

RECREATION THERAPIST, LEAD

KIND OF WORK

Professional lead recreational therapy work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under general supervision, an employee in this class assesses the recreational and leisure needs of residents in a Regional Treatment Center and develops specific therapeutic activities to address those needs. Provides on-going technical direction and administrative lead work to professional and para-professional Recreation Therapy staff in a large disability program. Performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Provides on-going administrative lead work direction to Recreational Therapy professional and para-professional staff to ensure meaningful recreational activities that fulfill residents' therapeutic goals.

Provides on-going technical direction to professional and para-professional staff in the development and implementation of recreation programs to ensure a focus on program goals. This is accomplished by clarifying program goals and implementation approaches, directly observing program implementation, and enacting corrective actions.

Plans, schedules and implements facility wide recreational and leisure activities so that residents are offered a wide range of recreational opportunities. This is accomplished by planning activities and assigning segments of the activities to other Recreational Therapists and directly implementing other segments.

Assigns and reviews recreation plans and activities developed by Recreation Therapists so that residents may participate in meaningful recreational and leisure activities that support treatment goals.

Assesses individual residents' recreational and leisure needs to provide a basis for individual program planning. This is accomplished through analysis of interests, needs, and skills.

Plans and implements therapeutic recreational, leisure and social activities for residents to ensure that clients' needs are addressed. This is accomplished by directly observing residents, conducting assessments, reviewing literature to identify effective methods, consulting with other recreational professionals, and designing individual recreation programs.

Develops cooperative relationships with volunteers and service organizations to expand programming opportunities for residents. This is accomplished by negotiating agreements for facilities and services from outside resources.

Gives technical direction to volunteers, students and staff as they assist in recreational activities to ensure recreational programming meets residents' needs.

Reviews recreational plans to ensure that suitable measures have been taken to protect the health and safety of residents. This is accomplished by keeping informed of health and safety requirements, communicating those requirements to staff assigned to assist in program implementation and correcting deficits in the plans.

Implements behavioral and other therapy plans as required during the conduct of leisure and recreational activities to ensure consistent implementation of programs and an integrated approach to treatment. This is accomplished by learning program requirements and correctly applying the program reinforcers.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Therapeutic recreation and leisure needs assessment principles and methods sufficient to permit the development of relevant, treatment plans.

Therapeutic recreational principles and practices sufficient to meet the needs of a wide range of residents.

Specialized therapeutic recreation principles as they apply to assigned disability groups.

Health and physical requirements sufficient to protect the health and safety of residents during the conduct of recreation and leisure activities.

Facility treatment plan standards and requirements sufficient to ensure that treatment recommendations meet requirements for implementation.

Ability to:

Provide lead direction to assigned staff in implementing recreational plans to ensure a high level of active participation by residents.

Participate as a team member in planning treatment programs.

Design and write treatment plans, schedules and recreational guidelines and policies.

Design systems to collect data to serve as a basis for evaluating program effectiveness and resident progress.

Communicate effectively, orally, and in writing.

Motivate and guide other staff to ensure program delivery.

Est.: 8/87T.C.:

Rev.:

Former Title(s):