

Atascosa Substance Abuse Program

Position Title: Mental Health Counselor

JOB SUMMARY

Provide individual, group, and family counseling in a secure residential substance abuse program. Target population includes adolescent males between ages 13-17 with a substance use disorder diagnosis or comorbid diagnosis.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

- Provide individual substance abuse-related counseling for assigned residents once per week, at minimum.
- Prepare and facilitate group counseling sessions in subjects of substance abuse, life skills, and other relative coping skills as directed by the Clinical Program Director.
- Prepare and facilitate 30-day treatment reviews with each assigned resident, their Juvenile Probation Officer (JPO), and participating family.
- Collaborate with the Clinical Program Director on program development and ongoing system improvement.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy, or an equivalent.
- Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Professional Counselor Associate, or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the State of Texas in good standing
- Successful completion of a criminal background check

MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS

- Experience providing mental health services such as conducting a psychosocial assessment, treatment planning, and providing psychoeducation.
- Computer competency for the purpose of creating and completing documentation, communicating by email, organizing electronic files, researching and creating curriculum, etc.
- Experience with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Motivational Interviewing techniques

PREFERENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Preferential knowledge, skills, and experience include those that are not required, but would compliment or enhance our current program:

- Bilingual
- Experience providing mental health services to adolescents or in a substance abuse setting
- License as a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor
- Experience in a correctional facility setting
- Experience in Art Therapy or other creative therapy techniques
- Experience in teaching psychoeducational groups and curriculum development

PHYSICAL & MENTAL EXPECTATIONS

Work is performed within a residential secure juvenile detention facility. The Mental Health Counselor will always be accompanied by one Juvenile Supervision Officer (JSO), at minimum, when interacting with residents for the counselor and residents' protection. Physical demands include standing for the duration of a group session, sitting, walking throughout the facility, and light lifting such as carrying textbooks.

The Mental Health Counselor will be exposed to traumatic stories shared by the residents that could lead to experiencing difficult or uncomfortable emotions. The Mental Health Counselor will be expected to debrief difficult or uncomfortable emotions with the Clinical Program Director and/or their supervisor (if required) for the counselor's safety and well-being. The Mental Health Counselor will also be expected to manage a caseload of residents and associated appointments with the resident, family members, and their JPO.

SIGNATURES

Printed name	Staff signature	Date
Printed name	Detention Superintendent signature	Date