

SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER

DEFINITION

This is the most advanced social worker position.

Under supervision of a Social Work Supervisor, utilized environmental, supportive and insight treatment techniques to provide selected clients with social services centering around the personal and emotional problems of individuals and families. Undertakes diagnostic studies to identify the nature, cause and extent of the client's difficulties; plans and carries out a program of prevention and rehabilitative treatment to enable clients to marshal inner resources and achieve personal, social and economic adjustment; evaluates effect of policy and procedures; participates in agency and community planning, assists less experienced social workers and performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Provides services to a select caseload involving difficult personal and social behavior problems which require skilled study, evaluation and planning; plans for and applies intensive social work treatment in helping clients of all ages toward a solution of problems creating dependency, delinquency and mental illness; furnishes social work services to children and parents in their own homes as a means of strengthening family life; provides social work services to unmarried mothers; participates in reviews of agency programs and administrative conferences; works with schools and other agencies to identify children who are in need of special help and jointly plans how these needs can best be met; represents the agency in meetings relating to the agency program; participates in establishing agency policies and procedures to enable professionally recognized social work practices; for disaster preparedness, acts as the agency emergency welfare worker with responsibility for preparing procedures, conducting training sessions and interpreting the emergency welfare program to the community; as may be assigned, gives professional assistance to less experienced social workers in a lead worker role.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Education and Experience: A master's degree in social work or closely related human services area from an accredited university and six months of professional social work experience; or a four-year bachelor's degree in social work (or closely related human services field) from an accredited college or university with two and one-half years of professional social work experience plus 400 hours of inservice training credits as approved by the Department of Human Services. Graduate courses in social work or a closely related human services area approved by the Department of Human Services may substitute for the inservice training credits on the basis on one graduate credit for sixteen inservice training credits.

(over)

Knowledges and Abilities: Thorough knowledge of human growth and behavior and of casework principles and methods; thorough knowledge of casual factors underlying family breakdown and community disorganization; thorough knowledge of laws, regulations and practices pertaining to federal and state public welfare programs; thorough knowledges of welfare and health resources and ways in which these resources should be made available to people in need of them. Considerable knowledge of community organization principles and methods; ability to make social diagnoses and provide appropriate social casework treatment; ability to plan and organize work to achieve program objectives efficiently and effectively; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to understand the agency administrative structure and to accept supervisory and/or consultative help constructively; ability to work cooperatively and effectively with agency staff, local officials and with other public or voluntary personnel.

Note: Persons possessing a non-related bachelor's degree must have one additional year of social work experience.