

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive
Adopted: October 31, 1989 as Senior Mental Health Clinician
Revised: May 16, 2018

SENIOR CLINICIAN

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position involves supervisory as well as responsibility for the performance of professional mental health activities at an advanced level in the process of helping individuals with social, emotional, and related difficulties associated with their mental illness or disability. Since the employee is expected to function with a high degree of clinical independence and judgment, the incumbent assumes a leadership role in the conduct of assessments, diagnosis, and treatment of clients, as well as provision of consultation and educational activities to staff members of the mental health program and personnel of various other county agencies. Supervision is exercised over the work of Social Workers, Mental Health Clinicians, and student interns. The incumbent does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Conducts intake and screening interviews with new patients, evaluating, and diagnosing their problems;
Participates as a team leader and clinician in individual, group, family, and marital therapy;
Supervises and provides mental health services to help clients adjust to their disabilities and social environment;
Refers clients to other agencies for assistance;
Supervises and coordinates various activity and treatment programs with other social agencies;
Compiles comprehensive clinical evaluations for courts, members of the criminal justice system, and other agencies requiring such assistance;
Oversees the planning for the orderly discharge of patients to the community after completion of treatment;
Aids the Mental Health and Addiction Services Coordinator in responding to psychiatric emergencies;
Collects and maintains appropriate data from various sources to be compiled in the client's case record;
Provides direct supervision and clinical supervision to professional staff and interns within the Clinic ensuring that they are providing appropriate treatment and adhering to ethical guidelines;
Coordinates the community consultation and education component of the mental health program and directly provides these services to agencies and community groups needing such services;
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;
Provides supervisory and administrative coverage in the absence of the Mental Health and Addiction Services Coordinator;
Maintains the electronic chart by utilizing computer skills to enter assessment treatment planning and case notes and prepares notifications and correspondence;
Prepares a variety of records and reports related to the work.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of the practices and procedures of mental health fields and social and psychological factors affecting various psychiatric disorders and disabilities;
Good knowledge of the functioning of community mental health facilities and scope of services rendered;
Good knowledge of community resources and how to use them effectively in relation to the mental health program;
Good knowledge of psychotherapeutic techniques and procedures related to mental health practices;
Ability to organize work effectively;

Senior Clinician

Ability to prepare technical and informational data for administrative use;

Ability to interpret federal, state and local laws affecting mental health programs;

Ability to prepare reports;

Ability to provide professional leadership and clinical supervision;

Ability to plan and supervise the work of others;

Ability to perform mental health services including diagnostic procedures;

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

Sound judgment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) licensure, and current registration, issued by the New York State Education Department and one (1) year of experience providing mental health treatment services after possession of the LCSW.

The minimum qualifications for receipt of your LCSW are mandated under Article 154 of New York State Education Law.