

# BACKPACK GUIDE

## Job Description



**TIME FRAME:** TBD, MID JUNE - MID AUGUST

**COMPENSATION:** \$400 - 500/WEEK (HIGHER RATE FOR RETURNING STAFF)  
INCLUDES ROOM AND BOARD, LAUNDRY, AND WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE.

**RESPONSIBLE TO:** BACKPACK COORDINATOR

### **GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. TO BE WITH KIDS, AND SHOW THEM GOD
2. TO OUTFIT, GUIDE, LEAD AND TEACH OUTDOOR SKILLS AND BACKPACKING TECHNIQUES TO YOUTH AND ADULTS ON 5 DAY BACKPACK TRIPS

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

STAFF NEED TO BE ABLE TO PERFORM THE ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS OF THIS POSITION WITHIN CAMP'S UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT

- RUSTIC TERRAIN AND SHARED CABIN ACCOMMODATIONS
- DAILY ACTIVITY TAKES PLACE AT AN ALTITUDE OF 8,000 FEET, CAN BE STRENUOUS AT TIMES, AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES MAY TAKE STAFF UP TO 12,000 FEET
- COMMUNITY - LIVING WITH **HIGH** SOCIAL INTERACTION
- LIMITED COMMUNICATION OUTSIDE OF CAMP BY INTERNET OR PHONE EXCEPT FOR TIME OFF PERIODS

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- DESIRE TO LIVE AND WORK WITHIN A CAMP COMMUNITY
- CLEARLY ARTICULATED CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIFESTYLE
- BACKPACK EXPERIENCE AT 8,000 - 13,000 FEET
- CURRENT WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER AND CPR CERTIFICATION, VALID FOR ENTIRETY OF CONTRACT DATES
- ABILITY TO READ A MAP, COMPASS AND USE GPS TO LEAD GROUPS CONFIDENTLY
- MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD, YOUNGER MAY APPLY IF WITH OTHER CREDENTIALS
- ABILITY TO RELATE TO PEERS AND CHILDREN
- ABILITY/ WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT SUPERVISION AND GUIDANCE
- GOOD CHARACTER, INTEGRITY, AND ADAPTABILITY
- ENTHUSIASM, SENSE OF HUMOR, PATIENCE, AND SELF-CONTROL
- ABILITY TO DO TASKS AS ASSIGNED AND TAKE INITIATIVE FOR FINDING THE NEXT TASK
- ABILITY TO WORK WELL WITH OTHERS

## **SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

- BE WITH KIDS AND SHOW THEM GOD
- ASSESS THE BACKPACK GEAR BEFORE AND AFTER EACH TRIP. CLEAN AND REPAIR AS NECESSARY
- WORK WITH THE BACKPACK COORDINATOR TO PURCHASE AND PACKAGE THE FOOD AND SUPPLIES FOR EACH TRIP
- TEACH AND MONITOR PROPER USE OF EQUIPMENT BY CAMPERS AND YOUTH LEADERS
- BE FAMILIAR WITH EACH TRAIL BEFORE TAKING A GROUP OUT
- ASSEMBLE A FIRST AID KIT, ORGANIZE AND RE-SUPPLY THE KIT AFTER EACH TRIP
- GUIDE TRIPS AS ASSIGNED
- MONITOR THE HEALTH OF PARTICIPANTS, USING WFR PROTOCOLS TO ADDRESS INJURY AND ILLNESS CONCERNS
- TEACH PARTICIPANTS THE COOKING AND CLEAN UP PROCEDURES ON THE TRAIL
- FAMILIARIZE THE GROUP WITH LEAVE NO TRACE ETHICS, AND ENSURE THAT THE GROUP FOLLOW LEAVE NO TRACE
- WITHIN IN THE BACKPACK SETTING USE OPPORTUNITIES TO TEACH CONSERVATION OF WATER, SUPPLIES AND RESOURCES AND TEACH RESPECT OF THE TRAILS AND WILDERNESS
- BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WELFARE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL ON THE TRIP PROBLEM SOLVE AS NECESSARY
- MONITOR THE LOAD CARRIED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL, AND REDISTRIBUTE WEIGHT AS NECESSARY
- PLAN FOR WAYS TO BUILD COMMUNITY IN THE GROUP (WHICH MAY INCLUDE DEBRIEF DISCUSSION AT THE END OF THE DAY, STRETCHING AS A GROUP BEFORE THE HIKE DAY BEGINS ETC.)
- SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR CAMPERS, STAFF, PARENTS, VISITORS, AND THE COMMUNITY
- DEVELOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERACTION BETWEEN CAMPERS AND STAFF
- PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GROUP SO THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCES SUCCESS DURING THE BACKPACK TRIP
- HELP EACH PARTICIPANT MEET THE GOALS ESTABLISHED BY THE CAMP FOR CAMPER DEVELOPMENT
- CARRY OUT ESTABLISHED ROLES IN ENFORCING SAFETY REGULATIONS
- MONITOR THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE GUESTS / CAMPERS AT ALL TIMES
- RESPECT EACH CAMPER FOR THEIR UNIQUENESS; UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATING DIVERSITY, EMPHASIZING COMMUNICATION AND TEAMWORK
- FIND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT CAMPER'S MENTAL, EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL HEALTH

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

1. ABILITY TO HIKE 12 MILES WITH A 50 POUND PACK
2. PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ABILITY TO BE WITH CAMPERS AND GUESTS 24 HOURS A DAY, 6 DAYS A WEEK
3. VISUAL AND AUDITORY ABILITY TO IDENTIFY AND RESPOND TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER HAZARDS RELATED TO EACH ACTIVITY FOR CAMPERS AND GUESTS

4. ABILITY TO MAINTAIN PERSONAL PHYSICAL, MENTAL, AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH IN A FAST-PACED COMMUNITY LIVING SETTING AND ADAPT TO A CONSTANTLY CHANGING ENVIRONMENT WHILE INTERACTING WITH MANY DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES.
5. MUST BE ABLE TO ACCLIMATIZE UP TO 13,000 FEET
6. DESIRE AND ABILITY TO HELP CAMPERS PLAN AND CONDUCT ACTIVITIES
7. PHYSICAL, MENTAL ABILITY, AND STRENGTH TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL ACTIVITIES WITH CAMPERS.
8. WILLINGNESS AND ABILITY TO LIVE IN AN INTERNET FREE ENVIRONMENT.
9. ABILITY TO ARTICULATE NEEDS TO SUPERVISOR(S) FOR PERSONAL WELL-BEING