

Mental Health Specialist

REPORTS TO: Family Engagement Director

FLSA STATUS: Exempt

STATUS: Full-Time

SAFETY SENSITIVE: Yes

Job Summary:

Responsible for assisting with planning, developing and implementing Mental Health content area, including analyzing, providing feedback concerning Content systems within the Head Start Program. Participate as team member and in Community Networking. Conduct self in a professional manner. Assist with developing and managing content contracts, collaborations, and memorandums of understanding as needed.

Essential Functions:

The Mental Health Specialist will ultimately be evaluated on a combination of skills, dispositions and behaviors, some of which are related to the specific service area of this position and others that represent general expectations of all our agency employees.

The Mental Health Specialist responsibilities chiefly fall within the following essential functions, although s/he may perform other tasks and/or duties as assigned. The Mental Health Specialist will demonstrate competency to perform essential functions that include:

- Plans and assures quality program policy and procedures are provided and meet all current trends regarding evidence-based practice techniques and brain research as well as compliance with codes of all local, state and federal agencies.
- Support classroom staff with guidance for classroom interventions
- Consultations with families regarding mental health and behavioral concerns
- Attend site child and family staffings as needed.
- Establish and maintain effective recordkeeping and monitoring systems to assure program quality.
- Provide workshops, training and/or technical assistance in disabilities, behavioral, mental health wellness and child development topics that is research based to staff, families, and community in large and small group settings or individually as needed.
- Communicates effectively with co-workers and community members. Attend and/or facilitate meetings to meet the needs of the program area.
- Promote consistent exchange of information in all directions by communicating in a professional manner through verbal/written means while maintaining confidentiality at all times.
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Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in ECE, mental health, special education or related field;
- Two years implementing Mental Health Services in a preschool setting.
- Two years assisting families in obtaining resources, working with low-income, culturally and linguistically diverse families.
- Two years participating in committees and workgroups.
- Advanced computer skills including Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Access, internet, email.
- Arizona's driver's license, proof of insurance, fingerprint card, Social Security card, CPR & First Aid and provide a vehicle for program business.
- Health Questionnaire is required at hire and will be updated every 3 years.
- Employee must be able to speak, read, write, and understand English.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Knowledge in Head Start Program Performance Standards, ECSE, and ADE regulations, adult learning styles, monitoring procedures, and legal requirement required.
- Possess excellent oral (to include public speaking) and written communications required.
- Demonstrate the understanding of CPS reporting system, signs and symptoms of child abuse and neglect.
- Work collaboratively under critical time frames and work with complex and sensitive information.

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Physical Requirements:

Able to perform the following physical requirements of the position with or without reasonable accommodation: critical sensory requirements include general vision; specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus. Hear or listen in the normal range (corrected) and speak and give directions clearly. Able to walk, sit, stand, kneel, crouch, crawl, reach, lift, carry, push, pull or otherwise move objects up to 10 lbs., and occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds.

Working Conditions:

Work is performed in a classroom/office setting where minimal exposure to injury exists. Hours of work will generally be during regular business hours and average at least 40 hrs per week. There will be work variations in work hours due to employee special projects, deadlines, and other concerns. PGCCS employees have the possibility of exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials through collateral duty to their routine work assignments, such as rendering first aid if need arises, and seldom exposure to vibration, toxic conditions, odors, dust, mold and poor ventilation.

Acknowledgements:

This job description describes the general nature and level of work performed. The employee may be required to perform other job-related duties. All requirements are subject to change over time. I am fully qualified for this position and can perform the duties as described. I understand that PGCCS is an Affirmative Action/EEO/At-Will Employer and that PGCCS reserves the right to revise this job description as necessary.

I acknowledge that this job description is neither an employment contract nor a legal document. I have received, read, and understand the expectations for the successful performance of this job and my questions have been answered thoroughly.

Employee Signature

Date