



For more information, check out montanagroup.co.nz

Montana Group, a Waikato-based specialist caterer and events management business, is the largest privately-owned caterer in Aotearoa.

A crew of hundreds of passionate casual and permanent staff exude the Montana Difference – the little bit of magic that starts in state-of-the-art kitchens and finishes with customers delighted by venues or events where they sample Montana's real and contemporary great taste.

But this expertise goes beyond the kitchen, with the Montana team including event management, front-of-house, logistics and operations staff.

BECOMING AN HR COORDINATOR

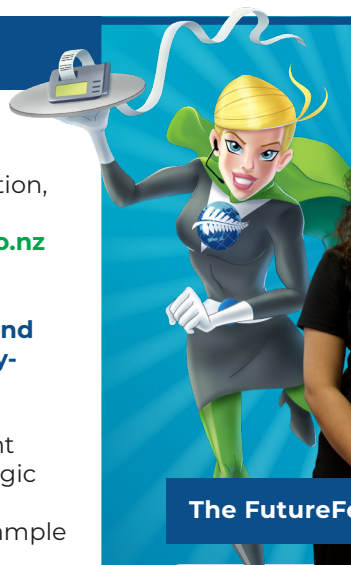


Type of person

- Able to see behind the wall people build around themselves – the more you listen to someone, the more you'll be able to read between the lines and see what they're actually trying to say.
- Good people skills
- Be considerate – don't jump to conclusions!
- Be empathetic
- Have active listening skills

To find out more about this sector, profiles of young people like you in the industry, and career tools and tips...

scan here →



Q & A

MEENAL BUDKUH
HR COORDINATOR



The FutureForce® Crew sat down with Meenal to chat about her role...

- WHAT DOES YOUR JOB LOOK LIKE?

I take care of some of the training so it might be workplace motivation, induction training for a team member's first day or health and safety. I've been doing recruitment for our events crew – they could be part of the kitchen, front of house, retail staff or anything else really! That's been my main focus lately but if anyone in the office needs someone to talk to, I'm always here for them.

- HOW DID YOU GET STARTED AT MONTANA?

During one of the events I was covering I started talking to my manager about my studies. He asked if I wanted to go into human resources, and of course I did! But I've always wanted to work my way up in an organisation and build a grounding in the company first – that way you understand how it works and your inputs are more context related. My manager passed my name on to the HR partner at Montana and I had an interview. I was finishing up my thesis at the time, so it took a couple of months but now I'm here!

TOP CAREER TIP

"DO THE WORK, DO IT HONESTLY AND WITH FAITH. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE YOU START OFF, IT MATTERS WHERE YOU SEE YOURSELF GOING."

- WHAT ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR JOB?

I love that I get to work in the events industry. I love the fact that I get to talk to so many people and help them if I can. And I love the fact that I'm a team member – there's always someone looking out for me and guiding me, I'm not left to fend for myself.

- WHAT'S YOUR ADVICE FOR SOMEONE STARTING IN THIS LINE OF WORK?

There will be a lot of admin work – never ever run away from it! Do the paperwork... it will make your life easier.

MEENAL BUDKUH
HR COORDINATOR

MONTANA
FOOD AND EVENTS



- WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CHALLENGES YOU'VE HAD TO OVERCOME?

This is my first job after graduating so there have been a lot of challenges adjusting to what I learned and what actually happens in the workplace. When I first started, I was doing a lot of admin work and it was a challenge to adapt to those processes and find one that worked for me.

- WHAT'S YOUR ADVICE FOR STARTING OUT ON THIS CAREER JOURNEY?

Do the work, do it honestly and with faith. It doesn't matter where you start off, it matters where you see yourself going. I started as front of house and never thought I would end up as HR but here I am! You never know what's going to happen so as long as you're doing the work and doing it whole-heartedly, you'll definitely reach your goal.

- WHAT ARE YOUR ASPIRATIONS FOR YOUR FUTURE?

I feel like this is the first step in my dream but there's still work to be done. My bosses are really excited to see where I go and I'm excited to keep working with them. There's a lot of learning still to do. I feel like if you're ready to learn, you can really go a long way.

WORK-LIFE BALANCE

HOW DO YOU MAINTAIN A GOOD WORK-LIFE BALANCE?

I manage stress by going to the gym, I'm a Zumba instructor! It's also good to have friends outside of work so it's not just work friends I spend time with – I spend time with friends who are completely unrelated to work so I can just switch off and talk about something else. I love to go hiking as well or do something a bit creative – as long as you have some activities going on outside of work, it really helps you balance things. Oh, and having someone who listens to you of course!

As Meenal has displayed, balancing work with life is key! As awesome as the workforce is, it's important for our wellbeing to find middle ground between worktime and downtime.



Requirements may include:

- Diploma or Degree in:
 - human resources
 - finance
 - business management
- Professional qualifications in other relevant areas such as industrial relations, employment law, industrial psychology or business management may also be useful.