

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

"Leading The Way For A Safer Pinellas"



CRISIS RESPONSE SPECIALIST

JOB CODE: 62010	PAY GRADE: 15	PAY RANGE: \$45,830-\$73,329
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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Under direct supervision of the Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) or Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), in support of the Mental Health Unit, this position performs professional social work activities, focusing on providing social work services, case management, and case follow up for potential crisis individuals of Pinellas County. Job duties are based on assignment. Objectives are to engage persons in crisis, mitigate and de-escalate tension, and assist with continuous mental health services to reduce law enforcement contact and Baker Acts. Work assignments include, but are not limited to: crisis intervention; mental health assessment and treatment through linkage with pertinent referral agencies and programs; and other supportive services as they arise. Work is reviewed through observation and results obtained.

Position requires flexibility to work 8-hour or 10-hour shifts which may be days or evenings. Shift differential pay of 5% will apply when scheduled for evening shifts.

SUPERVISES OTHERS: No

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Works in collaboration with law enforcement deputies following their guidance and direction in respect to on-scene safety and protocol;
- Responds to in-progress calls with law enforcement deputies in order to determine level of care required for individuals in crisis;
- Assists law enforcement when responding to potential individuals in crisis by conducting an assessment, offering effective and efficient interventions, and coordinating care;
- Prevents unnecessary hospitalization or arrest of individuals with mental illness;
- Assesses individual treatment needs related to psychiatric, medical, social, and emotional care and follow-up after Baker Act/Ex-parte to ensure engagement and access to services;
- Coordinates medical response with law enforcement when medical safety is an issue;
- Assesses an individual's risk for danger to self or others and intervenes accordingly;
- Exercises sound clinical judgment in determining an individual's ability to remain safely in the community;

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- Develops a clinically sound safety plan in the least restrictive setting, only utilizing the Baker Act when all other options have been exhausted;
- Develops collaborative crisis treatment and discharge plans that meet the needs of the individual in crisis and law enforcement;
- Documents all encounters proficiently by end of shift;
- Completes accurate and precise supporting clinical documentation including treatment plans for all crisis individuals responded to;
- Staffs cases with supervisors as needed;
- Participates in Sheriff's Office recruitment and community relations activities as directed.

This position may be considered essential and, in the event of an emergency or natural disaster, may be required to work.

This list of duties and responsibilities is not intended to be all-inclusive, and you may not be responsible for every item listed. The employer reserves the right to assign additional duties and responsibilities as necessary.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduation from an accredited college or university, recognized by the U. S. Department of Education, with a bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, counseling, or related field
- Graduation from an accredited college or university, recognized by the U. S. Department of Education, with a master's degree in social work, psychology, counseling, or related field, preferred
- Two (2) years' experience in case management, social work, or substance abuse treatment
- Must possess a valid Florida driver's license

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- Adheres to professionally recognized ethical standards of care
- Ability to utilize computer and commonly used computer programs proficiently
- Knowledge of precise, accurate, efficient, and coherent clinical writing skills
- Knowledge of social work theory and practice
- Knowledge of criminogenic risk factors and needs
- Knowledge of varied individual and group counseling theories and techniques
- Knowledge of human behavior processes



- Knowledge of social service, mental health, substance abuse, educational, vocational, and rehabilitative programs available in the county and state
- Skill in public speaking
- Ability to render social work and counseling services professionally and effectively with individuals
- Ability to establish rapport with individuals and to function without bias
- Ability to provide continuous crisis intervention service with equanimity
- Ability to prepare reports, case notes, and correspondence in a timely, clear and concise manner
- Time management, inter-personal, problem solving, and verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to communicate and work with other services agencies in the community
- Knowledge of individual, group, family, and crisis treatment approaches and their application to individuals with emotional, behavioral and/or substance use disorder problems
- Ability to adapt to change in the workplace and use change as an opportunity for innovation and creativity
- Ability to perform all functions of the job classification without posing a direct threat to the health or safety of other individuals in the workplace

PHYSICAL ABILITIES

The physical abilities listed below are estimates of time spent during a typical work day to perform essential functions and responsibilities. Members in this position may be required to:

- Sit up to 4 hours per day
- Stand up to 3 hours per day
- Walk up to 3 hours per day
- Continuously lift up to 10 lbs.
- Lift up to 50 lbs.
- Frequently squat
- Occasionally bend, climb, reach, kneel, or twist