



Job Announcement - Higher Ground Sun Valley Military Program Recreational Specialist (MPRS)

Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 organization that provides innovative sports and recreation therapy programming to enhance the quality of life for our injured military community and our local population of children, teens, and adults with disabilities.

The Higher Ground Military Program provides week-long recreational therapy treatment to groups of injured combat Veterans and service members living with symptoms of post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, military sexual trauma, and/or polytrauma. Programming includes providing equivalent treatment services to a significant other, family member(s), or other supporter accompanying each Veteran participant. A 3 year follow-up/outreach protocol is also extended to all program participants.

The Higher Ground Military Program utilizes the APIED+T treatment process to deliver recreational therapy services designed to help participants alleviate barriers to optimal health, promote successful home/community reintegration, increase resiliency & functional independence, and maximize life satisfaction following injury and/or traumatic experiences.

The Military Program Recreational Specialist (MPRS) works on an interdisciplinary team responsible for facilitating and supporting all aspects of the Higher Ground Military Program to deliver recreational therapy services, including: developing & leading programs/treatment, supervising the professional development of interns, providing professional trainings, and contributing towards other Military Program related initiatives as directed. MPRS's also contribute to additional, organization-wide initiatives such as assistance with civilian-based Higher Ground Sun Valley programs, fundraising/special events, and promotional campaigns. MPRS's in the Sun Valley location operate under the direct supervision of the Director of Military Programs, Sun Valley.

Core Responsibilities/Duties

- Provide proficient & comprehensive Recreational Therapy services in all phases of the APIED+T treatment process (Assessment /intake, planning, implementation, evaluation, documentation, & termination planning) to alleviate injuries & symptomology (primary & secondary) resulting from service-related traumatic events (This includes performing ongoing outreach & follow-up services)
- Work competently and cooperatively on an interdisciplinary team of professionals to fulfill program/client goals, objectives, and desired outcomes through the delivery of recreational therapy treatment services
- Perform assistance, leadership, and/or supervisory duties of military programs, program interns, job trainings, program development, research, and other program initiatives as directed; to include involvement in the Higher Ground Military Program National Expansion initiative



- Provide organizational assistance in civilian programs, fundraising/special events, promotional campaigns, and other related duties to carry out the Higher Ground mission as directed
- Maintain and uphold the core mission of Higher Ground Sun Valley Inc., and 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

Preferred Qualifications

- 3 years of direct experience working with Veterans or active duty Military Service populations
 - *Or ability to demonstrate a proficient understanding of military culture & needs*
 - *Veterans meeting all listed criteria are encouraged to apply*
- Current as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) through the NCTRC
 - *Other applicable professional licensures/certifications will be considered on a case by case basis*
- 3 years of documented experience working as a CTRS
 - *Others with 3 years of professional experience working in a closely related field will be considered on a case by case basis*
- Possess a minimum of a 4 year degree from a recognized institution of higher learning in Recreational Therapy
 - *Other professional degrees in closely related fields such as: Adaptive Physical Education, Wilderness Therapy, Outdoor Education, Occupational Therapy, Psychology, Social Work, and/or the Mental Health arena, etc. will be considered on a case by case basis.*
 - *Master's Degree preferred but not required*
- 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 ID State driver's license & clean driving record
 - *Or ability/willingness to obtain an ID license within 30 days*
- Pass all drug/alcohol/medical screenings & State/National background checks

Preferred Skills / Abilities

- Thorough understanding of military culture, typical combat and/or service related injuries, evidenced-based treatment modalities, and resources for assistance
- Adaptive sports and recreation
- Recreation therapy
- Strong listening/communication skills
- Team oriented
- Teaching/instructing/coaching/training
- Wilderness trip guiding
- Equine/animal-assisted therapies
- Service dog acuity
- Problem solving/reasoning



- Structured/organized
- Analytical/research skills
- Public speaking
- Flexibility/adaptability
- Computer/Database management
- Customer service
- Willingness and ability to serve people of all nationalities, color, creed, & sexual/gender affiliation
- Event & volunteer coordination

Equal Opportunity Employment

Higher Ground Sun Valley Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to maintaining hiring practices and a 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.

Contact Info

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To apply for the Military Program Recreational Therapist position, please submit a letter of interest and resume to the address shown above. Completed applications can also be sent via e-mail to Monty Heath at monty@highergroundsv.org.