



Job Title: Wilderness Guide (Summer)
Job Site: Eagle County, CO (White River National Forest)
Reports to: Eagle County Program Director

Organizational Overview:

SOS Outreach, founded and headquartered in Colorado's Vail Valley, is a national youth development nonprofit that transforms the lives of underserved youth by delivering long-term life skills development through progressive outdoor adventure-based programs. With a unique combination of outdoor adventure experiences, positive adult mentorship and leadership development opportunities, SOS Outreach enables youth to unleash their potential to thrive. Last year alone, SOS served 4,829 youth across 22,618 program days, making SOS a program leader across the country. Every SOS program incorporates the SOS core values of courage, discipline, integrity, wisdom, compassion and humility. Throughout the curriculum, SOS students complete outdoor experiential learning, character development, service learning, values-based leadership training, and citizenship enrichment. The programs of SOS are based out of over 29 ski resorts across the Mountain West, and include both winter and summer outdoor experiential education. Activities include skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, camping, hiking, rock climbing, teambuilding, low ropes course, backpacking, sailing and mountain biking.

Position Summary:

SOS Outreach is currently seeking qualified individuals interested in introducing youth to outdoor leadership skills and outdoor recreation in wilderness settings during our summer programs in the White River National Forest. Wilderness Guides must be passionate about working with youth of varied ages and from diverse backgrounds. As a model for positive growth, instructors will provide the support, safety, and guidance needed for youth to foster an appreciation for nature, learn the skills necessary to participate in outdoor experiences, and become part of a group learning atmosphere.

Responsibilities (include but not limited to):

- Lead multi-day trips for groups of 13 youth (8 – 18 years old) in front and backcountry settings, including preparation, implementation, cleanup and debriefing with a co-guide. Courses range from 1 day programs to overnight programs from 3 day / 2 nights to 5 day / 4 nights.
- Manage the safety of all participants around-the-clock while delivering programming focused on introductions to camping, outdoor recreation, backpacking, wilderness travel, and expeditionary style trips. Courses include a variety of activities including hiking, rock climbing, teambuilding, and other outdoor adventure sports.
- Deliver SOS' values-based curriculum designed to provide youth with life-changing experiences. Curriculum focuses on six core values: Courage, Discipline, Integrity, Wisdom, Compassion, and Humility.
- Assist in planning trip itineraries, route and campsite selection, menus and food requisitions.
- Serve as "on-call guide" on non-field weeks. This includes, but is not limited to, assisting field coordinator with logistics, answering nightly check-in calls, and administrative duties.

Qualifications:

- Be 21 years of age or older

- Current Wilderness First Responder (WFR) or WEMT and CPR, or the ability to obtain these certifications prior to beginning employment. Preference will be given to candidates with an active WFR certification.
- Physically fit: SOS backpacking trips average 5 – 8 miles per day at altitudes between 8,200' – 13,000' in varied weather. Must be able to carry 70lbs. pack. SOS day hiking involves 2-4 miles and 2,000' elevation gains. Must be able to carry 30lbs. guide pack.
- Pass Federal background check and Motor Vehicle check.
- Knowledge of Leave No Trace Practices.
- Prior experience working with youth and youth overnight outdoor adventure programs.
- Rock climbing, hiking, wilderness travel, and team building experience (Preferably in the Rocky Mountain Region).
- Leadership experience in group facilitation in a backcountry setting.
- Have a positive attitude and good sense of humor and strong communication skills
- Experience, comfort, and passion in working with disadvantaged youth and low income families
- Spanish language proficiency and cultural literacy (preferred).
- Awareness of factors impacting the lives of underserved youth.
- Willingness to learn about privilege, racism, and oppression and how these social constructions impact students and staff.
- A desire to make a positive difference in the community.

Dates of Employment

June 5, 2017 – August 15, 2017

Remuneration

\$130 Per Day

Application Instructions

To apply, send resume and cover letter to Scott Partan, Program Director, via email to spartan@sosoutreach.org with "Wilderness Guide Position" in the subject line, fax (970) 306-0269, or mail to P.O. Box 2020, Avon, Colorado 81620. Please indicate the instructor position you are interested in. **Note if you have a direct connection with SOS as a former employee, Sherpa, or other affiliation.

Application Deadline

Applications will be accepted through May 1, 2017.