***Camp is “pretty much my life.”***

Though more of an introverted and quiet personality, OUB Camp Director, Aric Wallace, thrives within the Camp environment; leading games, songs, and various activities, Wallace beams with enthusiasm when tasked to take the lead.

“Camp is pretty much my life,” explained Wallace, who’s 34 and lives in Rochester Hills. He first went to Camp in 2003 and worked his way up from Kitchen Staff, to Camp Counselor, to Camp Director. Wallace values the experience and growth he gained from his various positions over the years, and was honored to accept his role as Camp Director, which he officially became in 2021.

“It was a great and rewarding experience,” Wallace said of his first Summer at Camp. “I met a lot of wonderful people, and I spent time with friends I don’t normally get to see outside of Camp.”

Wallace relayed a particularly fun experience where the campers had to spray shaving cream on his head, and competed against one another to see who could throw the most cheese balls on his head and have them stick.

“One of the [cheese balls] just landed in my lap and I ate it,” Wallace said.

Executive Director, Gwen Botting, shows great pride for Wallace. “When it’s time for singing, he jumps around, gets really loud, waves his arms around, and yells out the words.”

“He gets the Camp’s paperwork done promptly. Other responsibilities include hiring Camp staff, making sure everyone has the necessary training for their respective positions, and doing the payroll. [Aric] is big on making sure the campers are having a good time, and his biggest asset—perception and empathy for others—can’t be measured,” Botting continued. “If a camper or a coworker is sad or anxious, Aric is keenly aware and goes to great lengths to maintain the wellbeing of those around him.”

“I’m a compassionate person,” Wallace said. “The door is always open if anyone wants to talk.”

Wallace functions extremely well, despite having a very narrow field of vision to work with. He exudes confidence and enthusiasm that he openly shares with campers and staff alike.