

LANCASTER COUNTY  
MENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN — CRISIS CENTER

9732

NATURE OF WORK

This is specialized human service work in an inpatient mental health setting utilizing group process and individual therapeutic methods to assist clients in resolving a variety of mental health problems, in a secure locked environment.

Work involves assisting in assessing patient treatment needs, assisting in providing individual patient and group programming activities, assessing client progress while at the Crisis Center, and assisting in developing and coordinating treatment plans. Work also includes maintaining client records including intake and discharge summaries, treatment plans and progress notes. Supervision is received from a higher level professional staff member with work being reviewed through conferences and effectiveness of treatment provided.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Perform intake interviews and assist in assessing patients' mental status and treatment needs.

Maintain security throughout the facility by accounting for each client, insuring all appropriate doors are locked, providing proper supervision of all clients, making responsible decisions which deter escapes and physically harmful behavior.

Use non-violent crisis intervention to deescalate and control aggressive behavior, participate in client body and room searches to insure there are no weapons or contraband on site.

Assist in developing and coordinating treatment plans.

Assist in providing group and individual therapeutic activities.

Provide testimony at Board of Mental Health hearings.

Maintain patient records including intake and discharge plans, treatment plans and progress notes.

Participate in the use of seclusion and restraint.

Supervise and monitor all patient visitation.

Monitor daily living activities of patients.

Identify and document all behaviors which appear dangerous to self or others.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Some knowledge of the sociological, behavioral and cultural factors influencing the behavior and attitudes of clients.

Some knowledge of human service agencies in the community as well as services provided by those agencies.

Knowledge of principles and practices relating to mental health security and detention.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with clients, co-workers and the general public.

Ability to maintain routine records of services provided and client progress.

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Ability to maintain physical control of a client.

Ability to lift 70 lbs. in conjunction with proper transfer and control techniques.

#### DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from a senior high school supplemented by specialized training in human services, mental health services, social work, psychology or related field with some experience interacting with patients experiencing psychosocial problems.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a senior high school with some experience/education in the delivery of mental health services that include interacting with patients experiencing psychosocial problems, or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the desirable knowledges, abilities and skills.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head

\_\_\_\_\_  
Personnel Director

6/2001

PS9732