

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive
Adopted: August 24, 2010
Revised:

MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN III

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is a leadership position involving the performance of professional mental health activities at an advanced level in carrying out strength based psychotherapy in the process of helping clients with social, emotional and related difficulties associated with their mental illness or disability. The employee is expected to function with a high degree of clinical independence and judgment assuming a leadership role in the conduct of assessments, diagnosis and treatment of clients. This position is assigned the more complex and challenging clients who are in need of treatment. Additionally, the incumbent provides consultation and educational activities to staff members of the mental health clinic and to personnel of other agencies. Clinical supervision is provided to Mental Health Clinicians I and II and interns ensuring that the clinician is providing appropriate treatment and adhering to ethical guidelines. The incumbent does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

- Performs the intake and screening of new clients, evaluating and diagnosing which includes assessing strengths, needs, abilities, and preferences;
- Develops, in conjunction with the client, strength based treatment plans;
- Using accepted practice, provides services that are more challenging and that require a more advanced skill level via individual, group, and family therapy utilizing these modalities appropriately, and being mindful of length of stay;
- Provides clinical supervision to Mental Health Clinicians I and II and interns ensuring that the clinician is providing appropriate treatment and adhering to ethical guidelines;
- Serves on various committees with other community agencies and groups that are focused on special topics and issues;
- Chairs and/or serves on clinical committees and workgroups and prepares a variety of records and reports related to that work;
- Compiles comprehensive clinical evaluations for courts, members of the criminal justice system, and other agencies when needed;
- Oversees the planning for the orderly discharge of clients to the community after completion of treatment;
- Aids the Mental Health Services Coordinator in responding to psychiatric emergencies;
- Provides supervisory and administrative coverage in the absence of the Mental Health Services Coordinator;
- Maintains accurate, timely documentation over the course of the client's episode of care according to regulatory and reimbursement requirements;
- Provides consultation and education activities to the staff members of the mental health clinic and personnel of other agencies;
- Maintains the electronic chart by utilizing computer skills to enter assessment treatment planning and case notes and prepares notifications and correspondence;
- Meets productivity standards as determined by the department head.

Mental Health Clinician III

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of the practices and procedures of strength based psychotherapy;

Good knowledge of community resources and how to use them effectively;

Ability to work well with others;

Ability to organize work effectively and efficiently;

Ability to interpret federal, state and local laws affecting clinical practice;

Ability to demonstrate sound judgment and to practice within ethical parameters;

Ability to provide professional leadership and clinical supervision;

Exhibits computer proficiency in the maintenance of the electronic chart (typing, keyboard skills, & e-mail ability).

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

(a) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Doctoral Degree in Psychology and be licensed through the New York State Education Department to practice psychology and eighteen (18) months mental health experience in the assessment, diagnosing, and treatment of clients; or

(b) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Master's Degree in Social Work or a Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling and be licensed through the New York State Education Department to practice social work or counseling and five (5) years mental health experience in the assessment, diagnosing, and treatment of clients.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS: Eligibility for a license or limited permit to practice social work or counseling issued by the New York State Education Department at the time of application. Possession of a current license or limited permit at time of appointment.