JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: WOMEN'S SUPPORT WORKER

Classification: Transition House Worker / Adult Youth or Child Worker

Grid Level: 11

Date: October 2005 Author: Valery Puetz

Job Location: Ann Elmore Transition House

Supervisor: House Manager

Status: Union

Job Profile

Job Summary:

The Women's Support Worker is a member of the Transition House team who provides supportive counselling, education, information and referrals to women one on one and in group settings.

Job Duties:

- 1) Provide in-house facilitated group opportunities for resident women in the areas of recreation, education, psycho-social-spiritual well being
 - Plan and prepare for in-house groups
 - Facilitate groups for resident women
 - Bring in community professionals for educational groups
 - Provide information and referrals
 - Maintain confidentiality according to Policy and Procedures

2) Supportive Counselling;

- Intake of new non-resident client women
- Assess suitability to program
- Be non-judgmental in approach
- Provide emotional support
- Assist with goal setting and follow through
- Provide information about abuse
- Make referrals to other resources
- Provide information about other resources and processes such as legal or justice system
- Assist women in development of a safety plan
- Address relapse prevention with recovery clients
- Monitor client progress and report concerns to supervisor

3) Record Keeping;

- Maintain statistical information as directed
- Maintain accurate documentation in client files
- Maintain accurate and up to date records of group activities

4) Maintain transition house environment;

- Create and maintain a safe, warm and trusting environment
- Provide mediation between residents in conflict
- Facilitate resident meetings as needed
- Work cooperatively with other members of the transition house team

5) Miscellaneous

- Abide by CRNITS code of ethics and philosophy
- Abide by CRNITS Policy and Procedures
- Maintain confidentiality according to Policy and Procedures
- Maintain current knowledge of issues related to the abuse of women and children
- Advocate for clients
- Continue to upgrade skills through staff and professional development
- Assist in orientation of new staff and training of practicum students
- Attend staff meetings regularly
- Complete special projects as directed by the Transition House Manager
- Other related duties

Working Conditions

This position involves working in the transition house with a transient clientele. It may also include counselling, accompaniment and advocacy for women.

Human Profile

Technical Skills

Education

- Human Service Worker Diploma or equivalent And
- Transition House Worker Certificate or equivalent Or
- Equivalent training and experience

Experience

1 year working in community social services

Qualifications/Training

- Emergency First Aid
- Good communication and crisis intervention skills
- Knowledge and understanding of abuse of women and children
- Group facilitation skills

Requirements

- Transportation
- Satisfactory Criminal Record check and Criminal Record Review
- Not in an abusive relationship for at least one year (at hire)

Performance Skills

Physical Demands

- Capable of assisting injured or disabled clients
- Delivery of program activities requires a moderate level of physical fitness i.e. walking, standing, bending

Mental Demands

- Possesses and is able to apply a feminist perspective
- Ability to interact well with clients in crisis regardless of ethnic, religious, or socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability
- Able to manage stressful work and fluctuating workload
- Able to make sound judgments
- Adaptable
- Has initiative
- Respectful in all communication with clients, staff and other agencies