

Job Title	Youth Service Specialist--Spring Branch ISD
Employer/ Agency	HARRIS COUNTY
Job Description	<p>The Youth Service Specialist (YSS) provides a community based case management service to address the social, economic, and academic needs of children and youth, including status offenders; provides early intervention and prevention services for "at risk" students; handles crisis situations and provide crisis counseling and case management; addresses needs of students experiencing behavior problems, parent/child conflicts, runaway, and truancy issues; provides alternative solutions to problems to the youth and their families and all services are voluntary and at no cost and in an easily accessible way. Accepts referrals from the schools, police, parents, the community, other agencies and the youth in an effort to resolve family, personal and school problems at the earliest possible level and in the least stigmatizing way. Fast-paced environment involves collaboration with schools and other agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports to Area Supervisor of Community Youth Services (CYS). • The Youth Service Specialist (YSS) is on call to all school personnel as well as the community at large. • Provides crisis counseling - an immediate, non-coercive, easily accessible method of providing on-the-spot counseling. • Relates to Juvenile Probation and Child Protective Services staff members as well as fellow CYS workers. • Serves as resource person to obtain services for youth and their families, arranges appointments and transports child if necessary or desirable. • Works with runaways by providing crisis counseling, long-term counseling or voluntary emergency placement when necessary. • Assists parents in arranging long-term, voluntary placement of children outside the home when other alternatives have failed. Assist with application procedures, testing, medical and intake interviews. • Works with persistent truancy by arranging, locating, and developing resources that would assist in eliminating the course of truancy. • Assists with referrals for educational testing and assists with changes in school program when necessary. • Acts as a liaison between schools, Juvenile Probation Department, and Protective Services for Children and Adults. Interprets policies and practices and contacts these agencies when information is needed concerning an adolescent. • Visits and networks with new and established community resources. • When possible, assists students in finding employment or job training.

- Home visits are made for the convenience of the client or to gain a better understanding of the situation.
- Prepares necessary paperwork and reports.
- Enters client information in the EVOLV Client Data-Base Information System.
- Reports to the Director of School Administration or the school district's designated liaison.
- Provides follow-up casework services to cases referred from TRIAD Intake Diversion staff.
- Participates on committees for community projects for youth.
- Avails self to speak to school and community groups.
- Participates on school committees dealing with youth problems and school policies.
- Helps plan and sponsor the CASY meeting for area.
- Assists in updating the CYS Resource Directory; assists with updating respective district's publications.

Qualifications

REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree in psychology, sociology, social work, criminal justice or related field.
- One (1) year full-time paid experience in a youth-service agency.
- Casework and documentation skills.
- Knowledge of community resources in Harris County for youth and how to use them.
- Knowledge and understanding of adolescent problems and stages of development.
- Knowledge of the Texas Family Code and related laws governing children and the ability to interpret these laws to youth, parents, and other entities.

PREFERENCES:

- Master's degree in psychology, sociology, social work, or criminal justice or related area.
- Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor (LCDC), Licensed Social Worker (LBSW), or Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)
- Experience working with children in youth-service agencies such as Child Protective Services, Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority or Juvenile Probation.
- Bilingual in Spanish.



Salary/Hours	Depends on Qualifications
Employer/Agency	HARRIS COUNTY
Address	1310 Prairie Street, Ste. 170
City, State, Zip	Houston, TX 77002
Telephone Number	713-274-5444
Email Address	employment@bmd.hctx.net
Application Method	Apply online: http://agency.governmentjobs.com/harriscountytexas/default.cfm?action=jobbulletin&JobID=1597394
Opening Date	12/01/16

To post a job opportunity or if your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at mswjobs@central.uh.edu with the hiring details of your new job opportunity. Thank you.

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