Camp is designed to serve children ages 5-17 years of age that have siblings that use Augmentative/Alternative Communication devices.

Trainers

Students enrolled in University training programs in the fields of Special Education or Speech Language Pathology, and professionals in public schools currently serving students who use AAC are encouraged to apply. Parents of children using AAC may participate in the Training Institute ONLY if their child is not attending camp this year.

Funding Options

Campers (AAC Users)

The total Building Bridges Camp fee for AAC users is \$1,200.00. This amount reflects the \$726.00 per child Camp Harmon charges AND the additional costs we incur for staffing, equipping, managing and developing the program.

For California residents, Regional Centers have funded campers to attend Building Bridges Camp. The process of obtaining Regional Center funding can be confusing, but with a little work, it is rewarding. Regional Centers DO pay for camp experiences for their clients when the opportunity is seen as respite for the family, AND the camp the child will be attending is a VENDOR to provide respite services. Camp Harmon is a vendor for respite services. Regional Centers will provide Camp Harmon with a "Payment of Service" (POS) for these services. Camp Harmon's rate of reimbursement from Regional Centers is \$145.20 per night. Your child's Case Manager will need to submit an "Application for Request of Service" form for Camp Harmon, July 12th - July 17th session for **5 nights at \$145.20 per night (\$726)**. For our camp session, Regional Centers CAN write a POS for up to \$726.00. **Camp Harmon's vendor number is H10711.**

After a review of this request by the Regional Center, a Payment of Service (POS) will be issued (Please send a copy of the POS form to The Bridge School when you receive it). Over the past years, the POS have taken longer and longer to be issued. Often, Regional Centers may not process the application until the week before the child is scheduled to attend Camp. This can be very frustrating for you *and* for us. In a few cases, families have had to keep calling right up to the day before Camp is scheduled to start to get the POS processed. **DO NOT HOLD YOUR CHILD'S APPLICATION PACKET TO CAMP WHILE WAITING FOR REGIONAL CENTER AUTHORIZATION; MAIL IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!** In the case of children who receive





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Regional Center funding, the difference (\$474.00) is left to the family to pay. Scholarships are available to help with these fees.

For non-California residents, or children who do not receive Regional Center services, the total amount is the responsibility of the family. For families who would find this cost prohibitive, scholarships often can cover a large percentage of this amount. I strongly encourage families to apply for our scholarships early (application enclosed).

Training Institute Participants

The total Training Institute fee for adults is \$1,200.00. This amount reflects a fee of \$726.00 per person Camp Harmon charges for room and board. Additional costs we incur for staffing, equipping, and providing the training program make up the rest. Adults attending the Training Institute may apply for scholarships (application enclosed).

Siblings

The total fee for siblings to attend camp is \$800.00 Families may also apply for scholarships to offset the cost of sibling's attendance at Building Bridges Camp. To apply for a sibling scholarship, complete the "Sibling Scholarship Application" enclosed.

Accommodations

For the Campers and Siblings, cabin accommodations are pre-assigned based on gender and age. Each "cabin" will hold 4-6 campers (dormitory style). Three counselors also sleep in the cabin. Single sized beds and a small chest will be available to each camper. Bed rails, moving mattresses to the ground are common adaptations. Specifics about what to bring will be included in follow-up materials.

For Training Institute participants, cabin accommodations are NOT pre-assigned. Each "cabin" will hold 8-10 persons (dormitory style). Single sized beds and a bedside shelf unit will be available to each person. It is expected that trainers sleep in trainer cabins (i.e., not in camper cabins or off site). Specifics about what to bring will be included in follow-up materials.

Medication

The Camp Harmon staff will be the only staff dispensing medication. **ALL** medications must be surrendered to the Staff Nurse when you check-in. Medications are then dispensed from the nurse's station. **The Camp Harmon medical staff only dispenses medications, including herbal remedies or vitamins, according to a physician's written instructions. You must present medication(s) in their original prescription packaging at camp check-in. If the**





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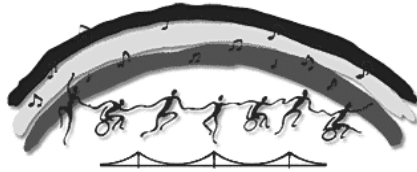
current dosage differs from the prescription label, you must present the physician's written instruction to alter the dosage on the label.

Please note: If your camper takes medication for a seizure condition, they are ineligible to attend camp if they have changed medication or altered the dosage of their current medication within one month prior to camp attendance.

Trainer Assignments

If your camper comes to camp with someone attending the Training Institute, that trainer will be assigned only to your camper during AAC activities. If you do not have a specified Trainer to accompany your child, we will assign an SLP/Sp. Ed. Student, or other Trainer not attending with a specific child, to your camper. Please note that this trainer **MAY BE ASSIGNED TO MORE THAN ONE CAMPER**. The trainer will be responsible for the development, use and management of your camper's "system" throughout camp. Bridge staff will make the trainer assignments.





