



Healthy Families Hillsborough Mental Health Counselor (MHC)

GENERAL SUMMARY:

This position provides in-home counseling to Healthy Families participants who have mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, and/or past abuse/trauma. The MHC will review all clients and will assist on all medically and socially complicated cases, to include but not limited to: families with high risk pregnancies, pregnant and parenting women in recovery, families with complicated mental health/behavioral needs, and families with medically vulnerable babies. The MHC will create linkages between those being served by Healthy Families to developmental pediatrics, maternal fetal medicine, child psychology and maternal psychiatry.

PRINCIPAL CRITERIA and STANDARDS FOR PERFORMANCE:

- Conduct psychosocial assessments on referred families to determine strengths, extent of the problems, the families' readiness to engage in treatment and barriers to intervention. Administer appropriate clinical tools as needed.
- Provide ongoing individual, relationship, and family in-home counseling services to overcome behavioral health risk factors and improve evidenced-based protective factors.
- Refer and follow-up with family and service providers on specialized services.
- Develop and update treatment plans with input from families, Family Support Specialists (FSS) and supervisors to address concerns identified at the initial assessment or during services.
- Work with the family in partnership with the FSS and accompany FSS on home visits, as appropriate.
- Provide psychoeducation related to substance misuse and related health impacts.
- Support clients in developing healthy coping skills and building social skills and supports.
- Conduct parent support groups, as appropriate.
- Review the initial assessment narrative to determine whether or not the family may require enhanced services. Meet with FSS to ensure appropriate referrals.
- Work with families and FSS to improve follow-through on the treatment plan. The FSS will continue to provide the core home visiting services.
- Document services provided in the participant's case file (clinical notes will be maintained in a separate file) using the required forms and submit forms for data entry.
- Participate in monthly or quarterly conference calls to discuss challenges and best practices that address these challenges.
- Attend additional meetings facilitated by the HFF central office, as offered to receive technical assistance and training, and to develop strategies for improving service delivery.
- Maintain positive relationships and create new relationships with community-based resources to which families are referred.
- Provide training to FSS and supervisors on topics such as working with overburdened families, the principles of infant mental health, promoting attachment, recognition of attachment difficulties, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence and substance abuse.
- Lead/facilitate staffings with FSS and supervisors to discuss ongoing challenges and progress of families and to share best practices.

- Attends meetings and/or staffings for families with POSC, DCF, or case management and completes monthly supervision.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SPECIAL SKILLS, and PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Master's Degree in Psychology, Social Work, Counseling, or similar degree from an accredited college or university.
- Licensed or Licensed eligible in the state of Florida in Social Work (LCSW), Mental Health Counseling (LMHC) or Marriage and Family Therapy (LMFT)
- Minimum of two (2) years' experience providing services to those affected by not just mental health issues, but also substance abuse and domestic violence.
- Level 2 background screening (required prior to hire and providing services to families).
- Valid Florida Driver's License, reliable automobile and proof of current auto insurance.
- Experience with reflective practice preferred.
- Understanding of substance use disorders and its effects on family dynamics and parenting capacities
- Knowledge of child development milestones including, social and emotional development, brain development and infant mental health
- Knowledge of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and other parent-child based therapies.
- Good interpersonal skills and the ability to relate to HFF participants and their families.
- A strong, professional work ethic including timeliness, attendance, initiative, and a positive attitude.
- Willingness and ability to work a flexible schedule when necessary.
- Culturally sensitive practices with a diverse population.
- Willingness to provide counseling services in homes located in high risk areas.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Fluency in Spanish preferred

SERVICE EXCELLENCE STANDARDS:

- Exhibits a total commitment to maintaining high quality service standards of the Healthy Start Coalition.
- Functions as an effective team member in accordance with agency policies and procedures.
- Demonstrates professionalism in dealing proactively with clients, supports, providers, the Board and the general public.

EOE/DFWP/Smoke-free workplace/campus.

Qualified candidates email resume to jobs@hstart.org by March 22, 2024.