



Enhancing Security for Jewish Camps

A Guide for Administrators

The collaborative effort between the Secure Community Network (SCN) and the Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC) marks a groundbreaking initiative aimed at fortifying the safety, security, and resilience of Jewish camps across North America. Through a comprehensive approach involving regional security workshops, expert guidance, and ongoing support, this initiative seeks to equip camp leadership with the necessary tools and knowledge to enhance security preparedness.


Ensuring the safety and security of Jewish campers and campgrounds during the summer is crucial. Here are the top ten things camp staff can do:

1. **Staff Training:** Train all staff members, including counselors, activity leaders, and administrative personnel, on security protocols and procedures.
2. **Emergency Response Plan:** Develop and regularly review an emergency response plan that includes procedures for various scenarios such as medical emergencies, severe weather, and security threats.
3. **Access Control:** Limit access to the campgrounds by implementing controlled entry points and ensuring that only authorized individuals are allowed onto the premises.
4. **Visitor Policies:** Enforce strict visitor policies, requiring all visitors to check in with camp staff upon arrival and provide identification if necessary.
5. **Security Personnel:** Employ trained security personnel to monitor the campgrounds, especially during high-traffic times or special events.
6. **Surveillance Cameras and Lighting:** Install surveillance cameras and lighting in strategic locations around the campgrounds to deter potential threats and provide monitoring capabilities.
7. **Communication Systems:** Establish reliable communication systems, including two-way radios or mobile phones, to enable quick and effective communication among staff members in case of emergencies.
8. **Crisis Communication:** Develop a crisis communication plan to notify campers, staff, and parents in the event of an emergency, including procedures for contacting local authorities if needed.
9. **Robust Background Checks:** Implement rigorous background checks for all staff and volunteers, including criminal background checks and reference checks, to ensure the safety of campers. Contact your local Federation or Law Enforcement personnel for more information.
10. **Collaboration with Authorities:** Establish relationships with local law enforcement agencies and emergency responders to facilitate coordination and assistance in the event of a security threat or emergency situation.

By implementing these measures, camp staff can begin to create a safe and secure environment for Jewish campers and ensure a positive summer camp experience for all.

COMMIT TO ACTION

Report Suspicious Activity, Threat Incidents, or Inquiries Contact:

 844.SCN.DESK

 Dutydesk@securecommunitynetwork.org



SCN's 24/7/365 National JSOCC and Duty Desk serve as the central intake and distribution point for security incident and threat reporting, intelligence analysis, information sharing, and incident tracking.