



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD4479

JOB TITLE:	MHSU Access & Crisis Response Clinician	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	4479
CLASSIFICATION:	Disciplines Allied to Social Work P1	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	H-I-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	HSCIS NO.:	50001
UNION:	BCGEU	JOB/CLASS CODE:	50001
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Mental Health and Substance Use	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Coordinator		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: SI; CI - (Various Sites)		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority, patient safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone at VIHA; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

The MHSU Access & Crisis Response Clinician works as a member of a multidisciplinary team and within the organization's framework and standards to provide advanced clinical practice and interventions relating to triage, screening/assessment, urgent clinical response, short-term psychotherapeutic/ stabilization services, exploration of community resources and client needs, liaison and coordination with other community services and participation in planning priorities for service to adults with mental health & addictions problems.

Travel may be a requirement of this position. Transportation arrangements must meet the operational requirements of VIHA in accordance with the service assignment and may require the use of a personal vehicle.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. As a member of the multidisciplinary care team, provides advanced clinical practice and interventions in the community setting by:

- conducting initial screening and triage of incoming referrals, in consultation with on-shift partners, providing mobile crisis response in partnership with other crisis response staff when necessary;
- providing psychiatric/risk assessment, gathering collateral information, and exploring community resources with clients by phone, in the office, or on an outreach basis when required and as directed;
- facilitating the provision of short-term crisis stabilization follow-up, and referrals to other service providers where appropriate;
- proactively engaging in front-line community liaison with other service providers in the interest of enhancing continuity of care for clients;
- routinely updating information on community services frequently referred to;
- documenting observations, interventions and service outcomes in client records; and
- reviewing client records to monitor and evaluate care/treatment outcomes; and maintaining required statistical documentation.

- Under the direction of the Coordinator or designate, carries out quality assurance activities and projects, analyzing and acting upon information received through incident reports, evaluations and other data, including collecting and compiling statistical data for research and evaluation purposes and contributing to the development of outcome measures for Mental Health and Addictions Services.
- Communicates and shares information with community agencies and the public about mental illness and mental health and/or alcohol and drug addiction services, promoting good public relations and facilitating efficient and cooperative relationships.
- Provides advanced practice psychotherapeutic interventions, including cognitive-behavioral and solution focused therapy.
- Takes lead role in development of new programs, groups or services.
- Participates in orientation and training of new staff in advanced practice methods/interventions, and provides internal, local and regional training on specialized mental health & addictions issues as requested.
- Performs other related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Masters Degree in a health related discipline from an approved post-secondary institution. Two (2) two years' recent related experience in areas requiring frequent crisis intervention and risk assessment, such as policing, crisis counseling, paramedic or other similar work environment; thorough understanding of mental health and alcohol and drug addiction issues; psychiatric and suicide/homicide risk assessments, psychiatric and addictions treatment methodologies, crisis intervention and response techniques and strategies, the change process, and community dynamics; advanced knowledge of available programs and services, their interrelationships, and their function in delivering care in the community; knowledge of applicable legislation, such as the Mental Health Act, Child Protection legislation, and the Adult Guardianship Act; or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Valid BC Drivers License.

Skills And Abilities

- Advanced practice skills related to cognitive behavioral therapy, brief solution focused therapy, risk assessment and other psychotherapeutic interventions.
- Demonstrated interpersonal and clinical skills, including crisis Intervention, stabilization, de-escalation and brief psychotherapy.
- Demonstrated organizational, problem solving and teaching skills.
- Demonstrated judgment, good observation and client assessment skills, tact and empathy.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work professionally and effectively with very difficult/at-risk clients.
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of a multidisciplinary team and to proactively manage and resolve conflict.
- Ability to promote positive change and independence.
- Ability to prioritize and organize workload.
- Ability to carry out the duties of the position.
- Ability to foster good public relations.
- Ability to operate a personal computer with a variety of windows based software and other office equipment.