

LINN COUNTY CLASSIFICATION

TITLE: MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST 2

NUMBER: 772a

PAY RANGE: 16

CATEGORY: MANAGEMENT/EXEMPT

APPROVAL ORDER

NUMBER: 2001-062

DATE: May 22, 2001

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES/JOB OBJECTIVES: This is an advanced level Mental Health Specialist classification. Employees in this classification perform professional mental health services to clients with mental or emotional disturbances, alcohol and other drug abuse problems, mental retardation or other developmental disabilities. Duties include client evaluations, case management, counseling, individual, group and family therapy. Additional duties may include community consultation and technical assistance to other agencies, community-wide or school-based prevention planning and program activities, clinical consultation to other clinicians.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the supervision of the Program Manager or a Supervising Mental Health Specialist. A person in this classification is expected to work in a highly independent manner.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: General or clinical supervision of other employees may be a regular responsibility of positions in this classification. The Program Manager may designate formal program supervision responsibilities and may assign clinical consultation duties in an area of particular expertise or specialization.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: A person employed in this classification must possess the capability to perform the following duties to be considered for this position. The duties are essential functions requiring the critical skills and expertise needed to meet job objectives. Additional specific details of these essential functions may be provided by the specific office or department job announcement, if applicable.

1. Perform client evaluations and record them in the client's chart.
2. Develop individual treatment or habilitation plans.
3. Provide leadership and represent the department at interagency habilitation staff meetings.
4. Provide education, technical assistance and consultation to other service providers, community groups such as community coalitions, schools and local task forces.
5. Provide information to prospective clients and the general public about the services available through this department and by other community agencies.
6. Provide client services and complete documentation of the services provided in accordance with department policies and Oregon Administrative Rules.
7. Develop and coordinate prevention activities among State, County, school and private agencies.
8. Provide individual, group and family therapy.

9. Provide after-hours emergency crisis intervention services to individuals and consultation and support to other community agencies.
10. Provide pre-commitment investigations of persons alleged to be mentally ill and recommend to the court whether a civil commitment hearing is warranted.
11. Perform court ordered commitment examinations, when properly certified by the State Mental Health and Developmental Disability Services Division.
12. Provide a broad clinical array of services to a wide variety of clients with no on-site supervision.
13. Develop and maintain effective, harmonious and reasonable work relationships with others.
14. Maintain regular and predictable work attendance.

OTHER FUNCTIONS:

15. Other duties as assigned.

RECRUITING REQUIREMENTS: (Additional specific details may be provided by the specific office or department job announcement, if applicable).

KNOWLEDGE, SKILL AND ABILITY: Knowledge of the principles and practices of community-based mental health, chemical dependency or developmental disability services. Advanced knowledge of prevention strategies or treatment modalities, counseling strategies and habilitation planning. Considerable knowledge of the functions of other health, social service and education agencies. Ability to learn and comply with the Oregon Revised Statutes, Oregon Administrative Rules, department policies and other regulations that apply to the program area to which assigned.

Professional level skills in performing client evaluations, counseling and case management services or prevention strategies. Ability to conduct thorough client interviews and evaluations and to correctly interpret and effectively communicate the information. Demonstrated ability to exercise sound clinical judgement in appraising complex situations plus the ability to develop comprehensive individualized treatment or habilitation plans. Ability to develop supportive relationships with assigned clients. Ability to write clear and concise reports and client evaluations. Generally, employees in this classification are provided less clinical supervision, are expected to perform with a greater degree of independence, and may be assigned regular clinical consultation to other Mental Health Specialists. In addition, these employees are expected to demonstrate increased initiative, greater productivity and more developed leadership abilities. Ability to develop and maintain effective working relationships with peers, supervisors and professionals in related disciplines.

Ability to use word processing as required by the position.

EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: Master's Degree in psychology, social work, counseling, or related field is required. Two years post Master's Degree supervised experience in a similar position.

Employees in the Mental Health Specialist 1 classification with a Master's Degree in a mental health related field upon a request for reclassification to the Mental Health Specialist 2 level will be reclassified to that level provided they are licensed or certified in a manner consistent with the Necessary Special Qualifications section of this description and their most recent Linn County Merit System Performance Evaluation Summary rating is "very good" or "outstanding".

NECESSARY SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a valid motor vehicle operator's license and an acceptable driving record at the time of appointment may be a condition of employment. Certain assignments may require certification by the State Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Services Division or the State Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, following appointment.

Classification as a Mental Health Specialist 2, in addition to the requirements listed in the Experience, Education and Training Section above requires Oregon licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor or Licensed Clinical Social Worker or certification as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor - Level Two or as a Certified Prevention Specialist by the Addiction Counselor Certification Board of Oregon. The latter two certifications apply only to positions in the Alcohol and Drug Treatment Program and require that the applicant's experience is similar to the duties and responsibilities that will be assigned.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work is generally performed indoors in multiple offices or clinic settings. Work may also involve travel to various community agencies, client homes and schools throughout the County. Work involves a significant amount of locomotion including operation of a motor vehicle and movement from the vehicle to the office, clinic, community agency or school. Requirements include the ability to see, talk and hear, sit stand and walk, bend and stoop, use hands to handle or operate objects, tools or controls, including use of a computer keyboard; reach with hands and arms and lift or move thirty (30) pounds.