

ADDICTION COUNSELOR

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position involves responsibility for the evaluation and counseling of addicts, alcoholics and their families in a therapeutic setting. General supervision is received from the Chemical Dependency Clinic Director. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only) Evaluates potential alcohol and substance abusers; Assumes primary responsibility for individual cases; Forms and facilitates therapy groups; Provides case-finding and outreach services for the entire county; Provides evaluation reports to courts, attorneys, and other accredited agencies; Keeps complete clinic records; Assists in training programs; Participates in human-service related community activities; Participates in regular case staffings and conferences; Works with schools, law enforcement agencies, and other service agencies.

FULL PERFORMANCE, KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of the pathology of addiction, belief in the capability of people to live drug and alcohol free, strong self-identity and emotional stability, non-drug abuser including alcohol, ability to motivate, take initiative, demonstrate dependability, honest, open, willingness to share personal experiences and insights, non-judgmental, willingness to take personal risks, ability to relate well to clients and other agency personnel, credibility in the community.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EITHER:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a bachelor's degree in the behavioral sciences or related field; Or
- B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a bachelor's degree in any area other than the behavioral sciences or related fields and one year of fulltime paid, or its parttime equivalent, social casework or social work experience; Or
- C. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of A and B.

NOTES:

1. Social casework work experience includes those activities that are directed toward enhancing a client's abilities to cope with and to solve problems and referral of clients to support resources and services. Functions include client assessment, problem identification, development, monitoring and revision of a plan for services, motivational support, counseling, crisis intervention, referral to social and support services, coordination of services.
2. Social work is generally directed toward promoting the effective operation of systems that provide people with resources and services. Functions include the development, management and evaluation of services programs, coordinator and consultation with other service providers toward an integrated and comprehensive delivery system program and policy analysis, advocacy development, planning and implementation and organization.

3. Experience which is custodial in nature and/or which involves primarily providing direct personal care to clients such as nursing, nurses aides, home health aides or similar positions are not considered social casework or social work.
4. Behavioral sciences are defined as psychology, sociology, and anthropology.
5. Certain assignments made to employees in this class require access to transportation to meet field work requirements made in the ordinary course of business in a timely and efficient manner. Usually this will require possession of an appropriate drivers licenses, however, those incapable of driving and/or obtaining a license will be considered if they can meet any field requirements of the job through other arrangements requiring only reasonable accommodation on the part of the employer.

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