

October 20, 2003

Mr. Michael Bohl
Campus Life Director
Youth for Christ – Guided Expeditions Ministry

Dear Mr. Bohl,

I am writing to recommend Michael Reynolds, without reservation, for a position as a trip guide with Youth for Christ. Last summer, I had the opportunity to supervise Mike in his role as Outdoor/Challenge Program Specialist at Agassiz Village summer camp in Poland, ME, and I am proud to say that he was undoubtedly one of the strongest members of our staff.

From the application and interview process through his training schedule and into full-time facilitation with campers and staff, Mike displayed an unbreakable work ethic, an eagerness to learn, a clear sense of pride and responsibility, and maturity beyond his years. He is aware of his strengths, weaknesses, and goals, and he makes knowledgeable decisions regarding places and situations in which he would like to work. Accordingly, any potential employer considering Mike can be sure they will be hiring someone who is a dedicated and spirited team member.

His character is matched by his experience. Mike has hiked the Appalachian Trail, studied outdoor education at the university level, and, as a member of my staff, managed the outdoor/challenge program for a fully accredited camp, catering to over 400 underprivileged and/or underserved youth during the course of the summer. His training included an intensive five-day high and low ropes facilitation course, covering all aspects of running and maintaining an outdoor program. He logged over 300 hours organizing, facilitating, and debriefing during the summer, and he did it all with a smile on his face. Moreover, under the watchful eye of Mike and his staff (whom he trained), there were no accidents or injuries on the course.

Mike learned valuable lessons during the summer regarding working with a large staff, managing diverse groups of young people, developing a program, and integrating his program specialty into the overall mission of the general camp program. He stumbled at times, but he ultimately turned those missteps into positive change. I have no doubt he will continue to succeed in the future. If you'd like to discuss specific examples of Mike's work or if there are any other questions I can answer, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will gladly make the time.

Sincerely,

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