

CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION

FLSA:	EXP	Job Code:	ACV78502
Job Class Code:	780	Salary Schedule:	AREG
EEO Category:	02	Grade:	19
Workers Comp Code:	8833		

Job Code Established:	04/13/82	Effective Date:	
Job Code Revised:	12/09/97	Effective Date:	

JOB CODE SERIES: Psychology, Mental Health, and Related Series

JOB CODE TITLE: MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST II

HRIS TITLE: MENTAL HLTH THERAPIST II

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS: Averages 20 or more hours per week in direct therapy service activities. Completes independent assessment of client/inmate needs; responsible for the selection of treatment method from alternatives; draws on complex theoretical background. Conducts individual, group, and family therapy, with individuals exhibiting moderate mental health problems, in a community based treatment or outpatient mental health program or with youth or adult inmates in a correctional institution mental health program; documents and records client/inmate progress; participates in treatment planning; conducts discharge planning; assesses and evaluates the psychological and social functioning of referred clients and inmates. Work product consists of functionally/psychologically improved client/inmate; written treatment plans, client/inmate histories, progress reports, correspondence in draft/dictation form; inmate discharge plans; consultation provided to security staff; psychological/psycho-social evaluations and assessments of inmates. Responsible for client/inmate well-being and improvement.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES: Conducts therapy sessions with individuals in accordance with individual treatment plans and specific methodologies and techniques. Carries out family therapy or counseling by meeting with family of client/inmate (usually including the client/inmate) on a regular or irregular basis and leading or moderating a discussion of problems and resolutions. Conducts group therapy sessions as leader or moderator. Devises or develops treatment or service plan for client/inmate, based on knowledge of client's situation, gained from interviewing and gathering case information. Writes or dictates evaluation or discharge summaries, treatment plans or progress reports relating to treatment of patients or clients in a therapy program. Confers with other members of the treatment or therapy team, discussing, planning and determining courses of action in client care.

Assesses and evaluates need for psychiatric treatment of referred inmates; recommends admission to treatment program. Gives and receives information requiring considerable judgment and authority regarding current and specific business of the work unit by telephone or direct contact. Confers with agency officials, staff members and representatives of other agencies to acquire information needed for immediate determinations or decisions. Reads incoming correspondence, memoranda or reports; plans and formulates response, subsequent action or routes to files or other destination. Confers with other practitioners and technical experts in own field of specialization, in order to broaden knowledge, acquire specific information or obtain advice or consultation. Discusses patient's or client's situation with family or relatives; attempts to evaluate resources in the family for support of client's treatment program. Confers with superior, presenting and resolving difficult problems or questions, discussing plans and actions to be taken, making decisions. Performs related work as required.

WORK CONDITIONS: Emotional stress; long periods of intense concentration; episodes or occasions of personal conflict. Some positions work with mentally ill inmates in a maximum security correctional institution.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of: effective methods and techniques of interactive treatment of persons with psychological problems or disorders; current concepts of basic human needs and responses; knowledge of needs and responses of persons who have specific psychological problems; behavior and social systems of prison inmates; state and community resources for assistance to persons with psychological problems; current concepts, theories and terminology

Skill/Ability to: therapeutic interaction with clients/inmates who have serious psychological problems; psychological evaluation and assessment; interviewing to elicit information; oral and written communication; work management.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION: Typical ways to obtain the KSAs would be:

- Master's degree in clinical psychology, psychiatric nursing, (psychiatric) social work, activities therapy or a closely related field of preparation for direct treatment of psychiatric patients or persons with psychological problems, and two years of practice in direct treatment of such persons; OR
- two years of work experience as a Mental Health Therapist I.
- Any combination of training and experience that meet the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) may be substituted.

SPECIAL SELECTION FACTORS: Selective certification may require knowledge and skills in psychological testing, in social work, in nursing or pharmacology, or in activities therapy.