

Mental Health Consultant – Early Childhood Position Overview

The Mental Health Consultant serves as a key member of the Center for Childhood Resilience team. The Center for Childhood Resilience (CCR) is a program in the Pritzker Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. CCR develops, evaluates and disseminates mental health best practices to promote systems change and to increase access and reduce mental health disparities where kids live, learn and play. CCR works with education, community-based and other youth serving agencies to organizations to deliver innovative, sustainable, culturally attuned, and evidence-based strategies, promote mental health and wellness, and foster resilience in the face of adversity.

The Mental Health Consultant role serves as a trainer, supported implementation/technical assistance coach and project consultant. This open position has an early childhood and early care education focus. The position actively supports the CCR team, Department and Hospital efforts to achieve continuous quality improvement, customer service goals through modeling of appropriate behavior and by providing a work environment conducive to attaining these goals. Learn more about CCR at www.childhoodresilience.org

Essential Job Functions:

1. Delivers and develops new and established training content: creates presentation materials and facilitates interactive sessions on trauma, universal mental health strategies, and group mental health interventions for a range of multiple discipline professionals and adults serving youth and families. Includes coordination, planning, co-facilitation, tracking and documentation of impact.
2. Promotes evidence-based practices through training and delivering supported implementation/technical assistance on clinical mental health interventions. This includes collaboration with national experts to complete certified trainer credentialing and disseminate interventions and supported implementation.
3. Facilitates in-person and web-based training, professional learning communities, train-the-trainer models, and technical assistance for range of clinicians and staff in school and community settings.
4. Consults to school district, community and other agency leaders and staff to establish systems and structures and build workforce capacity to support social-emotional learning and address mental health needs of youth through a collaborative approach with schools, community agencies and other stakeholders. Includes delivery of on-site and distance consultation and technical assistance on models and protocols for systems and cross-discipline team structures (Behavioral Health Team) to identify needs, connect to appropriate services and interventions, track and monitor progress of behavioral and academic outcomes
5. Contributes to CCR and Hospital advocacy mission through participation in local, state and national stakeholder and advocacy groups related to mental health services and the impact of trauma and violence on children, youth, and communities.
6. Provides seminars and training experiences for trainees (psychiatry fellows, psychology and social work interns) and interested professionals on CCR activities, including trauma-informed practices, advocacy, school-based mental health services, and school-community collaborations.
7. Assists with philanthropic, government, and research grants, including grant and proposal writing, reporting, and budget development and monitoring deliverables, and maintaining relationships with funding sources.
8. Participates in dissemination and quality improvement evaluation/research of program implementation and impact. Contributes to and participates in national conferences and training summits including collaborating on and submitting abstracts, presentations, posters and symposiums when possible.

9. Performs job functions adhering to service principles with customer service focus of innovation, service excellence and teamwork to provide the highest quality care and service to our patients, families, co-workers and others.
10. Works with team members, Operations Director and Executive Director to provide appropriate coverage for scheduled absences. Maintains appropriate records and documentation of services for hospital and program needs.
11. Participates in continuing education events including hospital required education and professional certification/licensure.
12. Other duties to support team objectives, projects and Executive Director as needed.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

1. Master's degree in Social Work, Psychology, Counselling, Early Childhood Education or related field from an accredited university. LCSW or equivalent clinical licensure preferred.
2. Minimum of four (4) years of work experience in school, early childhood education, child welfare, healthcare or mental health setting is required. Experience working with PreK – 12th grade age children is required. School-based experience preferred.
3. Demonstrated experience working with youth exposed to trauma and violence and living with multiple adversities required.
4. Proven experience delivering evidence-based group and clinical interventions in schools or youth-serving agency settings preferred.
5. Possesses excellent training and consultation skills that foster active participation and new knowledge and skill acquisition.
6. Proven experience successfully delivering in-person and web-based professional development and training to range of professionals representing different youth-serving agencies required.
7. Ability to work in fast-paced, dynamic project-based team environment that works to respond with flexibility to meet project needs and deadlines.
8. Experience working on complex team projects and serving in range of project team roles with varied responsibilities including leadership and coordination.
9. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills working with youth and professionals of all levels of education and experience.
10. Proven ability to work independently to meet project deliverables and deadlines.
11. Ability to think critically and proactively, act creatively, and take initiative appropriately in sometimes ambiguous situations.
12. Comfortable working in shared work space and multiple locations.
13. Bilingual Spanish verbal and written abilities preferred.
14. Local travel to project sites and client locations required. May include some overnight travel.
15. Proficient in use of Microsoft Office Suite Word, Excel and PowerPoint presentation software and working knowledge of database technologies required.

Qualified, interested parties should submit their application to:

<https://careers-luriechildrens.icims.com/jobs/14093/mental-health-consultant/job>