

MUSIC THERAPIST

DESCRIPTION: Under general supervision, plan, deliver and coordinate medically-approved music therapy services to residents, members, or patients at a 24-hour care facility. Incumbents may supervise or coordinate music therapy services with non-professional and para-professional therapy personnel; performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (A position may not be assigned all the duties listed, nor do the listed examples include all the duties that may be assigned.)

Plans, organizes and conducts music therapy sessions to improve and maintain residents' mental, physical, emotional and cognitive well-being.

Designs music sessions for residents, members or patients based on needs using music improvisation, receptive listening, song writing, lyric discussion, music performance and learning through music.

Provides leadership/supervision to subordinate or other professional personnel carrying out music therapy activities.

Conducts resident, member, or patient assessments using medical records, medical staff, family members and resident input to evaluate level of functioning to reflect social needs, abilities, and interests for placement in music therapy programs.

Develops treatment plans to meet the needs of residents based on needs assessment, interest and objectives of music therapy activities.

Attends and actively participates in treatment team meetings to discuss and provide input to resident, member, or patient progress and therapy programs.

Observes, analyzes and records residents' participation, reactions, behavior, and progress during treatment sessions; maintains records and prepares reports and charts to reflect reactions and evidence of progress or regression.

Escorts and supervises residents, members, or patients in activities related to music therapy off of the campus grounds.

Oversees the use and care of equipment and supplies used for music therapy activities; may perform minor maintenance on equipment and maintain inventory of equipment and supplies used for music therapy activities.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED: (These may be acquired on the job and are needed to perform the work assigned.)

Knowledge of: principles and methods of music therapy activities; human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality and interests; learning and motivation; assessment and treatment of behavioral disorders; principles and methods for treatment and rehabilitation of physical and mental dysfunctions; principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups and measuring training effects; community resources available to the therapeutic activity program.

Ability to: plan, organize, lead, and adapt activities to resident, member, or patient needs; express ideas clearly and concisely, orally and in writing; listen and understand information and ideas presented; read and understand information and ideas presented in writing; coordinate activities of residents, members, patients and/or other therapy personnel.

Skill in: talking to others to convey information; using logic to identify alternative solutions or approaches to problems; time management.

ENTRY KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED: (Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance, and/or other evaluations.)

Knowledge of: principles and methods of music therapy activities; human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality and interests; learning and motivation; assessment and treatment of behavioral disorders; principles and methods for treatment and rehabilitation of physical and mental dysfunctions; principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups and measuring training effects; community resources available to the therapeutic activity program.

Ability to: keep records and compile reports; form effective therapeutic relationships with residents, members, or patients to help them empower themselves; establish caring and professional relationships with people of all ages and abilities; obtain and maintain resident, member, or patient interest and participation in activities; communicate effectively with residents, members, or patients and all facility staff; employ empathy, patience, creativity and imagination to develop and direct music therapy activities.

Skill in: planning and conducting music therapeutic activities; effectively deterring deviant resident, member, or patient behavior; instructing residents and subordinate personnel how to perform an activity; observing, documenting, and evaluating resident, member, or patient behavior.

JOB PREPARATION GUIDELINES: (Entry knowledge, skills and/or abilities may be acquired through, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, the following coursework/training and/or experience.)

Any combination of training and/or experience that will enable the incumbent to possess the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. A general qualification guideline for positions in this class is a Bachelor's degree in Therapeutic Recreation or related field with an emphasis in music therapy or music education plus some related work experience. Music Therapist Board Certified or certification eligible preferred. Must obtain certification within one year of employment.