



**PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
JOB DESCRIPTION**

JOB TITLE: Mental Health Clinician
CURRENT CLASSIFICATION/GRID: SPO 24 (SPO 25 as of April 1, 2007)
CHIPS #

NOC CODE:

JOB TITLE OF IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR **SUPERVISOR'S CLASS/GRID** **CHIPS #**

BRANCH **DIVISION** **LOCATION**
Child & Youth Mental Health Provincial Services Division

PURPOSE OF UNIT:

The Child and Youth Mental Health Program provides specialized mental health assessment and treatment services to children, youth and their families when the child or youth are suffering serious emotional, psychological, behavioural and/or psychiatric illness. Specialized services also include community development, consultation, coordination, education, and contract management.

PURPOSE OF JOB:

Under the direction of a clinical supervisor, works as a member of a multi-disciplinary Community Mental Health Team. In coordination with other community agencies and professionals, provides a range of mental health services, including: direct clinical services such as intake, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and crisis intervention; consultation/liaison with community agencies, schools, hospitals, and other MCFD programs; involvement in community education, development, coordination and prevention/early intervention programs; and program development and evaluation.

JOB DUTIES AND TASKS:

70%

1. Provides a range of direct clinical services to children/youth with serious emotional/behavioural disorders, their families and caregivers:
 - a) Undertakes bio-psycho-social assessments including mental status exams
 - b) Completes provisional diagnoses (according to DSM IV) for the purpose of developing treatment plans
 - c) Develops treatment plans
 - d) Provides individual, family, and/or group therapy to children/youth and their families
 - e) Functions as a primary therapist, utilizing a variety of specialized treatment modalities and therapies, for children, youth and their families
 - f) Monitors treatment and/or care plans
 - g) Evaluates treatment outcomes
 - h) Provides counselling/support/education to families and other relevant caregivers of such children to understand the nature, treatment and prognosis of the mental health condition of the child/youth and assist with methods of coping.
 - i) Consults/liaises with community professionals

- j) Maintains basic knowledge of psycho-tropic medications as prescribed by a physician, maintaining an awareness of the effects of such medications
- k) Maintains appropriate clinical/client/administrative records.

15%

- 2. Provides a consultative/educative service to community agency staff and other service providers who provide services to children and youth with emotional and behavioural disturbances, including physicians, schools, foster homes, child protection, day-care facilities, infant development programs, family centres, probation offices, hospital staff and other health care workers:
 - a) organizes/participates in information/education sessions
 - b) organizes/participates in workshops
 - c) encourages the development of mutual support forums

10%

- 3. Through local committees and advisory structures and in collaboration with other agencies, community professionals and regional authorities, participates in the ongoing planning, development, evaluation and modification of a comprehensive range of services including prevention programs for children and youth.

5%

- 4. Performs other duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS POSITION

Education:

MSW (Clinical Specialization or equivalent training/education), M.ED (Counselling), MA (Clinical Psychology), Masters Degree in Child and Youth Care or comparable graduate degree at Master's level.

Required experience:

Minimum two years clinical experience working in child and youth mental health services, with responsibility for providing a wide range of community based mental health services.

Knowledge:

- Child and youth psychological, social and cognitive development
- Major behavioural, emotional and mental health problems and disorders of children and youth
- Professional ethics and approaches to resolve ethical dilemmas in the work with clients.
- Diagnostic & Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders
- Well established accepted practices and evidence based clinical intervention methods and their appropriate applications
- Psychotropic medications used with children and youth and their side effects
- Integrated Case Management

Skills and Abilities:

- Function independently as a primary therapist demonstrating sound clinical judgement in the assessment and treatment of children and youth with mental health conditions and disorders;
- Provide comprehensive assessment and treatment planning;
- Provide individual, group and family therapy;
- Ability to apply professional ethics to the general work situation;
- Apply essential skills to conduct suicide assessments and crisis interventions;
- Administer and score mental health-related test instruments appropriate to the profession;
- Establish and maintain effective collaborative and constructive liaisons/relationships with a variety of individuals and groups, including clients & families, physicians, schools, hospitals, other agencies, etc. in order to coordinate services across the continuum of child & youth mental health services by seeking input, securing co-operation, resolving conflicts, influencing outcomes and providing community consultation and education related to child and youth mental health issues;
- Prepare and deliver appropriate, clear and concise communications, both orally and in writing, to a range of internal and public audiences;
- Ability to work in a computerised environment.

The following knowledge factors must be learned on the job within the first six months and will be assessed through the individual Employee Performance and Development Plans:

- Knowledge of the Child and Youth Mental Health Plan for British Columbia and related mental health service delivery systems in the province.
- Knowledge of community, regional, cross regional, and provincial child and youth mental health services including how to access/refer clients to available resources.
- Knowledge of relevant legislation including British Columbia's: Mental Health Act, Infants Act, and Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act.

Salary will be based on child and youth mental health experience, knowledge, skills and abilities, and your training requirements.

NOTE:

- Transportation arrangements must meet the operational requirements of the ministry.
- May be required to use own vehicle on an expense account basis
- Will be subject to satisfactory reference check, as well as criminal records review and police record checks
- Successful social work candidates are required to seek and obtain clinical registration with the Board of Registration for Social Workers (BRSW) within 6 months of having completed the required 3000 hours of supervised clinical practice.