**Recreational Therapist - HGB**

Are you a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist? Are you a Veteran, or do you have the professional experience/expertise and a true passion for delivering recreational therapy treatment services to Veteran/Military populations? Do you enjoy a dynamic work environment and the ability to work with many different populations as a member of an interdisciplinary team of professionals? Do you have experience providing leadership and oversight of the delivery of RT treatment programs? Are you highly 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 Buffalo, NY, area or have the desire to embed within this community to serve the Veteran/Military population residing there?

**If you answer 'yes' to ALL of these questions, then please proceed to carefully review the following information, and follow the directions to apply.**

**\* \*Resumes NOT accompanied by personalized cover letters and a list of professional references will not be considered for the position.**

Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc. (HGSV) is a 501(c)3 organization that provides innovative sports and Recreational Therapy treatment services in Idaho, USA, to enhance the quality of life for our injured national military community and our local civilian population of children, teens, and adults of all abilities/needs.  
Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc. is expanding our program operations into the Buffalo, NY, area by establishing a new chapter location scheduled to launch in the Summer/Fall of 2016. This is the beginning of a new strategic initiative whereby Higher Ground Sun Valley, Inc. and an existing regional health services and alternative therapy provider will collaborate to extend community-based, RT treatment services to Veterans and/or active-duty Service Members living in Western New York and the surrounding region, as well as other civilian populations already currently being served by our partner provider in that region.  
The Higher Ground RT treatment model is anchored in the overall health protection & health promotion of those we serve. We specialize in helping clients alleviate symptoms and conditions associated with TBI, PTS, MST, and polytrauma. 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.

The ***﻿Recreational Therapist*** works on an interdisciplinary team responsible for facilitating and providing leadership in all aspects of the APIE process and delivery of recreational therapy treatment services as directed.

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, and discharge services). This includes performing ongoing outreach & follow-up services.
* Develop, facilitate, and oversee the management and delivery of RT services for all populations being collaboratively served.
* Work on 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 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
* *Master’s Degree preferred but not required*
* Current as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) through the NCTRC
* 3 years of documented experience working in the field of Recreational Therapy
* 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 NY State driver’s license & clean driving record
* *Or ability/willingness to obtain a NY 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, submit a cover letter, resume, and 3 listed professional references to:**

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

[**Ben@highergroundsv.org**](mailto: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.