

**City of Oregon City****Position Description**

Position: Behavioral Health Specialist	Represented - OCPEA
Department/Site: Police	FLSA: Non-Exempt
Evaluated by: Police Captain	

**Summary**

The Mental Health Specialist is an advanced working level, licensed Mental Health professional. Incumbents in this position are independent practitioners assigned to a broad range of caseloads and duties involving sophisticated assessment and treatment procedures or consisting of severe mental/emotional/behavioral addition disorders which require a high level of proficiency for effective treatment.

**Distinguishing Career Features**

Primary responsibilities for this position include providing field-based risk assessment, crisis intervention, case management, consultation, and referral for a variety of individuals in need. Secondary responsibilities include outreach engagement of clients and families struggling with symptoms of mental illness and substance abuse and providing back-up and support to other parts of the crisis services program, as needed.

Since this is a field-based position, successful candidates will have a history of working with individuals in a variety of settings (*i.e.* field, hospital, office, clinic, emergency department, etc.). Other skills and experience include: providing assessment and intervention to people in crisis; incorporating a person-centered, strengths-based recovery approach that include peers and natural systems of support; a positive and collaborative attitude and approach in working with partners, including but not limited to other law enforcement agencies; and a belief that every person we serve has the right to define and pursue their own definition of recovery.

The clinician will work with members of Clackamas County's Clackamas Mental Health Center (MHC) and other city employees that do work in this field. The clinician will receive clinical supervision from either Clackamas MHC staff or staff from the City of Lake Oswego mental health program.

The ideal candidate will have a strong background and demonstrated experience in crisis response providing assessment, triage, and crisis intervention with individuals who are in mental health crisis as a licensed clinician.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

The following duties ARE NOT intended to serve as a comprehensive list of all duties performed by all employees in this classification. Shown are duties intended to provide a representative summary of the major duties and responsibilities. Incumbent(s) may not be required to perform all duties listed and may be required to perform additional, position-specific duties.

1. Assesses consumers through intakes and other interviews to determine diagnosis and treatment needs; collects and evaluates critical information presented by consumer or other informants; examines history and current mental status; develops and implements treatment plans to meet specific requirements of consumers; reviews treatment options with consumer; prepares documents and findings in electronic clinical record in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) and department procedures.
2. Provides crisis outreach and psychotherapeutic services to consumers and their families; enters and maintains documentation of services provided in electronic clinical record in accordance with OAR and department procedures.
3. Conducts assessments for involuntary hospitalization as a Director's Designee under ORS 426.233; gathers background information; coordinates hospital arrangements as needed; attends and testifies at commitment or other formal hearings; completes investigation reports; coordinates with County Counsel and Public Defender.
4. Works as a key member of a diagnostic team consisting of physicians, psychologists, and other mental health professionals; makes referrals to other community clinics, agencies, or care facilities; reviews consumer status, diagnosis, evaluations, treatment plans, treatment objectives and outcomes with diagnostic team, supervisors and other health care professionals as appropriate; provides case-specific consultation to other staff members, providers, families and/or community agencies; provides clinical consultation to students, volunteers and paraprofessional staff.
5. Works as a consultant or trainer to Oregon City staff, other individuals, other agency personnel, interested community groups or staff at institutions: provides mental health and chemical dependency education and training to other staff, outside professionals, family members and the community; may represent the agency on internal or external committees as appropriate; may act as liaison for specific projects or contract services.
6. Prepares client evaluations, writes case summaries, reports, and letters and maintains case records; completes program-related assignments as required.
7. Provides crisis assessment and intervention to consumers and residents of Oregon City and their families via telephone, in clinics or in the community as part of a 24/7 crisis response system.

## **Qualifications**

### **Knowledge and Skills**

- Designation as a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP)\*\* as established by the Mental Health and Addiction Certification Board of Oregon;
- Mental Health Specialist - Licensure by a recognized governing board in Oregon as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), or Licensed Psychologist (PsyD);
- Experience working with adults and children with mental health and substance abuse issues;
- Experience working collaboratively with community partners, collateral service providers, additional area law enforcement agencies, and co-workers;
- At least 1-year experience providing assessment, triage, and crisis intervention with individuals who are in mental health crisis;
- At least 1-year experience assessing risk for suicidal and homicidal behavior;
- At least 1-year experience working in a community-based setting (*i.e.* mobile outreach or crisis assessment, in- home counseling, emergency department or inpatient units, crisis clinics);
- Experience utilizing an electronic record or similar computerized data system;
- Must be willing to work some evening and weekend hours as part of the regular shift.

**Knowledge of:** Accepted principles and theories of human behavior, personality and development, and social interaction and development; techniques and procedures employed in diagnosing, evaluating, modifying and motivating human behavior; principles and techniques of group and individual therapy; principles and methods of community intervention; techniques of identifying and utilizing community resources; case management methods and techniques; rules, laws, regulations, and ethics governing the treatment of mental patients and clients; office equipment, including personal computers and software programs.

**Skill to:** Apply social and psychological theories of behavior and personality to the treatment of difficult mental and emotional disorders and handicaps; diagnose, evaluate and implement a treatment plan and monitor the client's progress toward established goals; analyze and evaluate social, psychological, and physical factors affecting clients and their families; treat clients and their families in order to enhance their social, psychological, and physical functioning; communicate effectively, both orally and in

writing; make formal presentations to the public, community groups, and other mental health professionals; work effectively as a member of a professional mental health team to diagnose and treat clients; keep accurate and timely records; operate computer software and other office equipment; establish and maintain effective relationships.

### **Abilities**

- Use computers and applicable software;
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing;
- Work with all levels of employees and citizens in the City and communicating effectively with various participants in joint initiatives;
- Set up and maintain electronic and hardcopy files.

### **Schedule**

This is a 40 hour per week position. Shifts for this position may include evenings, weekends and holidays. This position could be subject to after-hours call outs or be subject to on-call.

### **Education and Experience**

\*\*A "Qualified Mental Health Professional" (QMHP) means a Licensed Medical Provider or any other person meeting one or more of the following minimum qualifications as authorized by the Local Mental Health Authority or designee:

- Bachelor's degree in nursing and licensed by the State of Oregon;
- Bachelor's degree in occupational therapy and licensed by the State of Oregon;
- Graduate degree in psychology;
- Graduate degree in social work;
- Graduate degree in a behavioral science field.

QMHPs must demonstrate the ability to conduct an assessment, including identifying precipitating events, gathering histories of mental and physical health, alcohol and other drug use, past mental health services and criminal justice contacts, assessing family, cultural, social and work relationships, and conducting a mental status examination, complete a five axis DSM diagnosis, write and supervise the implementation of a ISSP and provide individual, family or group therapy within the scope of their training.

Certifications are an essential component of the position and must be maintained through employment in the position.

### **Additional Licenses/Certificates and Qualifications**

Requires the following:

- Bilingual English/Spanish preferred, but not required;
- Possession of a valid State Driver's License, and safe driving record;
- Must pass a post-offer, pre-employment drug test;
- Must pass an extensive background investigation, including criminal history check which may include national or state fingerprint records check

*This job/class description describes the general nature of the work performed, representative duties as well as the typical qualifications needed for acceptable performance. It is not intended to be a complete list of all responsibilities, duties, work steps, and skills required of the job.*