



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD4971

JOB TITLE:	Case Worker	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	4971
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:	Enhanced Discharge Team	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Coordinator		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA South Island Health Services Delivery Area		

JOB SUMMARY:

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

Under the administrative direction of the Coordinator, and a part of the therapeutic team under the Clinical Director, the Case Worker is responsible for providing primary therapeutic, case management and mental health support services for assigned clients, whether they are in hospital, residential or other community settings. Such services are provided where and as required, in accordance with care plans agreed to by the multidisciplinary clinical team, the individual and family.

Travel may be a requirement of this position. Transportation arrangements must meet the operational requirements of Island Health 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 multi-disciplinary clinical team develop, implements and revises treatment and care plans for the individual clients.
2. As the primary contact with the client in the community, conducts ongoing assessments of the client's condition and determines the client's needs, including identifying early symptoms of relapse, by:
 - meeting directly with the client, and observing the client's symptoms;
 - visiting the client's home, or social environment, and observing conditions;
 - talking to family members and friends, physicians, caregivers and others, when appropriate.
3. Provides direct service, counselling, or assists the client to access services to deal with personal issues such as medication managements, problem solving, crisis management, nutrition, person/physical health, money management, personal and environmental hygiene, training in daily living and coping skills, family and other interpersonal relationships.
4. Identifies the client's needs for economic and community support and arranges access to services, or provides direct support in the area of housing, advocacy, financial support, money management, social and recreational activities, education, vocational training and placement.
5. Arranges access to specialized services such as substance abuse, forensic/legal mental handicap, brain injury and other organic mental disorders.

6. Provides advice and information to caregivers, family members and other clinicians as necessary.
7. Identifies the need for and arranges transitional services for clients being discharged from hospital.
8. Participates in the delivery of psycho-educational and support group treatment programs in collaboration with other inpatient and outpatient staff.
9. Communicates with the rest of the clinical team to provide information on the client's status, arrange for or follow up on specialized services, or recommend changes to treatment and care plans.
10. May recommend client admission or re-admission to hospital, or discharge from program.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Requires baccalaureate degree in a mental health-related discipline, and eligibility for licensing or registration in a professional association related to mental health care, plus two years of recent related experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Valid Class 5 BC Driver's License.

Skills And Abilities

- Clinical understanding of affective disorders, schizophrenia and other serious psychiatric disorders and their treatment, using a comprehensive biopsychosocial model of care.
- Ability to work in an outreach case management modality.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary team.
- Ability to deal effectively with a wide range of community and facility contacts, including patients/clients, families, Island Health Staff, physicians, psychiatrists, community and public agencies.
- Ability to organize work effectively, establish and carry out priorities to meet critical deadlines.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing.