

MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM CHIEF - NURSING

DEFINITION

Under general direction of the Mental Health Director, to direct the activities of the County's Mental Health Nursing Program Division, including personnel management, program planning and evaluation. Plan, organize, schedule, assign and supervise the work of Mental Health nursing staff, and other mental health support staff to this division; and to do related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is a single-position class, which oversees and directs the functions and activities of the Mental Health nursing division. Responsibilities include planning, organizing, directing, directly providing and supervising other nursing staff in providing and meeting essential medical duties to clients of the Mental Health Department and Sierra House.

REPORTS TO

Director of Mental Health or Assistant Director of Mental Health.

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

Psychiatric Nurse I and II, Psychiatric Technician, Registered Nurse I & II, Licensed Vocational Nurse, and other staff as assigned.

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EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

- Plans, schedules, assigns, evaluates and directs the functions of the Mental Health Nursing Division.
- Administers the programs and the work of professional nursing staff and other mental health support staff.
- Provides direction and oversight of Mental Health nursing programs and activities to clients, including the provision of direct services to clients.
- Develop and implement short and long term goals, objectives, policies, procedures and work standards for the Mental Health nursing services function.
- Maintain standards of health nursing programs, including securing medical approval of nursing practices as necessary and assuring that services are provided according to County, State and department regulations and policies.
- Advises staff on the interpretation and application of agency policies and applicable state and federal health laws and regulations.
- Develops programs and budgets for Mental Health Program needs.
- Develops information concerning community mental health needs, including the collection and interpretation of statistical data.
- Evaluates the effectiveness of current health policies and practices, and helps formulate new policies and practices.
- Performs program planning and development work, including MHP programs.
- Assists with grant development, administration, and compliance.
- Schedules clinic sites, times, and staffing; reviews medical records for release to other agencies.
- Reviews the assignment and referral of clients to nursing staff.
- Prepares reports and correspondence relating to the nursing division.
- Acts as consultant to outside agencies.
- Represents the Department with other government agencies.
- Collaborates with Primary Care Practitioners and Substance Use Disorder Providers in an effort to utilize and implement integrated healthcare models.
- Facilitates all aspects of the delivery of TelePsychiatry and other telehealth services.
- Participates in quality improvement activities as directed.
- Understands and implements the principals of the Wellness and Recovery Model at various sites, including Wellness Centers and clinics and with MH staff.
- Collaborates and works with Management Team members as assigned.
- Provides for methods to properly store, dispense, and manage medications and oversees other staff members in such matters.

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; ability to climb, stoop, crouch and kneel; lift and move object weighing up to 25 pounds without assistance; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

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TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is usually performed in an office, clinic environment or at Board and Care Facility; exposure to communicable disease; continuous contact with staff and public; provides services at various physical sites across the county as needed.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Principles, methods, and procedures of general nursing and mental health nursing, including psychotropic medications and side effects.
- Community mental health problems and issues and their relationship to the development and operations of programs and services to meet these needs.
- Federal, State, and County laws and regulations applicable to health programs.
- Causes, means of transmission, and method of control of communicable diseases, including sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS and tuberculosis.
- The sociological and cultural problems involved with providing services in a mental health nursing program.
- Program planning and development.
- Principles, techniques, and practices of business and health administration.
- Budget development and expenditure control.
- Principles and techniques of effective employee supervision, training, and development.

Ability to:

- Plan, organize, supervise, and administer the functions and services of the Mental Health Nursing Program Division of the Plumas County Mental Health Department.
 - Develop, organize, analyze, and interpret statistical data.
 - Provide direction, supervision and training for staff.
 - Develop and administer a budget and control expenditures.
 - Review the work of staff and resolve problems.
 - Be responsible for the development, maintenance, and preparation of health statistics, medical records, and reports.
 - Direct the preparation and prepare clear, concise reports.
 - Effectively represent the Mental Health Department in contacts with the public, community organizations, other government agencies, and other health care providers.
 - Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships.
 - Coordinate assigned activities with community organizations, other government agencies, and primary care providers.
- Use computers and Electronic Health Records systems and software.

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Training and Experience:

Five (5) years of professional experience in public or private health setting as a Registered Nurse; and two (2) years in an administrative or supervisory capacity.

A Bachelor of Science in Nursing, including completion of sufficient nursing and public health studies to obtain requisite licenses and certificates from the State of California, or an equivalent combination of education, experience, and licensure as a Registered Nurse.

Completion of a Master of Nursing degree or a Master's Degree in a related health field from an accredited program is desirable.

Special Requirements: Possession and maintenance of a valid license as a Registered Nurse in California and remain active with all annual licensing requirements.

Must possess a valid driver's license at time of application and a valid California Driver's License by the time of appointment. The valid California Driver's License must be maintained throughout employment.

All County of Plumas employees are designated Disaster Service Workers through state law (California Government Code Section 3100-3109). Employment with Plumas County requires the affirmation of a loyalty oath to this effect. Employees are required to complete all Disaster Service Work related training as assigned, and to return to work as ordered in the event of an emergency.