FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH MICA SPECIALIST

Rev. 08/13 Erie County

Comp; JG: XII

MMC/ceb

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is advanced professional forensic mental health work

which involves assessment, triage and treatment services for individuals with co- occurring mental health and addictive disorders incarcerated in a county penal facility in Erie County. In addition, this position provides clinical consultation, education, training and mentoring supports to other staff regarding issues of risk and treatment for the identified high risk co- occurring population. The work allows leeway for independent judgment and action. Provides clinical supervision to Forensic Mental Health Specialist I’s. Work is performed under the general supervision of an administrative employee of higher rank. The position performs related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Provides assessment, triage and direct treatment services for individuals with co- occurring mental health and addictive disorders;

Provides direct treatment, including crisis intervention, consultations, linkages to community services and reports to referring entities;

Provides consultation and other collaborative supports to medical and psychiatric professionals regarding changes in status, required treatment, security and housing needs within the facility;

Provides training, education and mentoring supports to other professional staff regarding issues of risk, lethality and enhanced treatment planning for the identified high-risk co- occurring population;

Provides direct supervision to clinical staff and review and approval of assessment and treatment determinations, assesses need for psychiatric evaluation;

Provides consultation to community providers, legal- penal staff, attorneys, district attorneys, the courts and mental hygiene facilities on assessments of individuals with co- occurring disorders regarding preliminary Court- ordered examinations and treatment planning; and,

Assists in information gathering and evaluating changes and trends in the risk factors of individuals with co-occurring disorders and identifies optimal emerging treatment practice to address emerging risk.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Thorough knowledge of principles and practices of mental health and addiction assessment, triage and treatment, and their application to the legal- penal system; thorough knowledge of current trends in clinical/ rehabilitative evidence based practices (including care coordination), and their application to individuals with co- occurring mental health and addictive disorders; thorough knowledge of the clinical profile of individuals with co- occurring mental health and addictive disorders involved with the legal- penal system; thorough knowledge of legal- penal and behavioral health systems and related medical and other human services for individuals in the target population; working knowledge of Mental Hygiene Law; ability to work with behavioral health, health and other human service providers to assure appropriate discharge plans and linkage to community care; ability to teach and train professionals and para- professionals; ability to communicate effectively with diverse individuals and groups; physically and emotionally capable of performing the essential functions of the position with or without reasonable accommodation.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Master’s Degree in Social Work, Psychology, Mental Health Counseling or Rehabilitation Counseling; and,
2. New York State Department of Education licensure as a Social Worker or Mental Health Counselor, and
3. Three (3) years-experience working with individuals with serious mental health and addictive disorders.