

MENTAL HEALTH WORKER III

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is paraprofessional work involving the treatment and/or counseling or mental health clients, although an employee in this class may be assigned related duties in other functional areas (e.g. training programs). The work is distinguished from Mental Health Worker II primarily in the responsibility for crisis intervention and in handling and involvement in more difficult cases and situations. The work is performed under a program head, administrator or professional worker and supervision may be exercised over Mental Health Workers I and II and clerical personnel. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Interviews patients and their relatives to obtain psychosocial histories and assess the nature of the problems;

Responds immediately to suicidal and/or homicidal patients with appropriate intervention including counseling and contact with mental health professionals, police and other County agencies;

Provides routine counseling to patients and families with regard to psychosocial problems;

Provides supportive counseling, under supervision, to encourage patient cooperation and participation in all aspects of the treatment plan;

Prepares reports on intake and evaluation summaries and presents to psychiatrists, social workers, nurses and other professionals;

Assists staff clinicians by contacting public and private agencies to secure concrete services for patients, when necessary;

Participates in relevant supervisory and in-service training programs as well as appropriate inter-disciplinary team meetings;

Maintains records and applications and prepares statistical reports, as required;

May lead therapeutic groups; co-lead psycho-educational groups;

May organize and coordinate training programs in such areas as crisis intervention, suicide, etc., through role playing and lectures;

May, if properly licensed, transport clients on an occasional basis to health care and other service providers, clinics, other mental health facilities, etc.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the emotional and psychological stresses inherent in police work; good knowledge of intervention techniques for crises such as domestic violence, suicide, etc.; good knowledge of the services available through the Community Mental Health Center; ability to conduct training sessions and disseminate information concerning the above; ability to establish and maintain successful liaisons with local police departments and other professionals in the field; ability to conduct interviews and summarize material for case records; ability to speak before large groups; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Five (5) years of work experience in mental health activities involved in providing direct patient or client treatment. Experience in personal care, chauffeuring, clerical or other such work shall not be deemed as qualifying.

NOTE: Up to two (2) years of college may be substituted for experience on a one-to-one basis. A total of eighteen (18) college credits in Behavioral Sciences, Human Resources or Human Services courses may be substituted for an additional year of experience.

FOR PROMOTION: Two (2) years as a Mental Health Worker II.

R.C.D.P. (08.23.1990) 08.07.2015 - Job specification may be subject to further revision
Competitive