

# Crafts, Campfires & Canoes: Accessibility and Summer Camps will begin at 2 pm EST.



While you are waiting, take a moment to become a part of the nationwide celebration and recommitment to the ADA.

Using your smart phone, tablet, or computer and visit

**[ADAanniversary.org](http://ADAanniversary.org)**

Join others in their commitment for  
another 25 years... and beyond!

expand opportunities and

**PLEDGE ON!**

# Listening to the Webinar

## Online:

- Please make sure your computer speakers are turned on or your headphones are plugged in
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# Listening to the Webinar (cont.)

- To connect by telephone:

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This is **not** a toll-free  
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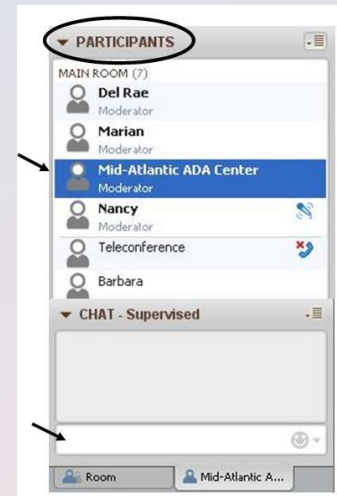
# Captioning

Real-time captioning is provided; open the window by selecting the “cc” icon in the Audio & Video panel

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# Submitting Questions



- In the webinar platform:

- Double-click on “Mid-Atlantic ADA Center” in the Participant List to open a tab in the Chat panel (keyboard: F-6 and arrow up or down to find Mid-Atlantic ADA Center); type your question in the text box and “enter”
  - Your question will be sent to the presenters; other participants will not be able to see it

- E-mail: [ADAtraining@transcen.org](mailto:ADAtraining@transcen.org)

# Technical Assistance

## If you experience technical difficulties

- Use the Chat panel to send a message to the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center
- E-mail [ADAtraining@transcen.org](mailto:ADAtraining@transcen.org)
- Call 301-217-0124

# Archive

- This webinar is being recorded and can be accessed within a few business days
- You will receive an email with information on accessing the archive

# Certificate of Participation

- Please consult the reminder email you received about this session for instructions on obtaining a certificate of participation for this webinar.
- You will need to listen for the continuing education code which will be announced at the conclusion of this session.
- Requests for continuing education credits must be received by 12:00 PM EDT **April 2, 2015**



*Crafts, Campfires & Canoes*

# Accessibility and Summer Camps

Presented by  
the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center Webinar

Guest Speaker:  
Jennifer Skulski

# Learning Objectives

- Understand the application of the Americans with Disabilities Act to camp programs and facilities.
- Recognize how the key principles of the ADA should be considered in program planning.
- Identify next steps in planning to successfully include campers with disabilities this summer.

