



**BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy**  
**Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator**

POSITION DESCRIPTION

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. At BaMidbar, we welcome students of diverse Jewish backgrounds and practices. Our goal is to meet students where they are, and offer Jewish practice, narrative, and community as a resource for mental wellness. BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy is a program of the non-profit Ramah in the Rockies.

**Position Type:** The position is 12 months, running from October 2018-October 2019

**Salary:** \$38,000

**Reports to:** Program Director

**Location:** The Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator will spend a total of 12-15 days per month working at the Ramah in the Rockies ranch, including three Shabbatot per month. Additional work can happen remotely or from the Denver-based office

**POSITION PURPOSE:** The Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator serves as Shaliach Tzibbur and songleader for the program, guides development and implementation of holiday programming, and plays a role in curriculum and lesson plan development.

**MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Holiday and Shabbat Programming**

- Serve as community spiritual leader and lead Kabbalat Shabbat, Maariv, and Shabbat Shacharit
- Support student's musical engagement with the BaMidbar Community. The Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator plays an essential role in helping students connect Jewishly through Jewish music in various settings, including around the campfire, in services, and at the Shabbat dinner table
- Coordinate Shabbat programming, including limmudim and Living Torah, BaMidbar's alternative Torah service
- Create additional curriculum tying Jewish holidays and ritual to lessons of therapeutic and spiritual development, and support implementation of holiday programming. Special attention will be placed on the three Pilgrimage Festivals, Passover, Shavuot, and Sukkot.

**Jewish Learning**

- Collaborate with BaMidbar's clinical and program team on integrating Jewish practice, ritual, and tradition into educational and therapeutic content
- Support field staff in integrating Jewish metaphor, storytelling, learning, and tradition into daily wilderness living
- Facilitate individual and group Jewish learning opportunities
- Help staff diversify daily tefillot options
- Coordinate Shabbat guest rabbinic leaders and engage Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox educators and Rabbis to ensure Jewish experience is diverse and inclusive



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**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Knowledge/Education**

- Comfort leading Jewish prayer in a traditional, egalitarian setting
- Enthusiasm for Jewish music and the role music can play in creating community and spiritual connection
- A strong knowledge base of Jewish content and an ability to apply Jewish learning to therapeutic, outdoor, and experiential settings
- Experience with curriculum development

**Behavioral Competencies**

- Understanding and acceptance of diverse attitudes toward Judaism and Jewish engagement, and an ability to meet clients wherever they are in their individual Jewish journeys
- A commitment to an inclusive and vibrant Jewish community
- Engenders respect and is well equipped to empower and inspire others toward personal growth and development
- Entrepreneurial attitude and independent thinking
- Flexibility, adaptability and capacity to work in a fluid and changing work environment
- An open, inclusive, team-oriented work style and ability to collaborate

**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

**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.

**SCHEDULE:**

The Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator will spend Friday-Sunday at the Ramah in the Rockies ranch for three Shabbatot per month, and will go on *masa* (backcountry excursion) once per month. Additional responsibilities (curriculum development, holiday and Shabbat preparation, etc.) can take place from a remote work location or from Ramah's Denver office.

**TO APPLY**

Please send a cover letter and resume to [joryh@bamidbartherapy.org](mailto:joryh@bamidbartherapy.org). The subject line of the email should read *Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator Application*. Please be prepared to provide three letters of recommendation and copies of all current certifications.