



Job Announcement - Higher Ground Los Angeles (HGLA) Director of Military Programs - HGLA

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 population of children, teens, and adults with disabilities.

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 health promotion & health protection 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/or homelessness. Our approach to intervention further 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 Director of Military Programs - HGLA, is 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 the 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.

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 4 year degree from a recognized institution of higher learning in Recreational Therapy
 - *Other Allied Health professional degrees; those in Adaptive Physical Education, Wilderness Therapy, Outdoor Education, Social Services and/or 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 & relatable professional licensures/certifications will be considered on a case by case basis*
- 5 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 5 years of experience working in management/supervisory capacities within other Allied Health professions, Adaptive Physical Education, Wilderness Therapy, Outdoor Education, Social Services, and/or the Mental Health arena along with documented experience working in the areas of therapeutic wilderness programming, adventure based therapies, and/or adaptive sports & recreation management will be considered on a case by case basis*
- 3 years 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

Contact info

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

Benjamin Thompson - M.S., CTRS

Director of National Military Program Expansion

160 Seventh Street West., P.O. Box 6791, Ketchum, Idaho, 83340

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Equal Opportunity Employment

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.

