JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: Bilingual Mental Health Counselor

FILING DEADLINE: Applications with resumes and cover letters are being accepted until the position is filled. Please submit a resume and cover letter electronically to falvey@christiesplace.org or in person. Applications and detailed job descriptions may be obtained at the above address.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES: The Bilingual Mental Health Counselor will perform a full range of mental health counseling services for women, children and families living with HIV disease. Primary responsibilities include conducting psycho-social and mental health assessments, depression screening, formulating care plans, mental health counseling for HIV positive clients and their family members. Engage in client care conferences with team members and coordinate implementation of interdisciplinary plans. Through individual, couple, child, adolescent, family and or group counseling, assist infected and affected individuals in adjusting to the physical/emotional and psychological difficulties associated with HIV. Other professional activities include community planning, developing and/or coordinating special projects and/or programs for patients, providing consultation and training to program support staff, quality assurance activities, maintaining clinical files and generating monthly program reports.

The above declarations are not intended to be an all-inclusive list of the duties and responsibilities of the job described. Rather, they are intended only to describe the general nature of the job.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS: A Master's Degree from an accredited (COAMFTE or CSWE) school of marriage, family, child counseling or social work and possess a valid MFT or LCSW California Board of Behavioral Sciences License (MFT intern or ASW with registration number from the California Board of Behavioral Science considered) as well as a combination of education, experience, knowledge and abilities to successfully perform the duties assigned to the position. **Ability to speak and write both English and Spanish fluently.** Demonstrated experience in communicating effectively and interacting with clients and staff with diverse social, cultural and economic backgrounds. Demonstrated ability to deliver care in an ethical, nonjudgmental, culturally competent, and nondiscriminatory manner. Excellent interpersonal skills to interact effectively with ethnically and culturally diverse populations and co-workers, respecting confidentiality and exercising tact, flexibility, and diplomacy. Knowledge of and demonstrated adherence to federal, state and local laws related to health and social welfare including, but not limited to, Medi-Cal, Medicare and California Children's Services. **Demonstrated knowledge of trauma-informed care and experience with mental health counseling interventions specific to clients who have experienced violence, trauma, and abuse.**
Demonstrated experience integrating theory and practice in the formulation of psychosocial and mental health assessments, interdisciplinary treatment plans, the implementing of care plans and the modification of treatment based on outcomes. Demonstrated experience thinking creatively and efficiently, to assess, analyze and solve problems. Ability to respect confidentiality and professional judgment to interpret, clarify, and report information to patients, family members, and staff. Demonstrated experience conceptualizing and writing clear, concise and appropriate psychosocial and mental health assessments, care plans, chart notes, and progress reports in mental health records. Ability to effectively facilitate and assist groups to reach goals and objectives. Ability to facilitate client skills development. Must be able to work independently, set priorities, organize and complete multiple tasks and projects efficiently. Demonstrated experience using computer software programs such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, Excel and Access.

Candidate must be comfortable and experienced in discussing sexual orientation, sexual behaviors, needle use, and other risk behaviors with individuals and small groups; will be familiar with the characteristics of the target population, including knowledge of and access to places where staff is likely to encounter members of the target population in settings conducive to dialogue and intervention; and will maintain the established relationship with the target population in order to maintain our agencies’ established trust and credibility in the community.

Must be well organized and detail oriented. Strong interpersonal and communication skills, in person and on the telephone, including tact, diplomacy, and flexibility are required. Candidate must demonstrate ability to work effectively with others (including co-workers, clients, service providers and others) by sharing ideas in a constructive and positive manner; listening to and objectively considering ideas and suggestions from others; keeping commitments; keeping others informed of work progress, timetables and issues; addressing problems and issues constructively to find mutually acceptable and practical business solutions; and addressing the diversity of our work force in actions, words and deeds. Candidate must demonstrate regular and consistent attendance and punctuality.

Must be willing and able to travel to client homes, satellite locations, community meetings, and occasional out-of-town conferences. As this position requires driving duties, employees must possess a valid Driver’s License with access to reliable personal transportation, as well as proof of current vehicle insurance in good standing. Employees must provide a recent DMV H-6 printout to be kept on file and will be included on a regular DMV Pull Notice system for routine review of driving records.
PREFERRED REQUIREMENTS:
Knowledge of the physical, emotional, mental health, psychosocial and financial impact of HIV/AIDS on infected and affected individuals, couples and families. Demonstrated experience with mental health counseling interventions specific to the HIV population, and experience in required documentation, in cases of suspected child abuse/neglect, domestic violence, elder/dependent adult abuse, chemical dependency and mental health crisis. Working knowledge of medical terminology particularly as it relates to HIV disease. Demonstrated experience in preparing and providing educational HIV presentations to consumers, professionals, and lay audiences. Experience in the provision of drug and alcohol counseling preferred.

Demonstrated skill in mental health assessments and interventions with individuals and families impacted by chronic disease, loss, and threat of death. Demonstrated experience communicating and working effectively with a multidisciplinary team. Ability to read medical records, abstract data, analyze materials and offer recommendations to improve program services. Excellent communication, public speaking and presentation skills with the ability to educate the clients, staff and community. Ability to initiate, develop and maintain effective linkages and partnership with community based agencies. Demonstrated experience using computer software to collect data and to prepare reports.

HOURS:
Non-exempt, 40 hours per week position (part-time may be considered).

COMPENSATION:
Competitive, dependent upon experience and education.

BENEFITS:
Health/vision/dental insurance, vacation, personal/sick leave and paid holiday days.

FILING APPLICATIONS:
Applicants must clearly demonstrate that they meet the minimum requirements. Applications must be filled out completely, legibly and may be submitted along with resumes in person, by email, postal mail or fax. Applicants whose resume and experience best meet the position requirements will be contacted for an interview. All statements will be subject to verification and investigation.

CONTACT PERSON:
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Any provisions contained in this job announcement may be modified or revoked without notice.