

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: An employee in this class provides a full range of psychotherapy, counseling, case management and social work services to clients of the community mental health agency. This is the entry level position as a primary therapist in the Ulster County Mental Health Department. Clinical supervision is received from higher ranked clinicians at regularly scheduled sessions and on request, with considerable leeway allowed for the use of independent judgment and initiative in individual cases. Clinical supervision may be exercised over the work of students serving clinical internships within the agency. Administrative supervision is not a responsibility of an employee in this class. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title do not describe any individual position. Incumbents in this title may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.

Provides individual and group psychotherapy;

Provides group, individual and family counseling;

Provides full case management services to clients;

Identifies and utilizes all contacts and resources available to the client, including family, friends, employers, community agencies, social service agencies, etc., in order to establish an overall, or systems, approach to treatment;

Provides clinical direction and supervision to students;

Provides advice and guidance to peers on request;

Provides consultation to other agencies in areas where the employee has developed a specialty;

Gives presentations and lectures on mental health issues;

Attends staff meetings to exchange information and give/ receive supervision;

Establishes and maintains a liaison with a wide range of internal and external agency personnel in order to coordinate and maximize delivery of care;

Maintains records and prepares reports of a narrative and statistical nature as well as general correspondence;

Receives in-service training and keeps abreast of latest developments in the mental health field.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Thorough knowledge of the causes, effects and symptoms of mental illness and of counseling and psychotherapeutic techniques to treat those affected; thorough

knowledge of area mental health, medical, vocational, legal and social service providers and other available community resources and ability to effectively utilize these resources, in conjunction with direct clinical services, in an overall psycho-social approach to treating the client; ability to establish and maintain effective liaison with a variety of other service providers; ability to establish and maintain a rapport with mental health clients and their families; ability to maintain records and prepare narrative reports, statistical reports and general correspondence; ability to provide clinical supervision to students; willingness to participate in and benefit from in-service training; willingness to keep abreast of new developments in the mental health field related to mental illness; sound professional judgment; tact; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Current licensure as a Certified Social Worker by the New York State Department of Education and a Masters Degree in Social Work from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university including one year of clinical practicum or one year of post degree clinical experience if no practicum.

ULSTER COUNTY

5170 PSW

Classification: Competitive

Grade: 17

Union: CSEA

Adopted: January 19, 1990