

DESCRIPTION: Under general supervision, performs professional work in providing assistance to clients who are experiencing personal, social, educational, or vocational needs in an adjustment to a Deaf and Hard of Hearing clients. Incumbents perform a variety of duties in a casework setting. Supervision is received from the agency director and other management personnel; performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS: (A position is assigned to this class based on the scope and level of work performed as outlined below.)

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.)

Develops and maintains a client referral system and action plan to identify individuals who have personal, social, educational, or vocational needs to Deaf and Hard of Hearing clients and to assist clients' efficient access to resource services.

Evaluate client needs, monitors the effectiveness of client rehabilitation programs, and recommends revisions to ensure adequate programming that meets client needs and to improve and enhance the performance level of the individuals.

Functions as a resource contact person for existing service programs available to Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons; provides input on the need for additional services.

Provides personal, social, educational, and vocational counseling/advising to individuals and to organizations.

Plans, conducts, and participates in awareness workshops, presentations, or programs to develop public awareness of the various needs experienced by Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons.

Assists other staff in the coordination and preparation of the agency newsletter and articles/information for other public information sources.

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

Knowledge of: state and federal laws that impact deaf and hard of hearing persons; deaf community issues; the language of the deaf community; deaf education methods and issues; advocacy issues and the role of a field representative; hearing aids and other devices available for deaf and hard of hearing persons.

Ability to: understand and use the language of the deaf community; plan and organize rehabilitative programs; communicate with a variety of consumers using a variety of communication modes; effectively evaluate the progress of clients in a rehabilitative setting; promote services provided by the Nebraska Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission to the public; conduct workshops and presentations; teach sign language classes.

Skill in: evaluating and determining the needs of deaf and hard of hearing persons; communicating with deaf and hard of hearing persons using a variety of language levels; public relations and presentation techniques; planning activities and organizing volunteers.

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

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 a behavioral science or related field plus work experience in programs for Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons. Proficiency in communicating through the use of sign language.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS: (These qualifications are mandated by federal/state laws, statutes, and/or regulations.)

SPECIAL NOTES:

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).