



Job Description: CAF Special Events Manager, Cycling Program

Reports to: Chief Executive Director

Location: San Diego, CA / Hybrid work

The Organization

The Challenged Athletes Foundation® (CAF) is a world leader in helping individuals with physical challenges get involved – and stay involved – in sports and fitness. CAF believes that participation in sports at any level increases self-esteem, encourages independence, and enhances quality of life. Since 1994, more than \$134 million has been raised and over 35,000 funding requests from challenged athletes in all 50 states and dozens of countries have been satisfied. Additionally, CAF's outreach efforts impact another 60,000 individuals each year. The CAF is headquartered in San Diego with regional offices in New York City, San Francisco and Boise, Idaho. This is a full-time, exempt position based out of the San Diego office.

Position Overview

- To support the planning, organization and execution of events managed by the Special Events Department of CAF. This position will specialize in cycling events and CAF's cycling program which includes regional clubs and several multi day rides.
- To develop and maintain positive donor, fundraiser and volunteer relationships
- Work closely with Chief Executive Director, Events, Marketing Staff and other CAF departments to promote and achieve event goals and objectives.
- Monitor and control event budgets and support fundraising goals.

Essential Functions and Accountabilities

Event Planning and Project Management

- Oversee details of events to include contracts and agreements with hotels, venues, travel and transportation, entertainment, A/V, merchandise suppliers, etc. Produce checklists, event requisitions, schedule of events, and any other event related materials. Attend events as required and manage vendors and onsite logistics. The Special Events Managers will be assigned several events in which to serve as project manager while serving in a support role for other major CAF initiatives.
- Oversight of cycling events which includes 20 weeks from June to October of a weekend training program, plus 1 – 2 Weekend Cycling Events (3 – 4 days total on-site management) and Million Dollar Challenge ride (9 days total on-site management).

Information Management

- Manage lists of prospects, invitees, attendees, sponsors, volunteers, auctions items, and fundraising totals. Ensure that finances are processed appropriately including donations and charges/invoices.

Support of fundraisers, donors and volunteers

- Requires significant 'customer first' attitude and must provide consistent and appropriate communication with event participants. Experience to identify, recruit, cultivate, and recognize fundraisers for their accomplishments. Supervise recruitment, management and support of volunteers.
- The ability to seek new ways to help the Fundraising Team's role in the big picture of what CAF is trying to accomplish with specific events, communications, plans and fundraising vehicles and donor cultivation.

Event promotion and communication

- Adhere to the strategic direction, key messaging and brand set by the marketing department.
- Work with Marketing to create and deliver collateral and promote events internally and externally. Effectively communicate the mission of CAF to event participants.

Function as team player in the Fundraising and Events Department

- To include a respectful and positive attitude, honest work ethic and ability to support the overall goals of the Fundraising and Events Department, CAF and the Board of Directors and adherence to CAF policies and procedures.
- To always act as a professional representative of CAF both internally to all staff, volunteers and Board Members and externally to outside donors, fundraisers, suppliers, volunteers and all third-party constituents that you interact with.
- To be conscience and detail oriented internally and externally in regard to all work, e-mail correspondence, communications, correspondence, direct mail and any piece of work that has the CAF name associated to it. This includes thoughtful presentation of the message, correct use of spelling and grammar, no slang, profanity or questionable content.
- To work efficiently and maintains flexibility to meet deadlines or when that is not possible, to effectively communicate prior to missing deadlines why they need to be extended and to set new target dates for completion.

Skills and Abilities

Communication skills

Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including ability to capture details and communicate accurately and completely, both verbally and in writing. Professional, friendly and outgoing disposition with a willingness to represent CAF at events. Strong interpersonal skills and a customer service attitude.

Organization and Detail Orientation

Project Management skills, organizational skills, and ability to prioritize and handle multiple tasks concurrently with responsible follow-through. Flexibility and ability to manage unexpected circumstances or changes.

Budget Sensitive

While goal is to create successful and impactful events, must have sensitivity to budget constraints and the need to keep expenses under control

A strong commitment to the CAF mission

Must see CAF as a societal mission and be committed to the objectives, goals, and programs of the organization. To be effective in dealing with vendors, sponsors, partners, and athletes we serve, the Events Manager must see his/her role in the organization as a calling to provide first class events that not only serve the athletes involved, make the experience so positive that all participants will not only wish to return for the next event, but will bring along others who will become supporters of CAF.

Physical Demands

Event Manager must frequently lift and/or move up to 10 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Education and Experience

A Bachelors' degree is preferred

5+ years of experience in managing and executing special events and one to two years of supervisory experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience

High level of proficiency with MS Word, MS Excel, MS Power Point, Outlook, Keynote, email communication platforms or similar online communication tools. Ability to quickly learn new software and technology. Graphic design & Salesforce experience a plus.

Own transportation required. Must be willing to work evenings/weekends with increased responsibilities around event dates. Will include out of town travel.

Compensation

All applicants are required to provide their 1. salary requirements when submitting a 2. cover letter and 3. resume to HR@challengedathletes.org.

CAF offers a competitive compensation package, commensurate with experience. Offer of employment is contingent upon successful background check.

Diversity and inclusion are a critical component of our business strategy, mission and vision. We welcome candidates from an array of backgrounds and experiences to join our team. Learn more about our commitment here: <https://www.challengedathletes.org/diversity-and-inclusion-policy/>

CAF is an equal opportunity employer (EOE) and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, marital status, amnesty, or veteran status.