

Oak Park Township
JOB DESCRIPTION

CLASS. TITLE:	Youth Services Interventionist	
DEPARTMENT:	Youth Services	FLSA: Non-Exempt
DIVISION:	Town	DATE: 02/2016
REPORTS TO:	Youth Interventionist Supervisor	

Job Summary:

The Youth Services Interventionist provides individual and family treatment to youth involved in or at risk of becoming involved in gangs, drugs or violent activities; works closely with Youth Interventionist Team and Youth Services Director to discuss and develop and implement treatment plans. Collaborates with a variety of community agencies and resources to decrease risk and connect identified families with appropriate, long-term services.

Essential Job Functions

1. Performs crisis intervention in situations such as suicide, homicide, rage, juvenile arrest, violence, community, family tragedy, self injury, running away, etc. Assesses risk; provides direct consultation services; provides referrals and stabilization services, coordinates and provides support during the hospitalization process, crisis counseling, brief mediation and notification of appropriate authorities; serves as member of school crisis and trauma debriefing team.
2. Assesses youth and family for potential for violence, communication patterns, boundaries, alcohol and drug addiction, gang involvement, sexual and physical abuse, neglect, mental health status, suicidal or homicidal plans or thoughts, criminal activity, risk of running away, cutting and other risk factors. Assessment includes evaluating the client, family and any unregistered youth in contact with. Creates, monitors and implements treatment plan agreed upon by both client and family.
3. Provides counseling to youth involved or at-risk of involvement with gangs, drugs, potential violence, etc.; meets with youth as needed to decrease risk or involvement through therapy and referrals to other community agencies; provides resources for alternate living situations if required; works with youths at-risk and assists them by linking them with services in the community; provides consultation regarding juvenile laws. Heavy emphasis on group work.
4. Provides family therapy and counseling to identified families; conducts home visits to assess living environment, refers family to community agencies for financial assistance and long-term therapy as needed; provides crisis stabilization to family as need arises; works with family to advise on state laws regarding abuse and neglect, family law, juvenile delinquency, as well as potential for locking out their child. Emphasis on youth/family trauma and generational trauma counseling.
5. Consults with various community agencies including schools, Police Department, Health Department, Park District, libraries, probation, inpatient and partial hospital programs, community counseling centers, mentoring services, and psychiatric evaluators to optimize assessment and treatment planning. Participates in other agency meetings including disciplinary/school placement, inpatient hospital discharge planning and collaboration with police officers, etc. Searches for new

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- services, builds relationships with staff and distributes information on new providers to other collateral resources in the community.
6. Conducts mediation sessions between youth and/or families who are currently involved in a conflict; assists to resolve differences and decrease probability of violence in community between parties.
 7. Conducts informational presentations to community mental health professionals, school teachers and high school students regarding drug and violence prevention, peer relations and other applicable subjects.
 8. Maintains client files, intake and assessment forms, client interview questionnaire, consent forms, ratings scales, progress notes, progress note logs and any other essential materials.
 9. Monitors youth trends in the community such as gang movement, drugs, cults, etc.; performs bike patrols and community walks in search of gang graffiti, drug paraphernalia and cult remnants in community parks.
 10. Identifies gaps in service delivery system and reports to Director; participates in formulating and implementing solutions when appropriate.
 11. Operates pursuant to federal and state laws as well as professional codes of ethics and codes of conduct. Maintains licensure through continuing education.
 12. Plans and co-facilitates groups for at-risk youth in school settings.
 13. Participates in various committee/council meetings, task forces and networking events as needed.
 14. Remains current on mental health research and clinical theories.
 15. Performs other duties as assigned.

Material and Equipment

- Miscellaneous office equipment; i.e. – computer, fax, phone, copier, calculator, etc.
- Bicycle

Minimum Qualifications

Education and Experience:

- Masters degree in social work, education, psychology or other related human services field and two to three (2-3) years experience working with high at-risk youth in prevention, intervention, outreach or case management.

The qualifications listed above are guidelines. Other combinations of education and experience, which could provide the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform this job, may be considered.

License(s) and Certification(s):

- Valid Illinois driver's license and liability insurance
- LSW, LCSW, LCPC, CADC desirable

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Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Knowledge of:

- Federal and state laws and regulations relating to juvenile issues.
- Ethical standards and code of conduct in dealing with clients and the public.
- Child development; therapeutic models/techniques; DSM-5.
- Mental health assessment; crisis intervention, mediation and trauma debriefing.
- Substance use/abuse signs
- Screening for risk to self or others.
- Basic computer and software programs.

Skill In:

- Clinical judgement.
- Verbal and written communication.
- Crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques.
- Group work (youth/adult)
- Trauma counseling/debriefing
- Public speaking

Ability to:

- Effectively communicate treatment techniques and strategies.
- Make sound assessments, develop, implement and monitor treatment plans.
- Coordinate multiple services from various agencies in order to meet clients' needs.

Physical Abilities:

- Sit, type, read, write, hear and speak for extended periods.
- Drive automobile to client's homes or meeting places.
- Lift up to 10 pounds on occasion.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by employees assigned this classification. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all job duties or roles performed by personnel so classified. It is as well intended to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.