



BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy

Field Therapist

POSITION DESCRIPTION

THE PROGRAM

BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy guides Jewish young adults (18-26) on therapeutic expeditions.

BaMidbar's program utilizes the wilderness environment as a vehicle to promote therapeutic growth of students, in a process that is individualized for each student, and is guided and directed by a licensed mental health professional. BaMidbar's clinical intervention and wilderness experience are provided through a Jewish framework. BaMidbar's programming is guided by four core values: *kavod*, honor, dignity, and respect for ourselves and others; *simcha*, finding joyful Jewish meaning in every aspect of our lives; *tzmicha ishit*, accepting the challenges of personal transformation and growth; and *kehillah*, the power of an inclusive and supportive community. BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy is a program of the non-profit Ramah in the Rockies.

Position Type: Seasonal, full-time, shift based work (15 days on 13 days off)

Compensation: Starts at \$230/day

Dates: January 2018 - May 2018, with opportunities to extend contract beyond that timeframe

Location: Deckers, Colorado

POSITION PURPOSE: The role of the Field Therapist is to provide 24/7 support to students and facilitate individual and group therapy sessions in the field. The field therapist works as part of the field team, and collaborate with the primary therapist on student well-being and group functioning.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Facilitate individual and group therapy sessions on a daily basis
- Facilitate formal and informal fundamental and technical skill-building opportunities, psychoeducation, and crisis intervention on an ongoing basis
- Collaborate with field staff to maintain a healthy group dynamic
- With field staff, oversee a highly structured, participatory backcountry camp environment
- Support integration of Jewish values, learning, culture, and traditions into backcountry environment and student learning

QUALIFICATIONS

Education / Experience

- Masters level mental health professional working toward licensure in Social Work, Professional Counseling, or Marriage and Family Therapy
- Must hold or be able to obtain entry level license with the state of Colorado to practice mental health counseling under the guidance of a licensed clinician
- Experience working with young adults, preferably in a leadership, mentoring, or instructional capacity
- Significant backcountry trip leading experience, preferably in wilderness therapy
- Minimum certification of CPR and First Aid; Wilderness First Responder certification preferred

Skills / Knowledge

- Knowledge of conceptual frameworks for adolescent and young adult development and health



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- Knowledge of Family System theories and the Family Preservation model
- Knowledge of Substance Abuse theories and Relapse Prevention training
- Knowledge of de-escalation skills, crisis intervention skills, communication skills, behavior management techniques, and life skills
- Ability to demonstrate understanding of sound ethical practice in conjunction with the established and defined ethics of one's training and discipline
- Advanced skill level in all or most of the following: wilderness travel, land navigation, primitive living, backcountry camping
- Excellent mentoring and coaching skills
- Excellent group facilitation skills
- Open, inclusive, and team-oriented work style
- Exemplary organizational skills
- Understanding of Jewish culture, values and cycles, and if not fully understood, a willingness to learn and an appreciation for the cultural aspects of the program

Other Considerations:

- The essential functions of this position require outdoor work in all weather conditions, including work in sub-zero temperatures
- Employee will be expected to hike on uneven terrain, while carrying a backpack or other equipment weighing up to 60 pounds
- A pre-employment background check will be required, including fingerprinting and FBI background check
- Applicants must have a valid driver's license, with an insurable driving record

COMPENSATION

BaMidbar offers highly competitive field therapist wages, beginning at \$230/day. During BaMidbar's 4.5 month spring season, field therapists can expect to work 70 days and make about \$16,000. BaMidbar offers clinical supervision and the opportunity to work toward licensing hour requirements.

WORK SCHEDULE AND TIME COMMITMENT

BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy runs programs between October to May of each year. BaMidbar's pilot program will begin in January, 2018. Staff training will run from January 12th-21st, and programming will run from January 26th through May 16th. While BaMidbar will not run sessions over the summer months, staff may apply to work with Ramah in the Rockies, our partner organization. Staff shifts are two-weeks on, two-weeks off, running Wednesday to Wednesday. Please see a sample staff schedule below. In our 4.5 month season, field therapists will work an average of 70 days, or four 15-day shifts plus a 10 day staff training.

BaMidbar 2018 Program Schedule:

Staff Training: January 12-21

Programming: January 24-May 16



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Shift A Work Schedule:

Training: January 12-21 (10 days)

January 24-February 7 (15 days)

February 21-March 7 (15 days)

March 21-April 4 (15 days)

April 18-May 2 (15 days)

Shift B Work Schedule:

Training: January 12-21 (10 days)

February 7-February 21 (15 days)

March 7-March 21 (15 days)

April 4-April 18 (15 days)

May 2-May 16 (15 days)

LOCATION

BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy is based at Ramah in the Rockies, a 360-acre ranch nestled in the pristine Pike and San Isabel National Forests. Ramah in the Rockies is 90 minutes from Denver, at an elevation of 8,000 feet. At BaMidbar, students and staff will spend four days per week on expeditions, exploring the public lands of Colorado. They will spend the remaining three days at our basecamp in the Rocky Mountains, visiting with therapists and celebrating Shabbat as a community.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume to joryh@ramahoutdoors.org. The subject line of the email should read *Field Therapist Application*. Please be prepared to provide three letters of recommendation and copies of all current certifications.