



## RUSHCONF24 Rooming Language

We're so grateful for every parent who trusts us with their teenager — this is a privilege and responsibility we don't take lightly. Whether it's at a YTH Night or Rush Conference, our number one priority is always the safety of our youth.

As we prepare for RUSHCONF24, our annual summer camp, we have new rooming policies for this year. Please understand that every decision was made with the safety of our teenagers and the leaders who serve them in the forefront of our minds.

- Every leader and adult volunteer attending RUSHCONF24 will be **background checked**.
- Hills Church's security team is partnering with Cascade Villages security to ensure proper safety measures are in place, especially during the overnight hours. All adults will be trained in these safety measures, including effective room checks.
- However, despite these requirements, we will still **not allow** adults to share a room with teenagers this year. After in-depth training and legal counsel, we have come to the conclusion that allowing adults to share a room with minors is a risk we are not willing to take.
- This policy of separating teenagers and leaders during sleeping hours is actually not new. It has been adopted by both the school system as well as other churches.

We will have leaders and chaperones assigned to every lodge of Cascade Village to ensure youth aren't roaming the houses or property after curfew. In addition, leaders of the same gender will be located in every lodge so an adult is always nearby in the event of an emergency.

Here's what *you* can do, as the parent, to set your teenager up for a wonderful and safe summer camp experience:

- During the registration process, you're able to indicate if your student is already part of an Hills Group and/or if they have a preference for who they would like to room with. This allows us to room youth with their friends. We understand sharing a bed with another person can be awkward, which is why we're allowing youth to choose their roommates.

### **Why will we have 2-to-a-bed?**

- While one of our goals is to make RUSHCONF24 epic and unforgettable, we also strive to keep this event affordable. We never want a financial limitation to keep a teenager from experiencing a moment with God or the fun of summer camp. With this in mind, we will be placing up to four people in a room, which means a queen bed will be shared by two people. If we were to book rooms so that every person had their own bed, the price of RUSHCONF24 would nearly double, making the event unaffordable for many of the youth we're trying to reach.
- If you or your teenager aren't comfortable with the shared bed set-up, you're welcome to attend this event, either as a chaperone or volunteer, and you can room together. However, it should be noted that king bedrooms will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.
- **Note:** For leaders who do not wish to share a bed with another leader, the same financial principle still applies. We're so grateful that leaders can attend for free because of the generosity of people in our church — and in an effort to steward what God has entrusted to us, we're asking leaders to share a bed with another leader (of the same gender) for the duration of this event. Just like with our teenagers, leaders can also choose their roommates for RUSHCONF24.

If you have questions or concerns regarding RUSHCONF24 lodging, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our team wants to lead with clarity so we're happy to provide more context around any of these changes. Thank you so much again for trusting us with your teenager and partnering with us in making disciples who will make an impact for His kingdom NOW.