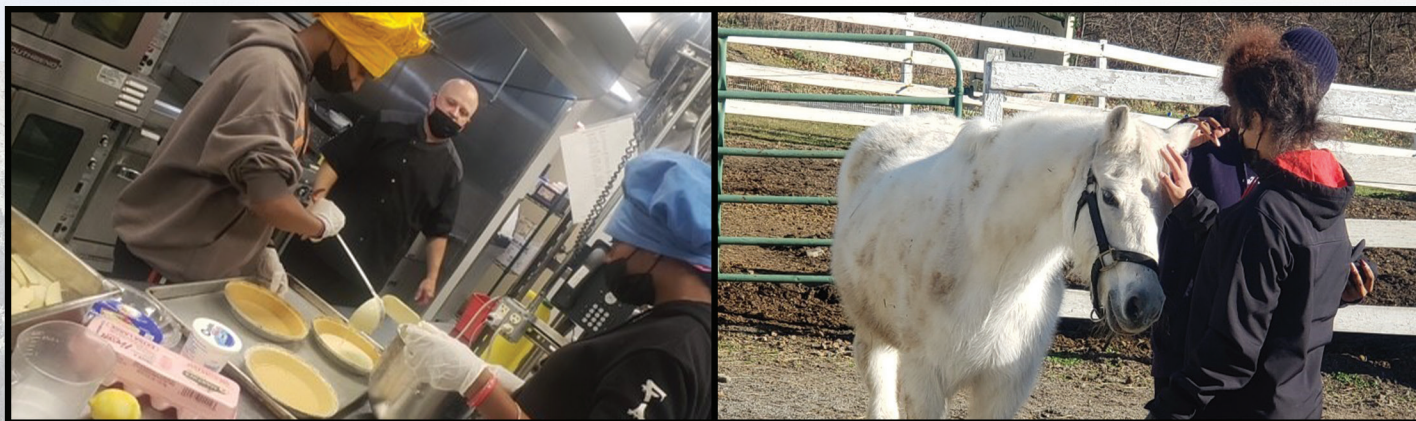


GIRLS WEEKEND ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (GWAP)

What's the mission of GWAP?

Our mission statement is for everyone to become a successful graduate or complete the program. We want our students to leave the program in a better position than when they first entered, and we accomplish that through “many hands and one heart.”



What makes the GWAP program successful?

GWAP offers experiential learning in a therapeutic, wilderness atmosphere. Students will receive this experience all while learning skills taught through our competency and life skills. By engaging in on-campus and off-campus experiential activities through staff and peer relational encouragement, they will encounter goal-setting, team-building, leadership development, group counseling sessions with peers in similar situations and begin to contemplate accountability. With the students' individualized treatment goals in mind, staff utilizes trauma-informed care through motivational interviewing, restorative conversations, and a strength-based approach to reflect on their actions against their personal goals and values. This allows the student to set realistic goals for their future, families, and communities. Unique to the wilderness center is the two-day and one overnight outdoor experience, which includes a high and low ropes course, canoeing, multiple hikes in central Pennsylvania, and more. We also encourage family and community input. **Every student that enters our program will be eligible for Diakon's scholarship program and our Second Chance Fund.**

What are some outcomes?

Outcomes of completed GWAP are successfully graduating or completing the program.

Other outcomes we have witnessed in real time:

- Removal of electronic monitor/ankle monitors
- Reinstated curfews
- Completion of house arrest
- Completion of probation
- Employment
- Less absences from school
- Graduating school or completing a grade
- Stronger relationships with guardians



“I came back wanting to be the best leader I could be, proving to myself that I do have self-worth.”

- Simone R, GWAP program honors graduate

We have immediate openings!

Please email wildernesscenter@diakon.org or visit diakon.org/GWAPreferrals to make a referral today!