# Special Thanks

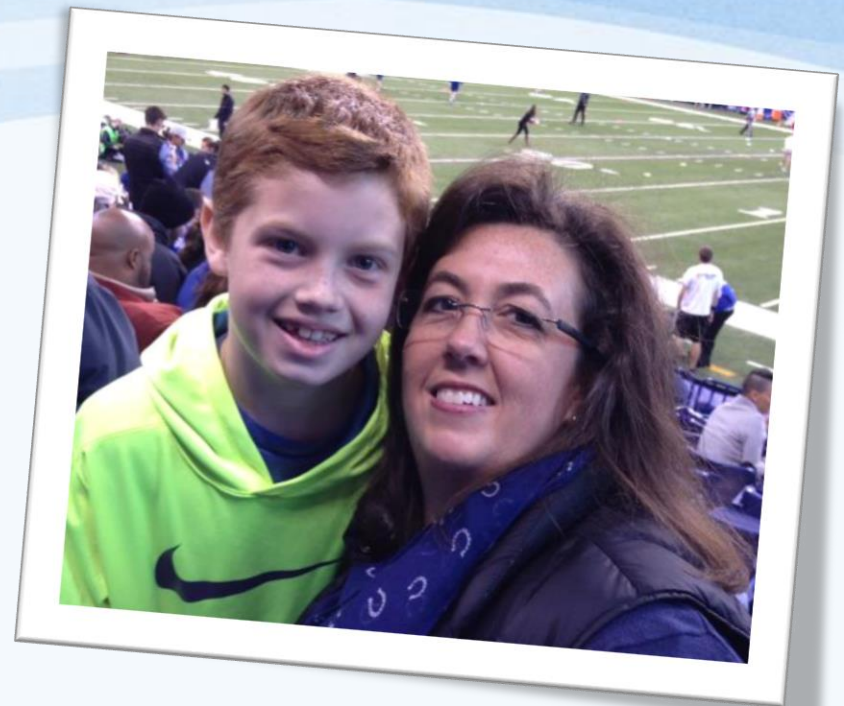


Members of the American Camp Association can receive Continuing Education Credits and CEUs accepted by the National Recreation and Park Association.

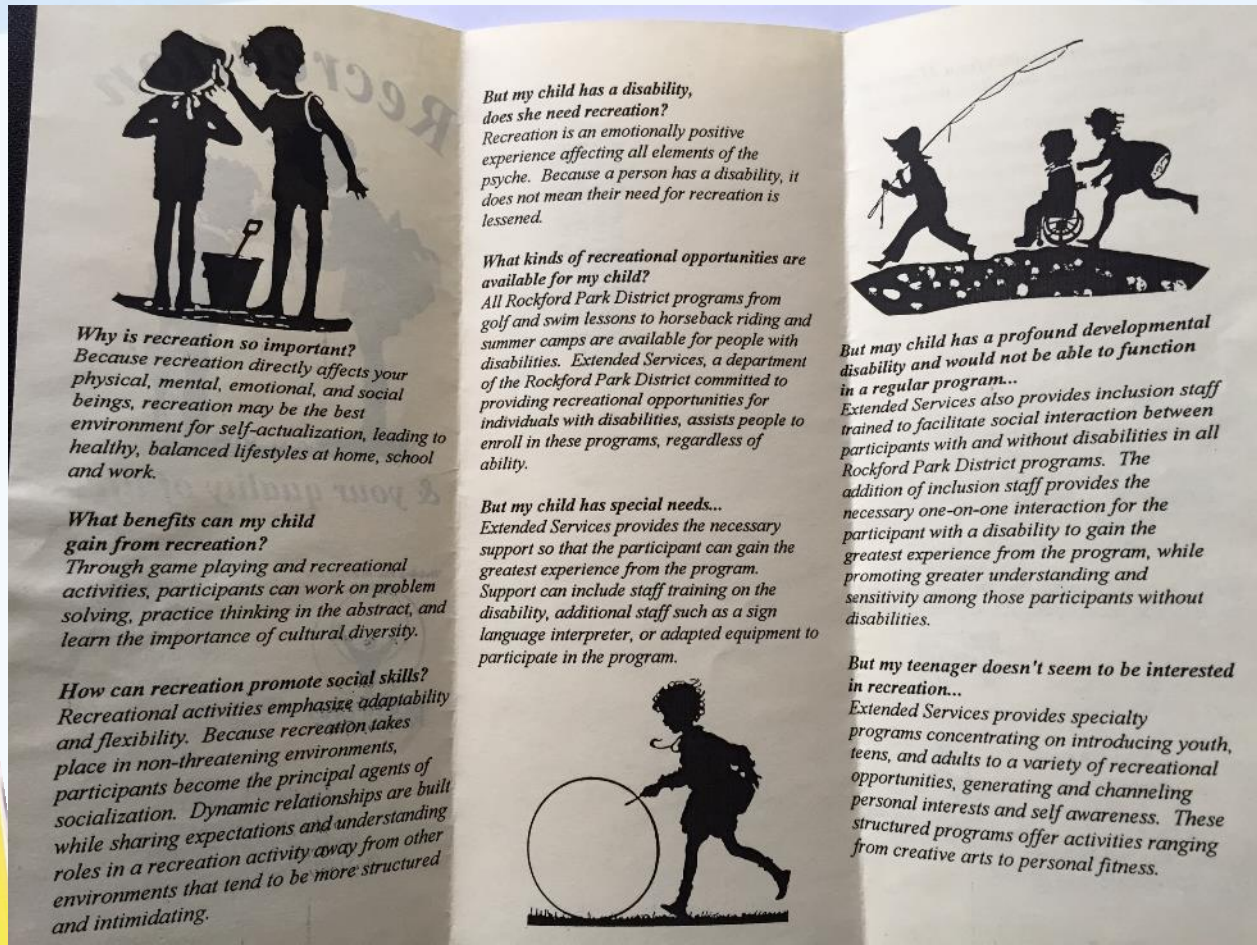
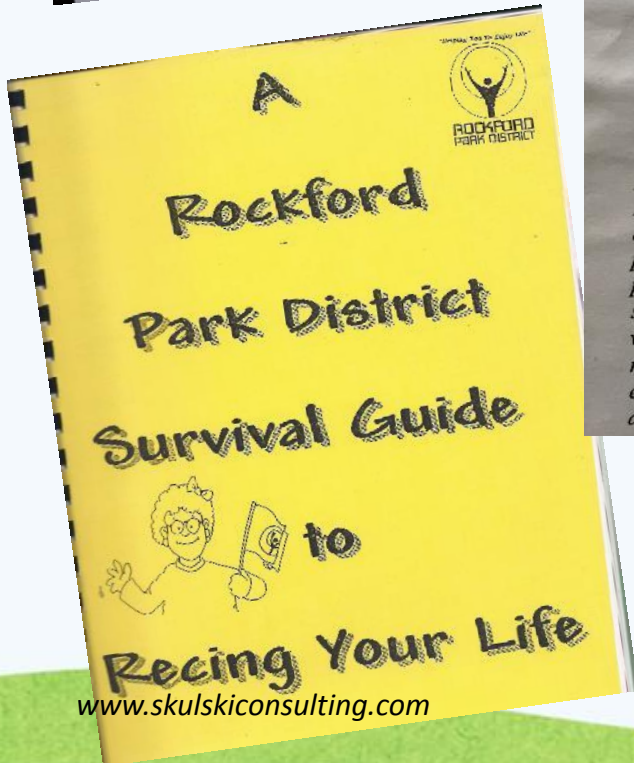
Contact [eeppapplications@ACAcamps.org](mailto:eeppapplications@ACAcamps.org) if you have questions.

