

SOCIAL WORKER III

Nature of Work

Under general supervision, responsible for the planning, development and delivery of advanced social services such as group therapy, family therapy, or other intense therapeutic techniques to the client population. Caseload will be comprised primarily of multi-program, extremely troubled clients, protective service clients, families in severe crisis, or extremely troubled individuals in out-of-home placement. Exercises considerable latitude for independent action on the formation of service plans and the delivery of therapeutic interventions. Responsible for related administrative and operational aspects of caseload. May supervise other social work staff. Work requires the use of personal automobile for local travel. Employee is subject to being on-call during non-business hours. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

The Social Worker III is expected to exercise a large degree of autonomy in providing case assessment, case management and contacts in advanced level social work services. Caseload at this level involves complex situations with general client vulnerability.

Examples of Work

Interviews the client and family; contacts health and welfare professionals in order to assess the client's current behavior level, ego strengths and deficits, situational strengths and weaknesses, and mental status.

Prepares recommendations based on professional assessment of client's functioning level and on case history data of a social, emotional, medical, economic, and socio-cultural content.

Assumes a major role in the preparation of service/treatment plans, either alone or in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team of professionals from such areas as nursing, medicine, psychology, psychiatry, and chaplaincy.

Discusses the proposed plan with the client and/or family detailing the recommendations and the reasons for them; identifies alternative interventions and methods in order to ensure that there is mutual understanding about intervention goals and the kinds of services to be rendered.

Provides, with significant autonomy, individual, group or family counseling requiring intervention skills in situations involving complex interpersonal, social, financial, legal and health dimensions.

Monitors, assesses and reports client progress, and actively participates in or instigates the modification of service plans.

Acts as a client advocate and ensures that continuing or concurrent services are received.

Maintains liaison/linkage with, and assists in the development of community resources.

Through contacts with clients, community organizations, and other social service agencies, identifies deficiencies in existing service programs, and proposes alterations to ensure continuity of care.

Attends and participates in various meetings, conferences, training sessions, and workshops in order to exchange information, discuss cases, problems, policies, and procedures.

SOCIAL WORKER III (CONT'D)**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

Knowledge of the techniques and principles of social work.

Knowledge of human growth and developing the dynamics of behavior.

Knowledge of the historical development, principles, techniques and practices of modern social work.

Knowledge of the social factors contributing to maladjustment and dependency.

Knowledge of federal and state programs and functions as well as the laws and regulations relating to them.

Knowledge of community resources available for utilization in various welfare programs.

Skill in diagnosing cases, applying social work principles, formulating plans for client treatment and rehabilitation and securing active cooperation of the client.

Ability to establish satisfactory working relationships with clients and their families, agency personnel, public officials and private citizens.

Minimum Qualifications

Training: Master's degree in Social Work from an accredited college or university.

Substitution: Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Sociology, Psychology, Counseling, Criminal Justice, Behavioral Science, Interpersonal Communications, Human Services, Education, Special Education, Elementary Education, or Secondary Education from an accredited college or university and one year of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience as a social worker in a public or private health or human services agency may substitute for the required training **OR** Current West Virginia Social Work License.

Special Requirement: Eligible for Temporary Social Work License **OR** Licensed as a Social Worker, Graduate Social Worker, or Certified Social Worker by the West Virginia Board of Social Work Examiners.

Experience: Two years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience as a social worker in a public or private health or human services agency.

Special Requirement: Eligible for Temporary Social Work License **OR** Licensed as a Social Worker, Graduate Social Worker, or Certified Social Worker by the West Virginia Board of Social Work Examiners.

For Bureau for Children and Families

Training: Master's degree from an accredited college or university.

Substitution: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and one year of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience as a social worker in a public or private health or human services agency may be substituted for the required training **OR** Current West Virginia Social Work License.

Experience: Two years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience as a social worker in a public or private health or human services agency.

Established: 08/20/1992

Revised: 10/05/2000; 02/01/2001; 06/12/2015; 01/06/2016

Effective: 01/06/2016