

Therapeutic Adventure Manager for Court-Ordered Youth

Do you want to be part of the most exciting and fulfilling job you've ever imagined?

- **Join the Team**
- **Create a Legacy**
- **Change Lives... yours, too!**

Therapeutic Adventure Managers will create, resource, and lead small groups of youth in residential treatment and other youth in state custody through year-round therapeutic wilderness and adventure programs. Working with and supervising other guides, Therapeutic Adventure Managers lead year-round adventure and wilderness programs lasting 1-12 days at a time for court-ordered youth living in residential treatment. You'll intentionally use a multitude of adventure activities on the Ranch such as ropes courses, team challenges, and aquatics programs, along with backpacking trips, paddling and whitewater trips, multi-sport and climbing trips, and primitive skills/living programs to help youth heal from the past and grow hope for the future. Along with youth in residential treatment, you'll work with youth in the foster care system, wounded veterans and their families, and youth on the autism spectrum.

KVC Missouri's Meramec Adventure Ranch

Who we are:

Using the transformative power of the wilderness and adventure, **Meramec Adventure Ranch** is dedicated to serving individuals and families whom much of the world has given up on, including youth struggling with traumatic pasts, youth in residential treatment, youth on the Autism Spectrum, and Wounded Warriors. Since 2006, the Ranch has grown to be one of the most extensive adventure bases in the Midwest and has served over 100,000 youth and families.

What you get to do:

Expect about 40-80 nights/year in the woods, depending on your specialty. You can also typically expect 5-day work weeks outside of backcountry trips, with no more than 2 working-weekends per month.

The ranch is a unique program; the only one of its kind in Missouri and one of the few therapeutic adventure programs left in the country that serve youth in the state system. Our youth are between the ages of 6-18, have experienced histories of severe trauma and abuse, and are working through significant emotional and behavioral challenges. Therapeutic Adventure Managers typically work together or with ranch guides and staff from the residential treatment centers with groups of 8-12 kids, leading them through adventure programs. During these trips, adventure activities and the outdoors itself is used as a catalyst to build relationships and produce victories that grow efficacy, connection, purpose, and hope.

Adventure experiences are not an escape from the daily grind. They are reality where, in an "off-balance" environment, the true self always eventually surfaces and must be faced, concrete victories are earned, natural consequences are plentiful, roles and gifts are discovered, and positive relationships are built. Evidence bears out that these experiences become defining moments for young men and young women as they grow, heal, and hope.

You can be a part of this critical program and play a vital role in the life stories of the incredible individuals we are honored to stand alongside each day!

Salary and Other Benefits

- Starting salaries are based on position and experience and range from \$34,000-\$36,000/year with full benefits package.
- Shared housing is provided for employees, if desired.
- All meals are provided during programs.
- 12-40 PTO days/year depending on years worked.
- 12 annual paid holidays.
- Tuition Reimbursement for job-related training of up to \$5250/year with a lifetime maximum of \$21,000.
- Full benefits package including:
 - o Medical, Dental, and Vision Packages
 - o Basic Life Insurance equivalent to employees annual salary
 - o 403b Retirement plans with 2.5% match

Challenges:

- Kids who are extremely challenging to build relationships and trust with, and whom—many times—will act out in extreme ways to find out if you really are who you say you are.
- Long times in the woods with mud, bugs, snakes, ridiculously long hours, and no showers!
- It is up to you to leave a lasting impact! Our team has created what the Ranch is today and our team will create what it becomes tomorrow.
- **Your success will not be based on the greatness of your techniques or strength of your skills, but on the quality and character of person you are and are becoming.**

Benefits:

- All those “**challenges**” just mentioned!
- Never have two days that are the same.
- PRODEALS, PRODEALS, PRODEALS!
- Free stickers for your Nalgene Bottle...everybody needs a few more!
- You can bring your hammock to work...though we won't guarantee that you'll spend much time in it.
- Looking up a night sky from your sleeping bag and saying to yourself, “This is where I belong!”
- Standing alongside people who have seen incredible adversity, hurt, and pain, and be a part of their stories as they grow to change the world!

Experience Needed:

- A Calling/Passion to be HERE!
- GRIT
- Disciplined Work Ethic
- Honesty
- Willingness to have fun and act silly
- Creativity and Ideas
- Self-Awareness
- Wisdom and Discernment
- Willingness to learn
- Humility

- Unconditional Care, Unwavering Belief, and Consistent Accountability for yourself, the Ranch Family, and those we serve
- It's also nice if you have experience in Adventure activities and Residential Care or in a related field.

For more information:

www.facebook.com/meramecranch/

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If you are passionate about being part of what is happening at the Meramec Adventure Ranch, send your resume to bbailey@kvc.org

We would be honored to team up with you and stand alongside some incredible youth!