DC HIRES VETS
"SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED"

JOB TITLE	Mental Health Specialist		
GRADE	12	SALARY RANGE	$78,364.00 - $100,261.00

JOB SUMMARY

The mission of the Department of Youth and Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) is to improve public safety and give court-involved youth the opportunity to become more productive citizens by building on the strengths of youth and their families in the least restrictive, most homelike environment consistent with public safety. The Mental Health Specialist position is located within the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services' Health and Wellness Administration. The primary responsibility of this position is to provide clinical services to detained and committed youth at DYRS secure confinement facilities co-located in the District of Columbia (Youth Services Center) and Laurel, Maryland (New Beginnings Youth Development Center).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Mental Health Specialist will serve as a member of the clinical multi-disciplinary treatment team, which develops, implements, and supports a comprehensive treatment and service plan for any youth and their family identified as needing behavioral health services. Within this role, the incumbent performs a wide variety of tasks including but not limited to the following: Ensuring services are delivered in a manner that builds resiliency and supports youth in accordance with evidence-based practices and behavioral health treatment standards; Providing behavioral health and rehabilitative services to youth including screening, assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning and counseling; Conducting initial intake assessments and/or psychosocial summaries in order to assist with treatment planning and supportive counseling interventions; Providing crisis intervention(s) in order to respond to psychiatric and behavioral health acute episodes; Documenting, coordinating, and collaborating with clinical and non-clinical staff.

Additionally, the incumbent within this role will be responsible for providing individual and therapeutic group counseling to residents who are diagnosed with mental illness and co-occurring disorders; Providing substance abuse prevention and psychoeducation to youth in custody; Participating in quality improvement and assurance activities; Performing family focused treatment interventions and clinical case management services to improve family functioning for youth in DYRS custody; Utilizing proficient knowledge of community and other district governmental resources available; Conducting clinical training for clinical and non-clinical staff.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EDUCATION

- Individual must possess at least one (1) year of specialized experience equivalent to the grade 11 level.
- Bachelors or graduate/higher level degree: major study in an academic field related to the medical field, health sciences appropriate to work of the position.
- Licenses and Certification: The individual selected must possess one of the following licenses: Professional Counselor License, Clinical Social Worker License, Marriage and Family Therapist License, Psychologist License or Psychiatrist License