

## PSYCHOLOGIST 2

### KIND OF WORK

Professional psychological work.

### NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under general supervision, provides psychological evaluation and treatment to assigned residents/clients within a residential treatment or correctional facility. Performs related work as required.

A Psychologist 2 will have knowledge of psychological theory and principles obtained through clinical experience and a Master's degree in psychology. Problem-solving is guided by technical supervisory direction as well as principles and standards of the practice of psychology, and by facility policies and procedures.

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

Assesses/evaluates residents/clients to determine their mental, emotional and behavioral status. This is achieved by: reviewing clinical histories, observing and interviewing residents/clients, and administering assessment/evaluation instruments.

Assesses, reviews and monitors resident/client behavioral programs to determine if they are successfully reducing inappropriate behaviors through the use of operant learning principles. This is accomplished by reviewing program design to ensure that it focuses on appropriate issues, that it conforms to policies and guidelines, that parallel companion programs have been written, and that the fortuitous learning of new maladaptive behaviors is minimized or considered and addressed.

Designs, plans, and conducts individual and group psychotherapy to restore or maintain residents'/clients' level of functioning. This is accomplished by: observing behaviors; interviewing and discussing with residents/clients their problems, conflicts, and feelings; and recommending a plan of corrective action to the client/s.

Guides less experienced psychologists, other professionals and paraprofessionals in application of psychological and behavioral principles to maximize the value of treatment and enhance overall programming efforts. This is achieved by: reviewing and critiquing proposed evaluations and therapy recommendations, suggesting informational resources, and offering alternative treatment options.

Contributes psychological expertise to interdisciplinary treatment teams to provide a standardized, valid basis for establishing new goals and programs for residents and to ensure integration of treatment efforts. This is achieved by: updating and interpreting residents'/clients' psychological assessments; analyzing, reviewing, and summarizing residents'/clients' behavioral changes in response to treatments and medications; and recommending alternative treatment.

Consults with providers about community follow-up services for discharged residents/clients to ensure placement success. This is achieved by: assessing behavioral problems and advising community personnel on appropriate solutions.

Represents the Psychology Department on facility-wide committees and task forces such as Behavior Review, Research, Human Rights, and Quality Assurance so that sound therapeutic principles are applied consistently throughout a facility. This is accomplished by reviewing the facility's treatment policies and practices.

Testifies on the psychological status of residents/clients at court hearings to provide a valid basis for court decisions.

#### KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Psychotherapy methods sufficient to provide effective treatment plan delivery.

Psychological tests and assessments and their interpretation sufficient to develop information that serves as a valid basis for recommending treatment plans and therapies.

Individual and group therapy methods sufficient to meet the needs of the assigned disability group.

Operant learning principles and applied behavior modification principles sufficient to permit the development and implementation of effective treatment programs.

Crises intervention principles sufficient to be able to respond to clients and to train others in crises intervention.

Ability to:

Work with other professionals, psychologists, facility department heads, program evaluation staff, and community providers sufficient to maintain and improve the integration of treatment programming.

Communicate effectively orally and in writing so that the interest of the clients and the standards of the psychology profession are represented in a facility's treatment policies and practices.

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Rev: 3/11/66  
3/87

T.C.: 3/23/60  
Former Title(s): Clinical Psychologist 2