# Jennifer Skulski

Skulski Consulting LLC  
www.skulskiconsulting.com  
jennifer@skulskiconsulting.com  
(317) 408-4424



More than 20 years experience implementing, researching, writing, training and providing technical assistance on the ADA. Professional experience includes the Rockford Park District, the Great Lakes ADA Center and the National Center on Accessibility.



# Question

My camp is a \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Day camp of the local park & rec department
- b. Day camp of a non-profit organization
- c. Sleep away camp of a non-profit organization
- d. Sleep away camp of a for-profit organization

Keystrokes: Cntrl 1 – A, Cntrl 2 – B, Cntrl 3 – C, Cntrl 4 – D

Command 1 – A, Command 2 – B, Command 3 – C, Command 4 - D

# Why is RECREATION important?

- Non-threatening, less structured environment than school or work.
- The activities are more flexible and adaptable.
- We learn about ourselves.
- We can make friends outside of school and work.
- We can gain the physical, mental and social benefits that contribute to well-being and quality of life.

Improves quality of life

Lowers risks of chronic disease

Promotes inclusion  
& acceptance

Relieves stress

Boosts self-esteem

Enhances personal and spiritual growth

Increases life expectancy

Encourages taking  
risks and challenges

Strengthens  
communities

# Benefits of Recreation

Reduces obesity

Supports diversity

Unites families

Boosts immune system

Reduces depression and anxiety

Contributes to feelings of satisfaction with life

# Question

My knowledge of the ADA

- a. I feel very confident about my ADA knowledge
- b. I feel somewhat confident about my ADA knowledge
- c. I lack confidence about my ADA knowledge
- d. What's the ADA?

Keystrokes: Cntrl 1 – A, Cntrl 2 – B, Cntrl 3 – C, Cntrl 4 – D

Command 1 – A, Command 2 – B, Command 3 – C, Command 4 - D

# Key Principles of the ADA

- Most integrated setting
- Able to receive the same opportunities and benefits
- Reasonable modification of policies, practices and procedures
- Effective communication
- Auxiliary aids and services at no extra cost

What are the biggest challenges you encounter while including participants with disabilities?

