

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY COUNSELOR

KIND OF WORK

Assisting in a chemical abuse counseling program.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

An employee in this class is responsible for assisting in the program of recovery of alcoholics and other drug abusers at a state hospital. Responsibility does not extend to the application of professional social work or clinical psychology techniques and instruments. The counselor's approach is based on the theme of the Alcoholics Anonymous organization. Specialized direction is available from social work and psychological staff personnel in addition to the medical staff. Considerable latitude is permitted the employee in working out relations with the residents and methods to be employed in anticipating and avoiding the use of alcohol and/or drugs.

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

Confers with the professional staff regarding the general approach to individual treatment plans.

Establishes an understanding and cooperative relationship with residents.

Meets with residents individually and in groups to work out ways to combat reversion tendencies.

Arranges for released residents to join local Alcoholics Anonymous chapters or other appropriate after-care resources.

Participates in discharge planning for residents.

Confers with family or others close to the resident while he/she is in treatment to keep them informed of treatment planning and progress toward recovery.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED (Those asterisked are also essential at entry and are to be used in development of selection criteria.)

Knowledge of:

*Considerable knowledge of the habits and actions of alcoholics and other drug abusers.

*Considerable knowledge of the techniques employed in alcoholics anonymous type of recovery work.

Considerable knowledge of a comprehensive program for recovery of alcoholics and other drug abusers.

Ability to:

*Establish rapport with alcoholics and other drug abusers under treatment.

Understand and carry out directions from the professional staff.

*Dedication to the objectives of the recovery program and ability to communicate effectively.

Est.: 1/54
Rev.: 7/59; 1/68
Ckd.: 10/91

T.C.: 10/12/77
Former Title(s): Counselor on Alcoholism