

ALTERNATIVE BEHAVIOR TREATMENT CENTERS

Position Title: Residential Counselor

Status: Non-Exempt

JOB SUMMARY

The Residential Counselor is responsible for performing a wide variety of client care activities as directed by the Unit Leader, Vice President of Residential Services and Sr. VP of Operations, Nurse, Medical Director or CEO and must function in any program in accordance to state law, the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and applicable regulatory agencies. The Residential Counselor works as part of a multidisciplinary team to provide direct care, intervention and counseling and functions as a role model for the youth assigned to the unit. The Residential Counselor serves as a member of the treatment team, offering input to the clinical staff in the development of treatment and discharge planning; monitors youth and families and may assist to transport the youth to appointments and activities outside the agency.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor degree from an accredited school, high school diploma or GED and a minimum of three years of experience with emotionally disturbed adolescents in a mental health/residential setting
- At least 25 years of age
- Valid Driver's license
- An ability to pass DCFS licensing requirements for background and fingerprinting

SKILLS

- Demonstrates fair, consistent and clear expectations with the clients. Ability to observe, understand and use group dynamics.
- Understands the purpose of discipline as a corrective experience in altering inappropriate behaviors.
- Ability to demonstrate teaching and adult role modeling by displaying integrity and respect with the clients and staff.
- Demonstrates an understanding of sexually abusive behaviors by passing the competency exam within sixty days of employment.
- Effective verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills.
- Demonstrates knowledge of infection control, safety, confidentiality, incident reporting, personnel policies and program implementation.
- Ability to manage and adhere to therapeutic boundaries with the clients.

SPECIFIC DUTIES

1. Works a member of the team to provide direct care, interaction, intervention, counseling, role modeling, guidance, and teaching to all youth with activity of daily living skills and other routine issues (i.e.: morning routine, hygiene, interpersonal relationships, transitioning activities, completion of homework and leisure activities, shopping and successful completion of evening routine leading to sleep.
2. Attends weekly unit staff meeting.
3. Participates in supervision at least monthly.
4. Serves as a 'primary person' for youth for assigned residents. Meets at least weekly to discuss treatment plan, phase/stage and pertinent issues with the youth.
5. Maintains all required documentation accurately and on a timely basis.
6. Participates in all mandatory trainings and meetings.
7. Maintains responsibility for the implementation of policies, procedures and regulations regarding at least one of the following:

- clothing needs of the youth
 - chores, cleanliness and maintenance of the unit
 - recreational activities
 - coordinate special activities and holiday celebrations
8. Overnight staff must be awake for entire shift and make a minimum of 6 rounds hourly.
9. Administrative and other duties as assigned.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND JOB HAZARDS

- Hours of work are structured in eight (8) hour blocks of time by may be subject to irregular hours based on departmental needs or demands.
- Employee is required to be able to work in temperature controlled environment; 80% of the time being spent indoors.
- Position may require duties to include routine or reasonable anticipated tasks or procedures where there is a degree of actual or potential exposure to blood or other infectious materials.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEMANDS

- Moderate physical effort required: normally seated with freedom of movement on a regular basis, handling of light materials and supplies.
- Some lifting may be required.
- Employee must be able to impart and receive detailed information through verbal and written communication.
- Employee must have the ability to tolerate exposure to sexually explicit information as related to the histories of the ***clients*** served by the agency.
- Employee must have the ability to work in situations involving measurable or verifiable criteria, situations dealing with people, performing under stressful situations, and working with set limits, tolerances or standards.

Reply with Resume to: hr@abtc-centers.org