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Camp Gan Israel Hawaii Summer 2024

*A project of DLCHS Daniel Levey Chabad Hebrew School
and Chabad of Hawaii*

Parent Handbook

May 1, 2024

Dear Parents,

Whether you and your family are just getting to know us or you are returning to Camp Gan Israel for yet another summer of excitement and fun, we welcome you to Camp Gan Israel, Summer 2024/5784.

We are committed to providing your children with a safe and highly stimulating camp program. All our activities - from sports and swimming to crafts, trips and challah baking - are designed to enhance their self esteem, teach cooperation, increase their sense of responsibility, and imbue within them a deep sense of appreciation for a rich heritage of Jewish values, customs and culture.

Our staff is known for their talents and abilities and we are anticipating an outstanding camp session. Our teachers / counselors are full of warmth, enthusiasm and the ability to care for each child as an individual.

Attached please find some helpful camp information. PLEASE READ IT ALL. On behalf of the camp staff, I thank you for enrolling your child/ren in Camp Gan Israel. You will discover that your child/ren's summer session at Camp Gan Israel will be one of Jewish adventure and fun, which will surely be remembered for years to come.

With our best wishes for a wonderful camp experience together!
Perel Krasnjansky, Ayala, Miriam, Shani, Sara - Camp Staff

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS: (As we are busy with the children during the camp day, please use the phone numbers only as needed during camp hours. Thank you.)

Ayala – 808-312-9955; WhatsApp - +972 58-422-6737

Miriam – 808-861-4744; WhatsApp +972 53-227-2434

Shani – 808-590-3293; WhatsApp - +972 53-241-1629

Sarah – WhatsApp only - +54 911-4419-5570

Perel Krasnjansky, Director – 808-478-8892

Camp Information

Ages: Our program is for children ages 3-13.

Schedule: Camp will run from Monday, June 3 through Friday, June 28. Shavuot – June 12-13 – NO CAMP.

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Friday, 9:00 am – 2:30 pm. If pick up time will be at all delayed due to a trip, we will let you know ahead of time. All trips will be indicated on the Trip Schedule, which will be distributed on the first day of camp. (And are listed on the camp schedule emailed to you.)

Location: Camp is based at the Chabad House, with frequent outings to parks, trips, pools / beaches.

Drop-Off/ Pickup: When bringing and picking up your children from camp please respect the following procedures:

- **PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK THE FRONT DRIVEWAY and/or the parking structure entry device.**
- **There will be a staff member in the driveway from 8:50 am – 9:10 am to bring your child/ren in so that you don't have to park.** If you will be coming later, it is your responsibility to find parking that is PERMITTED by the Waikiki Vista Building management.
- **Similarly, for pickup, staff will be waiting with children at the front entrance to expedite traffic. If we are late returning from a trip, we will notify you via the parents' WhatsApp chat. Please check it frequently.**
- **If you need to park:** In the mornings, there is street parking available in front of the building.
- **To the right of the building entrance is a loading zone area with 4 stalls available if you will be parked for 5 – 10 minutes only.** Also, for a few minutes only, the very first spot on the right as you enter the driveway.

Camp Fees: All activities, snacks, lunches and trip fees are included in the camp tuition. **There is a fee for the mandatory camp t-shirt. (Camp hat optional) T-shirt must be worn every day.** No outside-of –Chabad excursions on Fridays, so camp t-shirts need not be worn on Fridays). If you haven't filled out the forms and submitted payment by then, please send / bring the payment with your child/ren to camp on Wednesday

morning, June 5, along with the signed trip release form.

Additionally, payment can be made on chabadofhawaii.com/donate page & please put "CAMP PAYMENT - not a donation" in the COMMENTS field.

Communication: We strongly encourage close communication between the camp staff and parents. Please don't hesitate to call should the need arise. THERE IS A WHATSAPP CHAT FOR CAMP PARENTS. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE WHATSAPP INSTALLED ON YOUR PHONE. **Please check the WhatsApp chat frequently for updates.**

Newsletters: Our camp newsletter will be given out weekly, on Friday. The newsletter will include a detailed schedule for the upcoming week, information on special events and trips, and will keep family members up to date with the children's activities the past week.

Punctuality: Children should not be dropped off earlier than ten minutes before the start of camp. Please be sure that your child arrives in camp on time, as our day begins with morning line up, where important information about the day is shared with the children. Children should be picked up promptly at 4:00. Please be aware that you will be imposing on the staff's personal time if you are late for pick up.

Additionally, there will be a fee of \$10 per half hour or fraction thereof, per child, picked up after 4:00 pm. There will be a sign in/ out sheet for parents or guardians set up inside Chabad House. Please sign your child/ren in and out.

Dress Code: Boys are encouraged to wear a Kippah or baseball cap. All campers must wear their Camp Gan Izzy t-shirt EVERY DAY – except Fridays - as we will be going off-property and need to easily identify all campers.

Tzedakah (charity): Tzedakah is a concept that is fundamental to Judaism. Our camp attempts to develop a commitment among our campers to share with others less fortunate than themselves by donating a few pennies every day to charity. Parents are asked to provide young children with a few coins daily for tzedakah.

Food: **Lunches and snacks are included in your camp tuition fee and will be provided by camp. We strongly encourage you NOT to send any snacks with your child.**

However, if you want to send extra snack with your child/ren, please send snacks that are dairy or pareve. (Pareve foods include vegetables, fruits, fish and eggs). **Meat products may not be sent to camp.** Please try to send snacks that have kosher symbols on them. We provide cold water throughout the day. Nevertheless, we recommend that you send along a water bottle (or two) daily. It might be a good idea to have one bottle frozen so that it will still be cold in the afternoon.

Field Trips: We have twice weekly trip days and Camp Gan Israel tee shirts and hats MUST be worn. Please let us know ASAP if you would like to order additional tee shirts. On trip days, it is imperative that you come on time as our schedule is very carefully organized and we cannot wait for late campers. If your child is not coming to camp on a trip day, please let us know. IN ADVANCE.

Swimming: We will be swimming on days noted on the weekly schedule. **Please send along a swimsuit, towel and sunscreen marked with your child's name every day, as water activities may be a part of the daily camp schedule.**

Medical Policy: If your child is sick or has any COVID symptoms, please do not send them to camp. If your child has a fever, you will be contacted to pick them up. Camp maintains a first aid kit; scrapes and abrasions will be cleansed with soap and antiseptic and a band aid will be applied. If your child contracts a contagious condition, please notify the camp. In the event of an emergency, the parents will immediately be notified and the child will be taken to Kapiolani Medical Center, unless otherwise specified on their medical form. If the parents cannot be reached, the emergency contact will be notified.

Policy: No electronic games, game boys, iPods, cell phones or other computerized devices may be brought to camp. Please cooperate with us on this policy..

What to send to camp: Please send the following to camp with your child daily, unless otherwise noted.

All items must be labeled with child's / family's name.

- Sunscreen (please apply before camp; we will reapply as needed).
- Sneakers (children cannot play many of the sports games on the schedule while wearing flip flops or crocs). Please check the schedule to see which days it makes sense to have your child wear closed shoes / sneakers.
- Camp hats or baseball caps (as it is sunny and hot when we are out and about)
- Pennies or coins for tzedakah (charity).
- At least 1 water bottle (and ideally, another frozen water bottle, which will be melted and cold by lunch time).
- swimsuit and towel.
- Camp tee shirt & (any) cap (**mandatory every day except Friday**).

Thank you and we look forward to having a wonderful, safe and exciting camp session together!