

JUVENILE GROUP WORKER

DEFINITION

To provide care, guidance and supervision of juveniles in a secure residential setting; to plan, develop and implement activities that enhance the growth and development of the individual child; and to perform related duties as assigned.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This is the entry/journey level in the Juvenile Group Worker series. Incumbents initially perform the more routine duties assigned to positions in this series and work under close supervision. However, as experience is gained, incumbents are expected to perform the full range of duties as assigned with increasing independence. This class is distinguished from the Senior Juvenile Group Worker in that the latter perform difficult duties assigned to classes within this series including the assessment and treatment of juveniles.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives supervision from the Juvenile Detention Manager, and technical and functional supervision from the Senior Juvenile Group Worker.

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

Supervises daily activities of detainees, including personal hygiene, meals, leisure activities and work activities.

Assists residents in making appropriate behavior and attitudinal changes based on information gathered through assessment and observation of specific situations and needs.

Observes and accurately records residents' behavior, attitude and responses for the courts and other involved professionals.

Provides individual and group assessments and participates in the development of short-term treatment plans and goals and individual and group activities.

Provides individual counseling and leads group counseling sessions, recording individual responses and group dynamics.

Maintains the security of the facility; conducts inspections and security checks and searches; supervises visitors, support personnel and volunteers when in the secured area of the facility.

LANE COUNTY
Juvenile Group Worker (Continued)

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Facilitates conflict resolution between peers; disciplines and physically restrains youths as needed.

Conducts orientation process for and assessment of incoming youths and assists them in making the initial adjustment to institutional life.

Consults with and assists counselors, caseworkers and other professionals in the department and other agencies involved with individual youths.

Instructs youth in social and life skills, physical exercises, academic skills and crafts.

Provides information and assistance to medical personnel; distributes medication; handles any medical emergency or crisis situation.

May provide lead supervision over assigned shift as necessary.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Principles, methods and techniques of individual and group counseling.

Theories of child and adolescent development and their application and an understanding of the dynamics of behavioral and emotional problems in children.

Crisis intervention and basic first aid techniques.

Household management, health, safety and personal hygiene.

Basic principles and methods of treatment for juvenile delinquency.

Ability to:

Maintain a safe and secure environment and anticipate and recognize threats to the security of the facility.

Assess and make sound and appropriate decisions regarding the method of intervention or treatment.

Make accurate assessments of children's behavior and attitude and document observations.

Ability to:

LANE COUNTY
Juvenile Group Worker (Continued)

Plan and implement activities that enhance the growth and development of children and meet their individual needs.

Effectively deal with angry, hostile, distraught or confused youth and gain their confidence and cooperation.

Instruct and teach children social skills, leisure skills and basic household skills.

Effectively handle medical or other emergencies and provide crisis intervention.

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:

Equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in psychology, counseling or a related field.

Experience:

One year of experience working with juveniles in a residential setting is desirable.

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