



**JEWISH LIFE AND LEARNING COORDINATOR
POSITION DESCRIPTION
SUMMER 2022 - SEASONAL**

ABOUT BAMIDBAR

BaMidbar envisions a Jewish community that actively supports its members in cultivating mental health and wellness. Using a three-pronged approach, we address mental health and wellness in the Jewish community by promoting teen and young adult resilience through prevention programs, supporting Jewish communal professionals through mental health education programs, and serving young adults struggling with mental health challenges through treatment programs. While BaMidbar runs mental health prevention, education, and treatment programs, all programs are built off of four core pillars:

- Wilderness as Therapy: Experiential models are used as a vehicle for growth. Students are challenged and given the opportunity to apply learning in a safe and supported environment.
- Clinically Informed Framework: Licensed mental health professionals design programming and trained guides facilitate experiences with an eye toward social, emotional, and spiritual growth.
- Jewish Values and Metaphor: Jewish tradition, metaphor, and storytelling are used to support students in exploring meaning, values, purpose, and identity.
- Mental Health Awareness: Programs work to increase open dialogue and decrease stigma around mental health in the broader Jewish community.

POSITION PURPOSE

Working in BaMidbar's Wilderness Therapy program, the Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator serves as a mentor and Jewish educator for young adults struggling with mild to moderate social, emotional, behavioral, and academic challenges. The Jewish Life and Learning Coordinator serves as Shaliach Tzibbur and songleader for the program, guides development and implementation of Shabbat/holiday programming and Jewish learning, and plays a role in curriculum and lesson plan development.

Position Type: Seasonal, full-time

Location: Colorado - this position requires residence at Ramah in the Rockies during the program season

Reports To: Program & Operations Coordinator

Compensation: \$6,300 for the season

Dates: June 7-August 11, 2022

- June 7th - June 29th: Training
- June 30th - August 8th: Programming
- August 9th - August 11th: Debrief & Wrap

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

Support Basecamp Programming

- Support implementation of basecamp programming, including art programs, service projects, and Shabbat preparation
- Support student supervision at basecamp
- Participate in BaMidbar's On Call emergency response system

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



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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

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
- Update and expand BaMidbar's Shmirat ha Nefesh guide, which is used in the field for daily spiritual practice
- Edit, update, and finalize Living Torah curriculum, our parsha-based discussion guide

YOU ARE:

- Passionate about BaMidbar's mission and vision
- A candid and intentional communicator with excellent interpersonal skills
- A dedicated Jewish educator who understands the way wellness is embedded within Jewish tradition
- Enthusiastic for Jewish music and the role music can play in creating community and spiritual connection
- Understanding and accepting of diverse attitudes towards Judaism and Jewish engagement, and have an ability to both meet clients wherever they are on their individual Jewish journeys and to create a pluralistic community environment that recognizes the diversity of students' relationships to Judaism
- A hands on team player who brings enthusiasm, a sense of humor, openness, and a strong work ethic

NEED TO HAVE'S

- Comfort leading Jewish prayer in a traditional, egalitarian setting
- A strong knowledge base of Jewish content and an ability to apply Jewish learning to therapeutic, outdoor, and experiential settings
- A commitment to an inclusive, pluralistic, and vibrant Jewish community
- Experience building a positive group dynamic and confidence working with diverse and challenging populations
- Excellent mentoring and coaching skills
- Excellent group facilitation skills
- Open, inclusive, and team-oriented work style



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NICE TO HAVE'S

- Experience working with young adults, preferably in a leadership, mentoring, or instructional capacity
- Backcountry, camping, and/or outdoor experience
- Experience with curriculum development

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
- All staff must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19
- 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 off

BaMidbar is an organization committed to building mental health and wellness in Jewish communities and beyond, no matter their race, ethnicity, socio economic status, gender identity, sexual orientation.

We strongly encourage people with diverse backgrounds and identities to apply. Frequently cited statistics show that women and underrepresented groups apply to jobs only if they meet 100% of the qualifications. We encourage you to break that statistic. BaMidbar is an equal opportunity employer.

TO APPLY

Please use [this form](#) to submit a cover letter, resume, and three references.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This position will be open until it is filled. We recommend submitting applications by January 3, 2022, and preference may be given to early applicants. Due to an expected high volume of applications, we will not be accepting phone calls about this role, and will only be in touch with candidates who move to the first round of interviews. We honor and respect the time that all candidates are putting into the hiring process!

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. Our facilities are primitive. In the backcountry, the group will camp in primitive settings. At basecamp, housing consists of primitive canvas wall tents.