



Job Description

Position: Harm Reduction Specialist
Job Requisition: HWPWH101717
Program: Project Welcome Home/San Jose
Supervisor: Program Manager

Abode Services is a community based organization founded in 1988. Services include support services to families as well as adults without children. The mission of Abode Services is to end homelessness by assisting low-income un-housed people to secure stable, supportive housing and to be advocates for the removal of the causes of homelessness. The agency provides services throughout Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Napa Counties.

Abode is seeking a skilled, **Harm Reduction Specialist** to provide clinical services, with a specialty in Co-occurring Services, on an Assertive Community Treatment team in the **Project Welcome Home Program**. This team will outreach, engage, house, and provide wrap around clinical services to 150 participants. These participants will be identified through county data and other assessment processes as being the most frequent users of emergency services, criminal justice, and other homeless/county services in Santa Clara County. Program participants will have Serious Mental Health Disorders, Substance Use Disorders, and/or Chronic Health Conditions. This is a full-time, nonexempt position located in San Jose.

Clinical Supervision available to those working towards licensure.

Responsibilities:

- Provide clinical case management services, including rehabilitative services, brokerage, collateral, and therapy to participants in the following settings: home, community, and office utilizing an Assertive Community Treatment model.
- Complete assessments and develop treatments plans on an on-going basis for participants enrolled in the program. Collaboratively work with participants to develop and work on their recovery goals.
- Meet with prospective participants, conduct outreach and initial intakes and assessments.
- Act as lead on team on substance use disorder issues.
- Utilize Motivational Interviewing techniques to explore participants' substance use/dependency, encourage reduction, provide support to clients moving towards abstinence and/or provide Relapse Prevention services.
- Develop relationships with agencies in the community providing outpatient and residential drug and alcohol services and support participants in connecting to their services.
- Perform mental status exams, as well as safety assessments that include suicide, homicide, and gravely disabled assessments with participants on an on-going basis.

- Provide facilitate psycho-educational and support groups.
Attend and participate in daily clinical case management meetings.
- Attend clinical, administrative, and case conferencing meetings as dictated by the program supervisor.
- Enter all data on time and correctly to support program evaluation and outcomes tracking.
- Ensure proper and timely documentation of services including written case notes using the BIRP formats and billing services to Medi-cal.
- Assist the Program Manager, Clinical Supervisor, and other staff as needed.

Qualifications:

- Possession of CAADE certification plus 4 years experience providing substance recovery services or possession of a MS/MA in Social Work or Psychology from an accredited university plus 2 years experience providing substance recovery services required. Registration with the California Board of Behavioral Sciences as an ASW/MFTi a plus.
- Must possess 2 years of field experience working with people with serious mental illness, individuals, co-occurring disorders and complex health issues and/or the chronically homeless population.
- Experience working within an Assertive Community Treatment program desired. Understanding of the following evidence based practices: Housing First, Motivational Interviewing, Harm Reduction, Psychosocial Rehabilitation, and Relapse Prevention Therapy required.
- Strong skills completing assessments and treatment plans. Mastery of Medi-cal charting. Strong writing skills are a MUST. This position requires a tremendous amount of clinical writing. Must be able to handle a rigorous clinical work while meeting deadlines for billing, progress notes, and treatment plans.
- Possess a working knowledge of Psychiatric Disorders and Chemical Dependency Disorders.
- Ability to build supportive and respectful working relationships with individuals diagnosed with a serious mental illness that instills hope and promotes self-determination using a strengths-based approach. Sensitivity to and understanding of the special needs of the homeless.
- Proven ability to work independently and as an effective and collaborative member of a team.
- Excellent verbal skills. Strong organizational, detail orientated, and time management skills.
- Possess an understanding of and practice cultural sensitivity through open dialogue and self-exploration with diverse groups, while providing direct services.
- Ability to effectively intervene in crisis situations, with de-escalation techniques.
- Strong communication skills, both verbal and written. Strong organizational and time management skills.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office computer programs.
- Reliable transportation and proof of a valid and current California Driver's License and current insurance along with a clean DMV record required.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including some weekends and evenings.

Abode Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug Free Workplace

Notice: This description is to be used as a guide only. It does not constitute a contract, commitment or promise of any kind. Abode Services reserves the right to change, add, delete, upgrade or downgrade the position as dictated by business necessity at anytime with or without notice.