

Position: Therapeutic Staff Support

Corporate Office: Lancaster

County or Counties: Chester, Dauphin,
Lancaster, York, and Lebanon

Description:

Join the team at TW Ponessa & Associates Counseling Services, Inc. to provide mental health services to children and adolescents in the home, school and community settings. The Therapeutic Staff Support (TSS) employee gives one-on-one support to emotionally disturbed children or adolescents. The main goals of the TSS are to follow the treatment plan, help the child/adolescent eliminate inappropriate behavior(s), provide emotional support to the child, and assist those responsible for the child in fostering greater independence and socially responsible behavior. The TSS will encourage social integration and participation in group activities. He or she will use rewards and consequences to achieve goals and will record data and chart progress of the child/adolescent. Under the supervision of one or more master's level therapists, a TSS is expected to:

Follow the Treatment Plan. Encourage the child/adolescent to develop and take part in activities. Encourage the child/adolescent to voice what activities he/she would like to do. Help to make the activities structured and interesting to the child/adolescent. For example, help the child develop age appropriate anger and frustration management skills. For example, help to increase the child's attention span, planning and organizational abilities. Encourage the child to interact and participate actively and appropriately with peers and family members. Develop coping skills to manage behavior.

Follow the Treatment Plan. Encourage the child to eliminate disruptive or dangerous behavior. For example, the child may be making inappropriate noises or hitting another child and the TSS responds by providing appropriate (minimally restrictive) prompts and ongoing emotional support to help the child change his behavior.

Follow the Treatment Plan. Always use positive behavior reinforcement ! Rather than yelling at a child, use redirection to get him/her focused on a constructive activity. Give the child an immediate therapeutic response that effectively redirects maladaptive behavior, and offers suggestions for alternative behavior. The use of physical restraint in emergency situations is permissible only if the situation requires this action to preserve the health or safety of the child/adolescent, or the health or safety of others. All planned uses of restraint must be described in the child's treatment plan.

Attend Mandatory Weekly Supervision. TSS employees must meet with a Master's Level Supervisor at least once weekly. TSS employees attend mandatory supervision to discuss treatment progress, concerns, etc. TSS with 19 hours per week or less of assigned client hours must attend 30 minutes of weekly supervision. TSS with 20 hours per week or more must attend 1 hour of weekly supervision.

Transfer skills to the parent or natural caregiver. Empower the parents/guardians in their roles as primary caregivers.

Provide services during school hours, evening and/or weekend hours.

Travel to and from clients' home/school/community program to perform duties.

As a TSS, you agree to follow the treatment plan and to abide by the principles, policies and other guidelines provided by your supervisor and those published from time to time by TW Ponessa & Associates Counseling Services, Inc., the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, and the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP). You agree to meet on a weekly basis, face-to-face with your designated supervisor. Compliance with these requirements is a prerequisite for your employment.

Full and Part time positions available.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

- Bachelor's Degree in Human Services field **or**
- Bachelor's Degree in other field and 1 year full-time paid child/adolescent experience **or**
- Associate Degree plus 3 years of full-time paid child/adolescent experience or 60 college credits with 3 years full-time paid child/adolescent experience **or**
- RN with 1 year full-time paid child/adolescent experience **or**
- LPN with 3 year's full-time paid child/adolescent experience.

Work Experience: Prior experience must be full-time, paid working experience with children/adolescents, if degree is not in the Human Services field.

Clearances: *(Perspective employee must have the following clearances before servicing clients.)*

PA State Child Abuse Clearance (Upon hire, prior to working with clients, and every two years thereafter)

Pennsylvania State Criminal Background Check (Upon hire, prior to working with clients and every two years thereafter)

FBI Clearance

Resumes: Send resume to: TW Ponessa & Associates Counseling Services, Inc., 2141 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601; fax to (717) 735-1901; email to amber.steckman@twponessa.com

Benefits: Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, Short term disability, Paid Time Off, and Paid Holidays