

MENTAL HEALTH NURSE

DEFINITION

To provide assessment, counseling and case management to clients with mental health problems or needs; and to perform related duties as assigned.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives direction from assigned supervisory and management personnel.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES - Duties may include, but are not limited to the following:

Interviews clients and others to obtain psycho-social history.

Obtains and evaluates data and reports regarding prior mental health problems, present behavior, personal and social factors and other information required for a working diagnosis and participates in diagnostic formulations.

Provides a variety of mental health services including case management, counseling advice on and referral to community resources available and the coordination of those resources.

Participates in the development and implementation of treatment plans.

Provides nursing assessment and monitoring of clients using therapeutic drugs as part of treatment plans.

Maintains records of drugs administered and client responses to the medication.

Provides nursing consultation for non-medical team members regarding the use of medications and physical disorders.

Responds to mental health emergencies involving crisis psychological evaluation on a rotating basis with other clinical staff on a seven-day-a-week, 24-hour schedule.

LANE COUNTY
Mental Health Nurse (Continued)

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Theories, principles and practices of mental health nursing.

General mental health concepts and a variety of treatment approaches.

Social and emotional behavior aspects of disease.

Dynamics of personal and social adjustments.

Use and actions of psychoactive drugs.

Crisis intervention strategies and involuntary treatment procedures.

Ability to:

Apply mental health principles and determine the mental status of clients.

Secure accurate and personal data.

Assess clients' needs and provide counseling.

Monitor and assess medical conditions.

Maintain complete and accurate records.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Experience and Training

Training:

Bachelor's degree in Nursing from an accredited college or university; college-level training and practicum experience in mental health or psychiatric nursing, counseling, or a related field.

LANE COUNTY
Mental Health Nurse (Continued)

Experience:

Three years of responsible professional mental health nursing and treatment experience.

An equivalent combination of experience and training that will demonstrate the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying.

Special Requirements:

Designation as a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP), and possession of a State of Oregon Registered Nurse license at time of appointment.

Update in Education, Experience, and Special Requirements approved by Human Resources Manager
10/20/05.