

Behavioral Health Clinician

Reports To: Behavioral Health Director

Location: Yreka Behavioral Health Department

Salary: Depends on Experience

Summary: The Behavioral Health Clinician will independently provide assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, counseling and psychotherapy. The Behavioral Health Clinician must possess a license as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker or Clinical Psychologist and have clinical experience. The BHC shall network with a variety of community resources to increase the availability and cultural sensitivity of the delivery of services. The BHS will be based at the Yreka Karuk Tribal Health Clinic working closely with the Director of ICW/Family Services and be expected to work one day a week in Happy Camp. The BHS shall participate with professional and personal integrity as well as a team member providing continuity of care in compliance with AAAHC standards, and collect and analyze data for Organizational Improvement Activities.

1) What are your typical job responsibilities?

Provide a comprehensive 5 axis mental health assessment. Provide ongoing mental health therapy for both Native and Non-Native clients. I am also responsible for keeping confidential client records that are consistent with their treatment. I am further responsible for keeping up to date charts that meet HIPPA regulations.

2) How do you *really* spend your day?

I spend the first 30 minutes of my day organizing for the day and the next 8 hours providing individual therapeutic services for my clients. I have a short lunch and spend approximately 60 minutes with each client.

3) How do you organize your day to ensure you get everything done?

Every day is a challenge due to the numbers of people that need to be seen. Doing a daily organization is not as accurate as doing a monthly organization. I keep deadlines in mind and work from those dates. I ensure that I meet with all clients on time and offer full services to those clients during their 60 minutes.

4) What education/career paths lead you to this position? Were there any life changes that guided your way to this position (ex; closing of the mill, desire not to leave area, family)?

I have both a bachelor and master degree in Social Work. I also am a licensed clinical social worker. I have worked in this field for the past 10 years. There were no life changes that brought me here.

5) Uppers; what is the thing that you love most about your job?

I truly enjoy working within the clinic. I enjoy the staff and the clientele. I have a very nice office and am treated as a professional, which is not necessarily the case working in other employment in Siskiyou County.

6) Downers; what is the thing that you love least about your job?

The thing that I like least about this job is that I am the only therapist in this office. It is nice to be able to consult with an office mate at times if you are feeling a bit stuck with a client. Stuck means, that their situation is sometimes very difficult.

7) What inspires, excites, and/or motivates you in your job?

I truly feel inspired when my clients get well. I become excited when my clients are able to utilize coping skills that they have learned in session.

8) What does your average work week schedule look like (ex; hours worked, meetings, appointments, traveling, etc.)?

I work Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

9) How do you relieve stress?

I am part of a professional consultation group within the community. Being able to consult is a means of relieving stress. I also am skilled at leaving stressful situations at work.

10) Does your job include a lot of traveling? Do you enjoy it?

My job does not include much traveling. The only time I travel is when I have a meeting in Happy Camp or if I am going to a training.

11) What advice would you give to someone interested in this line of work?

Obtain all of your schooling and clinical hours prior to attempting to work with people in this quantity. Do many hours of practicum to ensure that you enjoy this type of work and learn how to leave problems at work.

12) What does a typical day in your world look like?

I come to work and hit the ground running. There are many people and staff that need clinical support from me. I offer my services to as many people as I can and leave the day exhausted. I then leave work and go work out.