**Director of Military Programs - HGLA**

Are you a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist or Licensed Clinical Mental Health Professional? Are you a Veteran or do you have professional experience/expertise and a true passion for delivering therapeutic, rehabilitative, and/or social services to Veteran/Military populations? Do you have proven administrative experience providing leadership and oversight of the delivery of therapeutic, rehabilitative, and/or social service based community programs? Are you skilled in outdoor recreation and sport pursuits and possess the ability to appropriately adapt and modify activities/equipment to suit the specialized needs of people of all abilities? Do you currently live in the greater LA area or have the desire to embed within this community to serve Veteran/Military populations? Are you ready to be the tip of the spear and lead the charge in an exciting new chapter location in LA for Higher Ground?
If you can answer 'yes' to ALL of these questions, then please proceed to carefully review the following information, and follow the stated directions to apply.

**\*Resumes NOT accompanied by personalized cover letters and a list of professional references WILL NOT be considered.**

Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc. (HGSV) is a 501(c)3 organization that provides innovative sports and Recreational Therapy treatment programming in Idaho, USA, to enhance the quality of life for our injured military community and our local civilian population of children, teens, and adults of all abilities/needs.
Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc. is expanding our Military-specific program operations into the California/Pacific Coast region by establishing a new chapter location based in Los Angeles in 2016. This is the beginning of a new strategic initiative whereby Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc. and United States Veterans Initiative (U.S. VETS) will collaborate to extend community-based, Recreational Therapy treatment program opportunities to Veterans and/or active-duty Service Members within this region.
The HGLA Military program treatment model is anchored in the overall health protection & health promotion of those we serve. We implement Recreational Therapy treatment modalities to assist in alleviating symptoms & conditions associated with service-linked TBI, PTS, MST, polytrauma and circumstances leading to homelessness. Our approach to intervention seeks to promote: successful home/community reintegration, education, skill development & utilization of healthy coping mechanisms, resiliency, locus of control/empowerment, functional independence, re-establishment of life purpose/mission, and optimal well-being through long-term client adoption of evidenced-based practices.

**We are looking to fill the position of 'Director of Military Programs'** responsible for managing, supervising, and implementing all aspects of the Higher Ground Military Program, related initiatives, and interdisciplinary team of professionals serving the California region through our newly formed Los Angeles Chapter. The Director of Military Programs – HGLA, operates under the direct supervision of the Director of National Military Program Expansion, headquartered in Sun Valley, ID. **At a minimum, this individual MUST hold a current certification as a CTRS and/or be a licensed clinical mental health professional with experience in serving military/Veteran populations. (See other 'minimum qualifications' listed below)**

**The selected candidate will be required to participate in an introductory training period conducted in Ketchum/Sun Valley, ID, with subsequent reassignment to our Los Angeles, CA, base of operations.**

A competitive compensation & benefits package is being offered for this position.

**Core Responsibilities/Duties**

* Provide proficient & comprehensive services in all phases of the Recreational Therapy treatment process (Assessment /intake, planning, implementation, evaluation, documentation, & termination). This includes performing ongoing outreach & follow-up services.
* Perform development and management of military programs, treatment guidelines/protocols, program staff/interns, job trainings, research initiatives, fundraising initiatives, budget management/development, promotional campaigns, community outreach/education, and other organizational initiatives as directed; to include involvement in the ongoing Higher Ground Military Program National Expansion effort
* Provide management/leadership of an interdisciplinary team of professionals to fulfill program/client goals, objectives, and desired outcomes through the delivery of Recreational Therapy treatment services
* Maintain and uphold the core mission of the Higher Ground Military Program
* Maintain and uphold the 5 core values of Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc.: Passion, innovation, service, integrity, and teamwork in all aspects of performing job duties

**Minimum Qualifications**

* \*Possess a minimum of a 4 year degree from a recognized institution of higher learning in Recreational Therapy/Therapeutic Recreation
* *Other related professional degrees; those in Social Services and/or in the Mental Health arena will be considered on a case by case basis.*
* ***Master’s Degree preferred but not required***
* **Current as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) through the NCTRC**
* *Other current & related professional licenses/certifications will be considered on a case by case basis*
* **3 years of documented management/supervisory experience working in the field of Recreational Therapy and/or other Health Services related professions**
* ***Must possess a comprehensive understanding of the core principles and standards of practice associated with the field of Recreational Therapy***
* *Others with 3 years of experience working in management/supervisory capacities within other health services professions: Social Services, and/or in the Mental Health arena, will be considered on a case by case basis*
* **1 year of direct professional experience serving Veterans or active duty Military personnel**
* *Or ability to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of military culture & needs*
* ***Veterans meeting all listed criteria are encouraged to apply***
* Currently certified in adult/child first aid & CPR, or Wilderness first aid, and/or Wilderness First Responder
* *Or willingness to obtain within 90 days*
* Possess a valid CA State driver’s license & clean driving record
* *Or ability/willingness to obtain a CA license within 30 days of relocation*
* Pass all drug/alcohol/medical screenings & State/National background checks

**Preferred Skills/Abilities**

* Thorough understanding of military culture and needs
* Health Services management
* Recreational Therapy interventions
* Program development & management
* Budget management/development
* Adaptive sports and recreation
* Disability awareness/ADA guidelines
* Wilderness trip guiding/Outdoor Education
* Equine/animal-assisted therapies
* Service dog insight/acumen
* Leadership
* Initiative
* Self determination
* Problem solving/reasoning
* Structured/organized
* Strong interpersonal and communication skills
* Analytical/research skills
* Public speaking
* Multi-tasking
* Multicultural sensitivity/awareness
* Teamwork
* Flexibility/adaptability
* Computer/technical skills
* Database management
* Instructing/coaching/training
* Customer service
* People/time management
* Willingness to serve all people
* Fluency in the Spanish language (written & oral)
* Event & volunteer coordination
* Marketing & social media

**To apply for this position, please submit a cover letter, resume, and 3 listed professional/personal references to:**

**Benjamin Thompson – M.S., CTRS**
**Director of National Military Program Expansion**

**Ben@highergroundsv.org**

Higher Ground Sun Valley Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to maintaining the hiring practices and work environment free from discrimination based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic information, veteran/military status, marital status or other status protected by federal or state law, with regard to any term or condition of employment.