Type a short answer  
in the chat box

# Challenges

- Lack of staff training
- Lack of awareness by other campers
- Uncertainty about appropriate modifications
- Medical supports
- Accessible transportation
- Accessible facilities
- Others.....

# 5 Things You Can Do Right Now!

1. Commit to inclusion and the spirit of the ADA!
2. Refine your registration/intake process.
3. Prepare to prepare, plan for planning.
4. Know before you say “No.”
5. Empower staff through training and continuing education.

# 1. Commit to Inclusion & the ADA

- Commitment comes from the top – the Board, Executive Director, Camp Leaders
- Inclusion of people with disabilities is a shared organizational value.
- The shared value of inclusion and support of the ADA is communicated to ALL staff.

“When our values are clear, our decisions are easy.”  
Whatever it takes!

## 2. Registration Process

- Registration form
- Process to receive information and channel it to appropriate staff
- Follow up by staff with participant/parent
- Assessment and placement of program supports by qualified staff PRIOR to the start of the program

# Question

Our registration process \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Includes a question on the registration form
- b. Does not include a question on the registration form

Keystrokes: Cntrl 1 – A, Cntrl 2 – B, Cntrl 3 – C, Cntrl 4 – D

Command 1 – A, Command 2 – B, Command 3 – C, Command 4 - D

# Registration Forms & Processing

- ADA prohibits asking “Do you have a disability?”

- Consider:

Do you have a disability-related need?

No

Yes, I require \_\_\_\_\_

Wheelchair accessible facility

Sign language interpreter

Assistive listening system

Braille or large print

Additional assistance with instructions or processing information

Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you answer yes, a staff will contact you for more information

# Questions

# Question

Our camp \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Has conducted an accessibility assessment of all facilities and has a working plan to remove physical barriers.
- b. Has not conducted an accessibility assessment of facilities, nor do we have a barrier removal plan.

Keystrokes: Cntrl 1 – A, Cntrl 2 – B, Cntrl 3 – C, Cntrl 4 – D

Command 1 – A, Command 2 – B, Command 3 – C, Command 4 - D

# 3. Program planning

- Are the supporting facilities (activity areas, routes, restrooms, picnic areas, trails, pools, waterfronts, sports fields, cabins, etc) accessible?
  - Accessibility assessment
  - Transition plan
- Will transportation be provided (i.e field trips)?
  - Options

# 3. Program Planning

- Activities
- How can we modify this activity/experience for the individual to have an equal opportunity to participate and benefit?
- What auxiliary aids or services might be needed?

# 3. Program Planning

Generally, the public park and recreation sector provides services above and beyond the requirements of the ADA to facilitate successful participation, especially for children.

- What other supports related to general childcare might be necessary to ensure participation?
  - One-to-one assistance with processing and participating in activities
  - Personal assistance
  - Medical support

# 4. Know Before You Say “No”

- ADA Defenses
  - Fundamental alteration to the nature of the program
  - Direct threat
  - Undue burden
- Who decides the answer is “No?”
- What is the process for saying “No?”

# Question

Our camp staff \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Includes at least one Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) on the leadership team.
- b. Includes at least one CTRS as part of the seasonal/counselor team.
- c. Does not include any CTRS.

Keystrokes: Cntrl 1 – A, Cntrl 2 – B, Cntrl 3 – C, Cntrl 4 – D

Command 1 – A, Command 2 – B, Command 3 – C, Command 4 - D

# 5. Staff Training and Continuing Education

- Seasonal staff
  - Disability awareness & terminology
  - Program modifications & adaptations, equipment
  - Interacting with parents
- Professional administrative staff
  - Ongoing professional development
  - Annual ADA updates, litigation, trends, best practices

# Questions

# Thank you!

## Jennifer Skulski

Skulski Consulting LLC  
[www.skulskiconsulting.com](http://www.skulskiconsulting.com)  
[jennifer@skulskiconsulting.com](mailto:jennifer@skulskiconsulting.com)  
(317) 408-4424

# Contact Us

- **ADA questions**
  - **ADA National Network**
    - 1-800-949-4232 V/TTY
    - [www.adata.org](http://www.adata.org)
- **Questions about this presentation**
  - **Mid-Atlantic ADA Center**
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    - 301-217-0124 local
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*Thank you for joining us!*