



Dear Camp Tavor Families,

We are so pleased to welcome all our chanichimot to machaneh. As such, we want to make sure you know that we are doing all we can to ensure their safety while at Camp Tavor. In the wake of Pittsburgh and Poway, we understand that it is increasingly critical to be vigilant and aware.

The safety of every person at Camp Tavor is our highest priority and to that end, we have made sure our camp's security protocols and procedures meet the standards of the American Camp Association and our local law enforcement agencies. I hope that by sharing Tavor's practices with you, that you will feel confident that we are taking appropriate precautions to ensure that your child will be protected and safe at camp. Safety is the foundation upon which we work to empower the next generation of Jewish leadership to dream of and build a more just and peaceful world.

The following are some of our security practices at Camp Tavor:

- Annually, we notify local law enforcement of our dates of operation, number of people at camp and provide contact information so they can notify us of any local emergencies.
- Camp leadership meets annually with Emergency Management representatives of the local sheriff's department before camp to tour the grounds, review our emergency procedures, build a strong relationship, and discuss any salient local issues.
- The camp conducts staff training on our emergency procedures which include intruder and missing person drills, as well as severe weather procedures. Our emergency procedures meet or exceed the standards for the American Camp Association and are vetted by the head of the Department for Emergency Preparedness of St. Joseph County. During the training, we provide time for questions and discussion so that everyone is clear on the steps that need to be taken.
- We conduct a fire drill with campers during the first week of camp – and they quickly become familiar with our weather procedures.
- Camp Tavor employs two healthcare professionals at camp at all times when campers are on site.
- Camp Tavor participates in webinars and conferences related to best practices in Jewish camp security.
- We conduct State and Federal background checks on all employees – as well as a search for Child Protective Services records and the National Sex Offender Database.

- Our seasonal staff participates in a sexual assault and sexual abuse prevention camp counselor training developed by the Association for Sexual Abuse Prevention and Treatment and understand their responsibilities as mandated reporters.
- We've also joined the [Secure Community Network](#) to receive an update about any concerning information or activity that would be relevant to our camp community.

Thank you for trusting us with your incredible children and for trusting our work to create a community of freedom, joy and empowerment within an increasingly challenging world.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amit Weitzer', with a stylized, flowing script.

Amit Weitzer
Executive Director, Camp Tavor