

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM SPECIALIST

CLASS CODE: C72680

DESCRIPTION: Under limited supervision, performs professional level survey, review, advisory, and technical assistance work in developing, implementing, and evaluating service needs, goals, programs, and resources to ensure access to and delivery of mental health, substance abuse, and domestic violence services for deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing clients. Incumbents conduct presentations, provide intervention services, and inform deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing persons of the availability of mental health and treatment programs; performs related work as required.

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

Assesses, monitors, and determines appropriate resources necessary to serve deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing clients in mental health and treatment settings.

Monitors and reviews mental health treatment activities and provides technical assistance to ensure services are accessible for deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing clients.

Organizes educational training programs and public information services for deaf, deaf/blind, and hard of hearing clients, service providers, sign language interpreters, and other interested persons regarding mental health treatment options.

Coordinates and oversees the mental health advisory committee and serves as a liaison to confer with local, state, and federal administrators regarding, but not limited to, mental health, substance abuse, and domestic violence programs and funding sources.

Collaborates with the Department of Health and Human Services to define criteria and standards for access to mental health, alcoholism, and drug abuse treatment programs by eligible deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing persons.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED: (These are needed to perform the work assigned.)

Knowledge of: the mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, and treatment field; deafness and the deaf community; the principles and techniques of planning and monitoring human service programs and service delivery systems. State statutes and regulations relevant to the delivery of services at local, state, and federal levels; regional and local delivery systems and programs pertinent to the deaf or hard of hearing community; funding resources and program reference materials.

Ability to: communicate effectively with hearing, deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing persons on a variety of topics; ability to collaborate with all stakeholders from co-workers to senators; interact, communicate, and advise regarding accessible treatment of deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing persons; review, revise and make recommendations on agency policies and procedures regarding deaf, deaf/blind or hard of hearing clients as needed; educate, design and implement a system service delivery plan; determine appropriate resources and develop recommendations; plan and implement programs and delivery systems that comply with federal and state laws and regulations; advise local, state, and regional service providers regarding quality and accessible services.

Skill in: evaluating and consulting on mental health, alcoholism, and drug abuse treatment options for deaf and hard of hearing persons; and the fluent use of sign language; and sign language interpretation.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: (Applicants will be screened for possession of these qualifications. Applicants who need accommodation in the selection process should request this in advance.)

Bachelor's degree, or equivalent coursework/training, in counseling, social work, public administration, social/behavioral science, healthcare, human services, or other related field AND three years of experience in social work or providing services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Related experience may substitute for the education requirements on a year for year basis.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Positions in this class are required to be fluent in sign language or to become fluent upon hiring.

State agencies are responsible to evaluate each of their positions to determine their individual overtime eligibility status as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).