

JOB DESCRIPTION
Tahoe Truckee Unified School District

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER/MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

Purpose Statement:

The School Social Worker/Mental Health Specialist provides direct and indirect mental health support social work services to students experiencing social, emotional and/or behavioral problems that interfere with their performance in school, and facilitates communication among school, home and community providers. Responsibilities include: provide behavioral and emotional counseling to groups and individuals, individual short-term therapy, student counseling and crisis intervention services, student case management, and family support services, as needed. Support school site Coordinated Care Teams by identifying and providing mental health interventions, training staff on behavioral and mental wellness, supporting families with complex needs, and navigating student mental health referrals in the community. The School Social Worker/Mental Health Specialist is responsible to the Executive Director of Student Services and works under the direct supervision of the Coordinator of Wellness.

Essential Functions

- Assists students in identifying and solving behavioral, mental health, emotional and educational problems, adjusting to school life, and coping with life stressors that affect student wellness at school
- Provides short-term individual and group counseling to students who are experiencing social/emotional/behavioral problems that interfere with their learning or the ability of others to learn. Provides information to families and assists them in accessing long-term or intensive counseling services, as needed
- Provides social skills, anger management, stress reduction or other similar instruction to students who are experiencing social/emotional/behavioral problems that interfere with their learning or the ability of others to learn
- Develops and implements parent trainings to increase parent capacity and school engagement
- Assists school counselors in developing and implementing behavior management plans to remediate student problem behaviors
- Works in collaboration with school staff and participate in regular Coordinated Care Team meetings and Student Study Teams and Individual Education Plans as appropriate
- Communicates with staff, administration and parents concerning students' social, emotional and behavioral progress
- Communicates, collaborates, and links with community agencies in order to connect students and families with needed support services
- Consults and collaborates with social services, mental health and other community providers
- Provides trauma-informed, culturally responsive services to students and families
- Maintains accurate records of student, parent and other contacts.
- Conducts risk assessments

- Coordinates home, school and community resources in addressing the crisis situation and follow-up services as needed
- Maintains confidential files, records and documents for prevention related activities and outcomes
- Documents services according to Medi-Cal insurance requirements and standards.
- Maintains an accurate record of student, parent, and other contacts
- Other Job related duties as Assigned

Job Requirements & Skills

SKILLS are required to perform multiple, technical tasks with a need to occasionally upgrade skills in order to meet changing job conditions. Specific skills required to satisfactorily perform the functions of the job include: applying pertinent codes, policies, regulations and/or laws as related to worker compensation and employee benefits; communicating with diverse groups; operation standard office equipment including utilizing pertinent software applications; and preparing and maintaining accurate records.

KNOWLEDGE is required to possess a strong understanding of laws regarding minors and child abuse reporting; principles and techniques of psychological assessment, psychological consultation and service delivery models; therapy methods appropriate to meet the needs of students experiencing educational difficulty; psychological assessment and report writing techniques; demonstrate effective conflict resolution skills and the ability to deal with confrontational situations in a positive manner; provide written reports analyzing, interpreting and summarizing, observations and information from school personnel, students and parents; local community resources.

ABILITY is required to apply social work practices in a school setting; to relate to, connect with and build rapport with students; counsel students in individual and group situations; identify and implement age and need appropriate mental health services including classroom lessons, small group interventions, individual counseling and behavior coaching; communicate effectively and work collaboratively with school staff, students and community partners and work as part of a team effort; maintain confidentiality; stay calm under pressure and effectively serve students and staff in crisis situations such as child abuse, suicidal behavior, self-injurious behavior, and substance abuse; act as liaison between public and private agencies and county programs; willingness to take initiative and responsibility, and to function in an organized manner with a minimum amount of supervision; use good judgment when reaching decisions and to take responsibility for decisions made.

Responsibility

Responsibilities include: working independently under broad organizational guidelines to achieve unit objectives; managing multiple departments; and determining the use of funds. Utilization of significant resources from other work units is routinely required to perform the job's functions. There is a continual opportunity to significantly impact the organization's services.

Work Environment

The usual and customary methods of performing the job's functions require the following physical demands: Sitting for extended periods of time, occasional lifting, carrying, pushing, and/or pulling; some climbing and balancing; some stooping, kneeling, crouching, and/or crawling, significant fine finger dexterity, hearing and speaking to exchange information and make presentations. The job is performed under some temperature extremes and some hazardous conditions. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Experience:

Experience Providing Supervision to Interns or Unlicensed Social Workers
Experience in a School Setting is Preferred
Experience with Psychological Service Programs/Methods
Experience Collaborating with Community-based Organizations (CBOs) and other Local Agencies Preferred
Bilingual Preferred

Certificates & Licenses:

Possess a current, valid license as One of the following: ACSW, AMFT, APCC, LCSW, LMFT or LPCC
Valid Driver's License

Education:

Masters Degree in Social Work or Counseling

Clearances:

DOJ/FBI Fingerprint
TB Clearance

Required Testing

Successful Completion of Pre-Employment Process

Supervision: Coordinator of Wellness

Additional Qualifications

Ability to travel to other sites/locations

Salary Grade:

Range 104A Classified Management

Continuing Education/ Training

Training attendance at workshops as appropriate

Work Year: 195