

## PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The duties of this class require psychotherapeutic skills in helping patients with social, emotional and related difficulties associated with their individual pathologies. Under the general direction of a higher level Psychiatric Social Worker, the incumbent determines the scope and type of work to be performed in helping the patient to adjust into his old or new environment. Employees in this class are expected to have contact with professionals of agencies in or outside the community to maximize service for patients. Performs related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Provides long and short term psychotherapy to individuals, families, couples, and groups;

Provides crisis intervention services and brief psychotherapy for suicidal adolescents and families who are experiencing trauma;

Responsible for professional evaluation, interpretation, diagnosis and treatment recommendations related to screening and intake;

Serves as a member of the interdisciplinary team to review all applications for appropriateness of request for services, the need for specialized evaluation and assignment;

Maintain records which include screening, intake reports, initial and comprehensive treatment plans, progress notes, case reviews, and termination summaries;

Responsible for evaluations, progress reports, and case summaries as they are provided to other agencies upon request;

Receives supervision monitoring process and progress of therapy cases;

Participates in inservice group therapy and family therapy seminars which meet to deal with problems related to therapy with groups and families;

Consults with other staff members regarding specific issues of cases which impact on the treatment of cases;

Performs a variety of related activities as required.

*Typical Work Activities are intended only as illustrations of possible types of work that might be appropriately assigned to an incumbent of this title. Work activities that do not appear above are not excluded as appropriate work assignments, as long as they can be reasonably understood to be within the logical limits of the job.*

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of and the ability to practice diagnostic and therapeutic techniques utilized in a Psychiatric Clinic; thorough knowledge of and the ability to apply the procedures of Social Work and of the social factors affecting mental health; good knowledge of personality development and of the factors which contribute to mental, emotional and social maladjustment (pathology); the ability to organize work

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effectively; the ability to interpret federal, state and local laws affecting the medical and health programs and the ability to prepare reports; the ability to work well and effectively with others, both within and outside of the agency; demonstrates a sensitivity in working with psychiatric patients; the responsibility for continuing professional education.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Master's degree in social work.

PLEASE NOTE: Education beyond the secondary level must be from an institution accredited or recognized by the Board of Regents of the New York State Department of Education as a post secondary, degree-granting institution.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Certification as a Social Worker by the New York State Department of Education must be obtained within two (2) years of employment.