

COUNTY OF SOLANO

MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN - REGISTERED

(Marriage Family Therapist Intern or Associate Clinical Licensed Social Worker)

Rev. 10/00

Under administrative supervision and technical direction of licensed staff provides mental health treatment services for mental, emotional and co-occurring disorders, including substance abuse and/or developmental disability and chemical dependency disorders in inpatient or outpatient settings, including assessment, diagnosis, crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, non-medical psychotherapy, and initiation of involuntary holds; provides and oversees both treatment and continuing care; prepares reports and maintains records related to client or client services; and performs related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Mental Health Clinician-Registered is the licensed-waivered entry and working level professional clinician. All job incumbents are registered for licensure as either a Marriage, Family Therapist Intern or as an Associate Licensed Social Worker. All work is performed within the limits of licensing and professional standards. Incumbents use established clinical methods and procedures for client assessment, planning and implementation of treatment plans, and non-medical psychotherapy. Clients served suffer from serious and persistent emotional, mental and/or substance abuse problems. The work is performed in accordance with the requirements as license-waivered mental health professionals with certain decisions and actions requiring sign off by licensed staff.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

1. Conducts clinical interviews to gather information, assess client needs, determine level of hazard to self or others, determine need for hospitalization, and develop diagnostic information.
2. Assists in the triage of clients, coordinates with other treatment staff including physicians, and evaluates the need for Welfare and Institutions Code section 5150 (“involuntary hold”) applications.
3. Prepares assessment and provisional diagnosis of mental illness, substance abuse, and other mental, emotional or behavioral disorders, including developing recommendations for level of care and service needs.
4. Provides crisis intervention and individual counseling for clients on clinical issues such as treatment and medication compliance, depression, substance abuse, etc.; leads and facilitates therapy groups with focus on clinical issues.
5. Provides individual and group therapy and social rehabilitative services that integrate client recovery and client/family centered services and values with clinical practice
6. Develops and implements written service plans with goals and objectives; designs and implements behavioral and treatment contracts for clients with difficult clinical issues and substance abuse.
7. Acts as primary service coordinator for a caseload of clients and plans, authorizes and coordinates provision of those services.
8. Provides case management services to mentally ill clients including out-of-home placements; determines suitability of treatment facilities or prospective foster parents based upon analysis of individual psycho-social needs.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES, Continued

9. Prepares reports and correspondence and maintains a variety of documentation, such as charting observed behaviors, treatment plan objectives, progress reports, discharge summaries, incident reports, and other data.
10. Drafts for approval legally required documents, temporary conservatorship applications, 72-hour involuntary detention, and fourteen-day holds.
11. Attends and participates in a variety of internal and external meetings such as daily treatment team report, clinical meetings, interdisciplinary case conferences, inter-agency meetings, etc.
12. Coordinates with caseworkers, probation officers, community and support services, and appropriate referrals for clients upon discharge; works with other agencies to obtain information, coordinate services, determine appropriate venue for service, provide training about mental illness, and related matters.
13. Assists clients with paperwork and enrollment procedures for various treatment and social support programs.
14. Assist in physically containing violent and/or combative clients.
15. May operate vehicles to transport clients between facilities or to perform field duties of monitoring service provision, working with clients or clients at other sites, and/or to coordinate with other agencies.

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; sufficient manual dexterity to perform repetitive motion in various duties such as: keyboarding, writing, filing, reaching and grasping above shoulder level; normal eye-hand coordination; body strength sufficient to lift and carry case files; corrected vision to normal range to read fine print and computer screen; corrected hearing to speak and hear sufficiently to communicate clearly over the telephone and in person; ability to use office equipment including telephones, calculators, copiers, facsimile, computers, and other related peripheral equipment such as printers and scanners. Some assignments may require strength to lift and move clients with appropriate assistance and color vision to distinguish medications and laboratory results.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed in a variety of office, clinic and field environments and includes continuous contact with staff and the public; may be required to enter private homes to make family home visits for purpose of investigation; work involves stressful situations and includes dealing with erratic and sometimes threatening behavior; may travel to community areas that are potentially dangerous where there is exposure to potential bodily injury, infections which may cause chronic disease or death; offensive odors; high noise levels; insect bites; dust and pollens.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- The principles, practices, techniques, trends and literature of clinical interviewing, casework, diagnosis, and assessment.
- Theories, principles and techniques of individual and group psychotherapy.
- Psychological, physical, and social aspects of mental disorders, chemical dependency, and recovery.

Knowledge of: (Continued)

- Theories of human behavior and personality and techniques of evaluating and modifying human behavior.
- Planning, development and implementation of comprehensive treatment plans.
- Federal, State and local laws, codes and regulations governing mental health and substance abuse treatment.
- Services and activities of public and private health and welfare agencies including referral sources and community resources.
- Basic techniques of supervision and training
- Use of automated equipment and standard office support applications software related to the work.
- Strength based consumer/family focused partnership service delivery models.

Ability to:

- Conduct accurate and thorough assessments of client status, history, danger to self and others, progress, chemical dependency, and related mental health information.
- Prepare diagnoses and evaluations of mental and emotional disorders.
- Conduct professional clinical interviews.
- Formulate, implement and monitor treatment plans.
- Conduct group and individual psychotherapy.
- Make referrals to other providers of mental health services.
- Respond appropriately in crisis situations.
- Understand, interpret and apply complex mental health technical materials and applicable laws, codes and regulations.
- Prepare complex and detailed reports and records.
- Communicate and interact in situations requiring instructional, persuasive, consultative, counseling and motivational skills in both an oral and written manner
- Provide training, guidance and consultation to other staff.
- Understand impact of cultural, gender or socio-economical status on manifestations of emotional distress and mental illness.
- Deal effectively with clients of various ages and socio-economic and cultural groups including those with physical and/or emotional problems.
- Establish and maintain professional relationships with clients, children, representatives or the community served, employees of County departments and other agencies and the public.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

No experience required.

Possession of a Master's degree in a field of study approved by the California State Board of Behavioral Science Examiners.

