



## MyPartner Career Network

### *Trailing Spouse Initiative Aimed at Improving Retention of Specialized Employees*

#### Overview

[MyPartner Career Network](#), launched in January 2016 by the Vail Valley Partnership (VVP), in collaboration with [High County Human Resource Association](#) (HCHRA) and [Mountain Careers](#), is a tool that assists local businesses as they recruit and retain new employees. This “trailing spouse” initiative acts as a community integration and support network that connects local businesses with the partner or spouse of a new employee hired from outside of the Vail Valley region. Prospective employees may be hesitant to relocate to Eagle County in-part because their partner may struggle to find suitable employment. The MyPartner Career Network relies on collaboration between numerous businesses and governmental sectors to assist our new community members and make them feel confident about moving to Eagle County.

#### Why the MyPartner Career Network is Important

Appropriate talent for many specialized positions often doesn’t exist within the local labor market, forcing many Eagle County firms to recruit and hire from outside the region. Doing so carries several risks, such as increased timelines to fill open positions, long-term retention challenges, and potentially significant employee relocation costs.

MyPartner Career Network is a new employee integration tool designed to ease the transition into our community. Not only is it crucial for many local households to secure a dual income arrangement that offsets area living expenses, but helping trailing partners find a satisfying profession is often the key to ensuring that both partners feel connected to the community. Eagle County cannot afford a “brain drain” because skilled workers are leaving the area or turning down employment opportunities. By helping partners and spouses find meaningful work, local businesses are more likely to see greater levels of employee retention, allowing our community to benefit from a thriving workforce.

All Eagle County businesses are encouraged to participate in the MyPartner Career Network. For more information, contact Erik Williams at 970-477-4000 or [erik@visitvailvalley.com](mailto:erik@visitvailvalley.com) today!

#### How the MyPartner Career Network Works

Local businesses can utilize the MyPartner Career Network as a tool to attract new employees to the Vail Valley, particularly individuals who may be hesitant to uproot their partner or spouse. Local businesses, nonprofits, special districts, and governments are encouraged to opt-in to the MyPartner Career Network and commit to reviewing the resumes of trailing spouses and partners. Even if these businesses do not have any immediate staffing needs, they are asked to provide informational interviews and refer the candidate to another contact in the community that might assist in their job search. Though we cannot guarantee employment through the program, the MyPartner Career Network aims to assist with networking and introduce individuals to prospective employers.



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#### Frequently Asked Questions

- What is the MyPartner Career Network?
  - The MyPartner Career Network is a program designed to assist local businesses in recruiting new employees from outside Eagle County. It was developed to connect trailing spouses and partners with local businesses and government entities to assist in their job search.
- What businesses can participate?
  - Any business, nonprofit, special district, and governmental entity located in Eagle County is eligible to apply.
- Does my business need to be a member of the Vail Valley Partnership (VVP), Mountain Careers, or High Country Human Resource Association to participate?
  - No.
- What types of jobs will be available for trailing spouses or partners, and what kinds of skills do they need to possess in order to apply for MyPartner Career Network?
  - MyPartner Career Network promotes year-round, professional-level jobs that can lead to career advancement. There is no skills requirement. A variety of positions, requiring multiple types of skills, are available at dozens of different organizations across the valley.
- How long can my partner and I have lived in the valley before applying?
  - We ask that you register with MyPartner Career Network within six months of relocating to Eagle County.

#### How to Participate

##### *Businesses, nonprofits, special districts, and local governments*

- Visit the [MyPartner Career Network](#) webpage to opt-in to the program. Contact information will remain confidential.
- Agree to promote the MyPartner Career Network with other organizations and prospective new-hires during the recruitment process.
- Conduct a priority review of all applicable resumes received through MyPartner Career Network and provide informational interviews for relevant candidates. If possible, refer candidates to another contact in the community to help them grow their local network.

##### *Trailing Spouses and Partners*

- Visit the [MyPartner Career Network](#) to submit the resume of a trailing spouse or partner.
- The VVP will review and send out resumes to Eagle County businesses who have opted in to the MyPartner Career Network. Applicable businesses will conduct a priority review of resumes.
- Trailing spouses or partners engage in informational interviews with the VVP and local businesses to share more about their employment interests.

#### Contact Us!

If you have any questions or would like to get involved with the MyPartner Career Network, please feel free to reach out to Erik Williams, Director of Community Development for the Vail Valley Partnership.

P.O. Box 1130, Vail, CO 81658

[vailvalleymeansbusiness.com](http://vailvalleymeansbusiness.com)

[vailvalleypartnership.com](http://vailvalleypartnership.com)