

EMOTIONAL HEALTH THERAPIST

DEFINITION

Under the direction of the Lead Special Services Agent, the Emotional Health Therapist (EHT) provides comprehensive mental health services for students. Provides consultation and direct services for students with educationally related mental health needs. Responsible for training, monitoring, supervising, and evaluating the provision of mental health services. Provides consulting, direct mental health intervention, and services to students, parents, and school staff, addressing barriers that limit a student from receiving full benefit from their educational experience. Respond to referrals from school administration, parents, teachers, the Student Support Team, Special Education Department, and others by providing support and assisting families in accessing appropriate community resources.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Provide oversight and guidance to IEP teams regarding eligibility and placement in the least restrictive environment and Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS).
- Provide consultation services for staff and families on behalf of students with educationally related mental health services.
- Reviews all draft assessments where eligibility for emotional disturbance is being considered to review and discuss the appropriate determination of conduct disorder vs. emotional disturbance.
- Serve on student support teams and special education committees at assigned schools in the division.
- Review student records to identify previous barriers and/or interventions.
- Conduct parent interviews to acquire socio-developmental information as needed for special education referrals.
- Analyze information gained through record reviews and interviews to determine environmental impacts and appropriate resource needs; integrate gained information into a written report and oral presentation.
- Attend and participate in Manifestation meetings.
- Interview students and parents to discuss issues related to non-attendance and develop a plan of action.
- Assist the school in following school board regulations for excessive absences and truancy; attend student support team meetings and court intervention.
- Develop and implement professional development training for educational staff and parents, as requested.
- Provide individual and/or group counseling in response to school-wide crises.
- Participate in professional development activities aimed at current trends and best practices for the provision of comprehensive mental health services and intervention.
- Conduct home visits as a method to access the family and conduct interviews in response to school referrals.
- Maintain and provide linkages with school and community based resources to ensure that students and families have access needed educational, health, and mental health services, when appropriate.
- Perform related work as required

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of: Skills for direct and indirect mental health services including: counseling on an individual, group, or family basis; consulting with administrators, teachers, parents, and other professionals about student mental health concerns and appropriate strategies; and networking with school programs and community agencies to provide essential services for families and children; understanding of the knowledge, skills, and processes for effective casework practice; understanding of the mental health services, ethical issues, professional issues and standards; foundations of school psychology; understanding of child development, psychopathology, social and environmental conditioning, cultural diversity and family systems.

Ability to: Communicate and interact effectively with stakeholders: students, teachers, parents, colleagues, and community leaders; maintain all written documentation, including mental health individual rehabilitation billing documentation; utilize instructional technology tools and materials.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical requirements indicated below are examples of the physical aspects that this position classification must perform in carrying out essential job functions.

- Will frequently exert 10 to 50 pounds of force to lift, carry, push, pull or otherwise move objects
- Will sit, but may run, walk or stand for periods of time; will be required to bend, stoop, crouch, kneel, reach above shoulder level and/or to ascend/descend a step stool or step ladder
- Must possess the ability to hear and perceive the nature of sound
- Must possess visual acuity and depth perception
- Must be capable of providing written and oral information, both in person and over the telephone
- Must possess the manual dexterity to operate business-related equipment and to handle and work with various objects and materials
- Must be able to drive to and work at multiple sites on a daily basis

Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable a person with a disability to perform the essential functions of the job.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Experience: Three (3) years of experience providing behavioral health services including direct services, treatment plans, monitoring progress, and exit from services. Experience working with children as a mental health clinician with experience working in a public education setting preferred.

Education: Verification of Master's degree from an accredited college/university. Verification of Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist (MFT) or Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) or Licensed Clinical Psychologist.

Licenses: Possession of valid California driver's license

Condition of Employment: Insurability by the District's liability insurance carrier may be required.

03/26/2018