



BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy

Field Therapist 2021

POSITION DESCRIPTION

THE PROGRAM

BaMidbar's mission is to ensure that Jewish youth and young adults have the confidence, skills, and community support to navigate life's challenges and thrive in the face of adversity. BaMidbar hosts three core programs: therapeutic expeditions for Jewish young adults (18-28 year olds) actively struggling with mental health; wellness experiences focused on self reflection and social-emotional growth; and professional development that combines mental health literacy with experiential education and a Jewish lens to equip community professionals so they can better support the young people with whom they work. All of 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.

Position Type: Field Therapist

Reports To: Clinical Director

Compensation: \$6,700 for the season

Dates:

- Staff Training: May 30th-June 19th (includes WFR Training)
- Programming: June 20th - July 29th

Hiring Process:

- Applications due by February 1 (interview preference given to early applications)
- Interviews begin week of January 25th
- Hiring decisions announced by February 22nd

POSITION PURPOSE:

Are you a licensed mental health professional looking to use wilderness and adventure-based experiences as part of your therapeutic process? Working in BaMidbar's Therapeutic Expeditions, Field Therapists support implementation of student treatment plans through experiential activities. The Field Therapist collaborates with the primary therapist on student well-being and group functioning, and facilitates individual and group therapy in the field. The Field Therapist also works in collaboration with Field Guides in maintaining a positive group milieu and therapeutic environment.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

Student Care:

- Facilitate group therapy sessions and individual student curriculum on a daily basis while in the field, in coordination with student's primary therapist
- Facilitate formal and informal fundamental and technical skill-building opportunities, psychoeducation, and crisis intervention on an ongoing basis

Field Staff Collaboration and Training:

- Support field staff in understanding clinical modalities and broader clinical framework of program
- Collaborate with field staff to maintain a healthy group dynamic a physically and emotionally safe environment
- With field staff, oversee a highly structured, participatory backcountry camp environment

Basecamp Support:

All field staff will one week out of the field, providing basecamp support. Two days will be time off, and five days will be spent in a program support role. During this program support week, staff will:

- Support tracking, management, and distribution of food, gear, water, supplies, and equipment
- Transport students and staff to and from the field as needed
- Complete gear and equipment maintenance
- Support processing and filing of student paperwork, therapy assignments, correspondence, and field pictures
- Coordinate and facilitate communication as needed between the field, therapists, and program staff



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- Participate in on-call emergency response system to support group emergency needs
- Support basecamp and Shabbat programming

Other Responsibilities:

- Complete all clinical notes and documentation in a timely and efficient manner

QUALIFICATIONS

Education / Experience

- Master degree or higher in social work or professional counseling
- Licensed (or able to obtain license) in Colorado as a LSW, LCSW, LMFT, LPCC, or LPC
- Experience working with young adults, preferably in a leadership, mentoring, or instructional capacity
- Backcountry experience, preferably in wilderness therapy
- Wilderness First Responder certification required. Certification can be obtained through BaMidbar from May 30th-June 6th

Skills / Knowledge

- Knowledge of conceptual frameworks for young adult development and health
- 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
- Strong 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. 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
- In efforts to keep our community healthy, staff will be expected to adhere to all COVID policies and procedures as laid out by Ramah in the Rockies and BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy. These expectations may change over time and may limit staff's ability to socialize with people from outside the "BaMidbar bubble" or leave property, even during designated time of

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.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume to joryh@bamidbartherapy.org. The subject line of the email should read: *Field Therapist Application* and documents should be titled "Last Name Cover Letter" and "Last Name Resume." Please be prepared to provide references and copies of all relevant certifications and licenses.