

SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

DESIGNATED CRISIS RESPONDER

Spec No. 2113

BASIC FUNCTION

To conduct investigations for involuntary mental health and substance use treatment under RCW 71.05 and RCW 71.34.

STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES

1. Conducts investigations and evaluations of mentally ill individuals for involuntary commitment and detains individuals when legal criteria are met and commitment is appropriate.
2. Assesses behavioral health emergencies and provides crisis intervention for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis in the community.
3. Works collaboratively with behavioral health agencies, psychiatrists, emergency departments, inpatient units, residential facilities and other referral sources to assure the best outcome for each individual in need of behavioral health services.
4. Coordinates and facilitates arrangements necessary for the holding of probable cause hearings for patients hospitalized in our county in need of continued involuntary treatment; provides court testimony concerning patient's need for further involuntary treatment.
5. Performs ongoing community training regarding involuntary treatment.
6. Contacts appropriate hospitals for admissions, provides screening information and arranges for transport as needed.
7. Participates in the ITA Court process and provides relevant information to prosecuting attorneys and others authorized through the judicial process.
8. Maintains necessary records and files as well as statistical information on all program activities.
9. Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

A master's degree in social work, clinical psychology, psychiatric nursing or related field; PLUS, two (2) years of experience in the direct treatment of mentally ill clients; OR, any equivalent combination of training and/or experience which provides the required knowledge and abilities. PLUS, a valid and current license as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Licensed Social Worker or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Must pass job related tests.

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SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

A valid State of Washington Driver's License is required for employment.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT

Due to a potential conflict of interest any secondary employment within the behavioral health field needs to be approved by the employer.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- abnormal human behavior, symptomatology and treatment modalities of behavioral disorders
- counseling techniques and methods
- available community resources
- legal parameters and procedures concerning commitments

Ability to:

- respond effectively in crisis situations
- relate to severely disturbed and/or difficult persons in order to determine appropriate behavioral health services
- gather and analyze pertinent data
- establish and maintain effective working relationships with staff of state and local hospitals, staff and officials of community organizations, associates and the general public
- diagnose behavioral disorders and determine need for mental health or substance use disorder services
- maintain detailed records and prepare clear, concise written reports
- maintain confidentiality and work within HIPAA parameters

SUPERVISION

Employees report to the Involuntary Treatment Supervisor or other administrative superior as assigned. Employees work independently on specific assignments which are completed in accordance with established guidelines, practices and regulations. Work is reviewed through meetings, status reports and results obtained.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The majority of the work involves site visits to residences, hospitals, mental health agencies and detention facilities. Some work is performed in the usual office environment. The employee may be required to work evenings, weekends and holidays to provide 24 hour a day, 7 day

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coverage.

Snohomish County is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer.
Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are provided upon request.

[EEO policy and ADA notice](#)

Class Established: 1980

Previous Spec No. 370343

Revised: April 1988, September 2010, September 2014

Revised and Retitled: February 2014, Mental Health Professional

Revised: January 2016

Revised and Retitled: April 2018, Designated Mental Health Professional

EEO Category: 2 - Professionals

Pay Grade: 242 - Classified Pay Plan

Workers Comp: 5306 Non-Hazardous