Job Title: Senior Social Worker

Employer/Agency: Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration

Job Description:

Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center is recruiting for a Senior Social Worker in The Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program. The incumbent independently provides psychosocial assessment and case management services to eligible veterans and their family members to meet biological, psychological, social, and environmental needs.

Independently performs case finding functions and outreach, identifying and screening patients for psychosocial needs. Incumbent must possess the knowledge and ability to independently implement treatment modalities, provide counseling or psychotherapy for individuals, families and groups. Independently conducts psychosocial assessments.

Develops treatment plans in collaboration with the veteran/family and with the interdisciplinary treatment team. Incumbent possesses the skills to offer psychosocial interventions and measures outcomes to interventions. Administers information and analytical systems to evaluate and enhance the quality of service provided to patients. Develops and implements information systems to track service activities including visits, referrals, inpatient days, patient demographics, equipment utilization and patient satisfaction.

The Senior Social Worker is assigned administrative responsibility for clinical program development and is accountable for clinical program effectiveness and modification of service patterns. Incumbent is able to coordinates community-based services, including information and referral for additional services from other VA programs, other government programs and community agency programs.

Independently identifies high-risk patients and provides case management services. Incumbent provides crisis intervention services, seeking to address the cause as well as the presenting complaint, coordinates family conferences and serves as liaison to family members.

Has working knowledge and experience in use of medical and mental health diagnoses, disabilities and treatment procedures. This includes acute, chronic and traumatic illnesses/injuries, common medications and their effects/side effects, and medical terminology.

Establishes and maintains effective therapeutic relationships with veterans and their families. Incumbent is able to independently work with patients and families who are experiencing a variety of psychiatric, medical and social problems utilizing individual, group and family counseling and therapy skills. Independently provides consultation services to other staff regarding the psychosocial needs of veterans and the impact of psychosocial problems on health care and adherence to treatment plan.

Ability to evaluate incumbents' own practice through professional peer review, case conferences and other organizational means. Incumbent is able to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with people from varied
backgrounds. General knowledge of veterans' benefits and services relating to special programs, service-connected compensation, non-service-connected pension.

Facilitates referrals based upon veterans needs and eligibility. Administers information and analytical systems to evaluate and enhance the quality of service provided to patients. Assists the HCHV Director in the development and implementation of information systems to track service activities including visits, referrals, length of stay, patient demographics, assessments and treatment planning, utilization and patient satisfaction.

**Qualifications**

- You must be a U.S. Citizen to apply for this job
- Designated and/or random drug testing may be required
- Selective Service Registration is required for males born after 12/31/1959
- You may be required to serve a probationary period
- Subject to a background/security investigation
- Must be proficient in written and spoken English
- Selected applicants will be required to complete an online onboarding process
- Please provide documentation to support initial date of post advanced licensure. Failure to provide documentation may result in disqualification.

**Qualifications**

To qualify for this position, applicants must meet all requirements by the closing date of this announcement, 04/17/2020.

- **United States Citizenship.** Non-citizens may only be appointed when it is not possible to recruit qualified citizens in accordance with VA Policy.
- **English Language Proficiency.** Candidates must be proficient in spoken and written English to be appointed as authorized by 38 U.S.C. § 7403(f).
- **Education.** Have a master's degree in social work from a school of social work fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Graduates of schools of social work that are in candidacy status do not meet this requirement until the School of Social Work is fully accredited. A doctoral degree in social work may not be substituted for the master's degree in social work. Verification of the degree can be made by going to [http://www.cswe.org/Accreditation](http://www.cswe.org/Accreditation) to verify that the social work degree meets the accreditation standards for a masters of social work.
- **Licensure.** Persons hired or reassigned to social worker positions in the GS-0185 series in VHA must be licensed or certified by a state to independently practice social work at the master's degree level. Current state requirements may be found by going to [http://vaww.va.gov/OHRM/T38Hybrid/](http://vaww.va.gov/OHRM/T38Hybrid/).

**Grade Determinations:**

Senior Social Worker, GS-12

(1) Experience/Education. The candidate must have at least two years of experience post advanced practice clinical licensure and should be in a specialized area of social work practice of which, one year must be equivalent to the GS-11 grade level. Senior social workers have experience that demonstrates possession of advanced practice skills and judgment. Senior social workers are experts in their specialized area of practice. Senior social workers may have certification or other post-masters training from a nationally recognized professional organization...
or university that includes a defined curriculum/course of study and internship or equivalent supervised professional experience in a specialty.

(2) Licensure/Certification. Senior social workers must be licensed or certified by a state at the advanced practice level which included an advanced generalist or clinical examination, unless they are grandfathered by the state in which they are licensed to practice at the advanced practice level (except for licenses issued in California, which administers its own clinical examination for advanced practice) and they must be able to provide supervision for licensure.

(3) Demonstrated Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities. In addition to the experience above, candidates must demonstrate all of the following KSAs:

1. (a) Skill in a range of specialized interventions and treatment modalities used in specialty treatment programs or with special patient populations. This includes individual, group, and/or family counseling or psychotherapy and advanced level psychosocial and/or case management.
   (b) Ability to incorporate complex multiple causation in differential diagnosis and treatment within approved clinical privileges or scope of practice.

2. (c) Knowledge in developing and implementing methods for measuring effectiveness of social work practice and services in the specialty area, utilizing outcome evaluations to improve treatment services and to design system changes.

3. (d) Ability to provide specialized consultation to colleagues and students on the psychosocial treatment of patients in the service delivery area, as well as role modeling effective social work practice skills.

4. (e) Ability to expand clinical knowledge in the social work profession, and to write policies, procedures, and/or practice guidelines pertaining to the service delivery area.

Salary/Hours

Full-Time, $76,721 - $99,741 per year.
Alternate tour of duty required which includes evening and/or Saturdays.

Employer/Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration

City, State, Zip

Beaumont, TX

Contact Person

Tamara Calhoun

Email Address

Tamara.calhoun@va.gov

Application Method

For detailed application instructions see: https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/564829900

Opening Date

Closing date of Application: 4/24/20

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.