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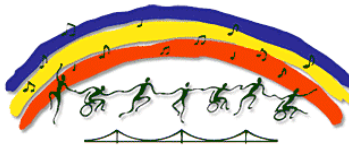
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Building Bridges Camp 2012 Application Packet Checklist

Trainer

- Trainer Application
- \$50 Application Fee (Non-refundable, applies to camp fees)
- Trainer Scholarship Application (if applicable)(Deadline: April 20)
- Video/Photograph/Website Release
- Final Payment





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Building Bridges Camp & Training Institute July 11-July 17, 2012
Trainer Scholarship Application

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Are you currently enrolled in a College/University degree program? Yes No

If yes, in what field? _____

At what level? Undergraduate Masters Ph.D

Are you receiving any scholarship/stipend money from your University? Yes No

DO NOT complete scholarship application if you are a graduate student at SFSU*

Are you attending camp with a specific child? Yes No If YES who? _____

What is your relationship to this camper? _____

If you are not personally responsible for Trainer fee, WHO WILL BE PAYING?: _____

Scholarship applications will be date and time stamped with those received first given earliest consideration. Additionally, CAMPERS will be given first priority for scholarship funds.

Bridge School Camp Scholarship committee will use the information you have provided to determine eligibility and extent of scholarship funds that can be offered to trainers on an individual basis.

Fee for Trainer to attend camp is \$1200.00

Amount requested from alternate sources (e.g. school district, employer, etc.) _____

Amount of scholarship funds requested: _____

Scholarships will be given based on need and area of study/work. To determine need, please provide the following information:

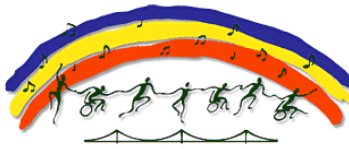
Family size: _____

Number of children under 18: _____

Monthly Income		Monthly Expenses	
Gross Monthly Salary	\$	Mortgage/Rent	\$
Interest/Dividend	\$	Utilities	\$
Alimony	\$	Phone	\$
Child Support	\$	Clothing	\$
Other Income	\$	Food	\$
SSDI	\$	Transportation	\$
AFDC	\$	Loan Payments	\$
Other:	\$	Insurance (car, health, home)	\$
Other:	\$	Day Care	\$
	\$	Therapies / Medical Expenses	\$
	\$	Other:	\$
Total Income	\$	Total Expenses	\$

* SFSU students must work with Dr. Soto or Dr. Robinson to determine if the AAC Grant will cover your camp fees.





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Financial information provided to the Bridge School for the purpose of scholarship distribution will be kept confidential.

Please send this application, a copy of your most recent pay stub:

Building Bridges Camp and Training Institute
The Bridge School, Attn: Camp
545 Eucalyptus Avenue
Hillsborough, CA 94010

Please tell us a little about yourself and the students you work with. Describe for us what you are hoping to gain from this experience. You may attach additional pages if necessary.

I have reviewed the information provided in this application and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Signature

Date

For College/University Students Only:

The above named individual is a student at this College/University and is known to me. I support his/her attendance at Building Bridges Training Institute.

Signature

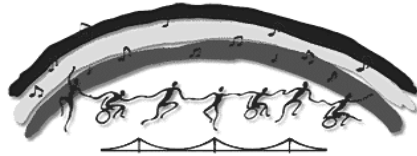
Date

Title

College/University

Space is limited to 40 attendees. All applications will be date stamped. Once applications are reviewed, spaces will be filled by date application was received until the maximum of 40 is reached.





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Application Fee Payment Information

Applications are processed on a first come first serve basis. There are up to 40 Camper, 40 Trainer, and 10 Sibling positions available. Campers and Trainers coming together are priority.

***Your Application will not be processed until we have received your \$50 non-refundable application fee ***

Method of Payment:

Application fee will be applied to the complete camp fee.

***Please print your information clearly:**

Please make check payable to: The Bridge School

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Check number: _____

Mail payment to:
The Bridge School
545 Eucalyptus Avenue
Hillsborough, CA 94010
Attn: Camp

Charge to my: Visa MasterCard

Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card Holder Name _____

Signature: _____

Billing address (required): _____

(City, State, Zip Code)



Building Bridges Camp and Training Institute Pre-Camp Survey

NAME: _____

Have you attended BBC&TI before? _____

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT **FOR YOU** TO HAVE THESE EXPERIENCES AT Building Bridges Camp and Training Institute?



Awareness/Opportunity	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
Immersion in AAC/AT activities				
Networking				
Learn from others				
Get to know my AAC client better				
See AAC consumers in a different environment				
See AAC consumers with different skills				
Meet adults who use AAC/AT				
General Training				
Intensive training				
Learn from experts in the field				
Continuing Education Credit				
Opportunity for informal learning				
Have my specific questions addressed				

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT **FOR YOU** TO LEARN ABOUT:

RANK YOUR SKILL LEVEL FOR EACH ITEM: 0 - none 1 - beginner 2 - Intermediate 3 - Advanced

RANK	TRAINING	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
	Augmentative and Alternative Communication				
	Teaching functional communication skills				
	Teaching vocabulary and language				
	Using low/no-tech communication strategies				
	Learn to use a specific device				
	Troubleshooting a device				
	Hands-on experience with many devices				
	Understand differences among devices				
	Assistive Technology				
	Software programs, Hands-on experience				
	Adaptive peripherals, Hands-on experience				
	Mobility options				
	Seating strategies				
	Building literacy skills				
	Inclusion strategies				
	Interfacing AT				
	Strategies to access the general education curriculum				
	Electronic Aids for Daily Living (ECUs)				

PLEASE ADD ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR FEEDBACK ON THE REVERSE SIDE.