



Job Opening: Mental Health Clinician

The Foster Youth Mental Health Initiative is a three-year strategic initiative aimed at generating lasting system reform to ensure appropriate and timely mental health services for children and youth in the Los Angeles foster care system. The Initiative is currently underway and is focused on changes at a local and state level as well as direct advocacy on behalf of children and youth. Members of the Initiative staff develop and lead working groups aimed at implementing recommendations stemming from a recent Los Angeles Mental Health Summit and act as part of an interdisciplinary mental health team to promote improved collaboration among the organizations involved with foster youth and develop proactive approaches on behalf of these youth at risk. Please note that this is currently a twelve-month position. Applicants available full-time are preferred, but all applicants will be considered.

Job summary

Working collaboratively as part of the multi-disciplinary Foster Youth Mental Health Initiative ("FYMHI") team, the mental health clinician will provide clinical consultation to Children's Law Center ("CLC") staff as related to the provision of appropriate mental health services for CLC clients.

Summary of essential job functions

- Provide ongoing clinical consultation to CLC staff related to treatment planning, medication protocols and recommendations, assessment and screening, and other necessary mental health case planning
- Develop mental health training curricula and practice guides related to best practices for dissemination locally and/or statewide
- Collaborate with CLC Crossover team regarding client interventions for youth at risk of entering into the juvenile justice system
- Participate in CLC FYMHI ongoing policy work and identification of advocacy issues
- Track clients utilizing evaluation database and maintain accurate case notes in clients' files
- Prepare monthly progress reports on all FYMHI project activities
- Participate in all FYMHI trainings and other educational forums related to mental health
- Participate in designated outside community meetings as directed
- Other duties as assigned

Minimum requirements

A master's degree is required along with a clinical license (e.g. MFT, LCSW) or license eligibility. Candidate must have experience providing clinical services to abused and neglected children and youth and a strong background in early child development as the foundation for understanding developmental delays across multiple domains and across all ages of children and youth. Clinical experience providing parent-child treatment is highly recommended. Bilingual in Spanish would be helpful.

Abilities required

- Demonstrate clinical understanding of the overlap of mental health diagnostic categories with learning disabilities, educational needs, and physical health issues for holistic planning, coordination, and collaboration with other agencies is advised.
- Operation of a computer to include Microsoft Word and Excel and other word processing and database software
- Must demonstrate capacity to work as part of a team and to interface with attorneys, investigators, foster caregivers, mental health professionals, and children.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this classification. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required of personnel so classified. All personnel may be required to perform duties outside of their normal responsibilities from time to time, as needed.

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