

## JUVENILE DETENTION SPECIALIST

### General Summary

Under the supervision of a Shift Supervisor, provides for the safety, security, and well-being of residents, visitors, and staff within the detention facility. Supervises, guides, and counsels residents through daily activities within the framework of the residential treatment and secure detention units.

### Essential Functions

Closely supervises residents of the Youth Center to ensure that adequate security measures are met including making security checks, taking resident counts, doing room inspections, conducting strip searches, and monitoring security cameras.

Confronts and redirects residents' behavior as well as counseling. Implements the token economy system and other approved therapeutic methodologies.

Monitors residents for changes in behavior that may indicate potential crisis situations in accordance with facility guidelines and alerts other staff as appropriate.

Intervenes when necessary in crisis situations using Crisis Prevention Intervention techniques and other approved methodologies, and following policy and procedural guidelines for physical and mechanical restraints, room confinements, or other appropriate action. Submits information to Shift Supervisor/Assistant Superintendent on the more serious disciplinary actions.

Operates and monitors electronic security and communication equipment including lock control panels, intercom, computers, visual monitors, electronic doors, telephone and FM radios, audio surveillance, alarms, and security fence.

May organize and direct participation in group recreational activities such as physical education classes, games, arts and crafts, gym events, outdoor activities and other activities. Implements activities with supervisory approval.

Documents resident behaviors and actions using incident reports, social files and related documentation. Prepares statistical and resident behavioral summary reports.

Instructs and supervises residents in the performance of daily housekeeping chores and cleaning duties. Performs laundry duties in the absence of general services attendant.

Performs room checks as required when residents are secured in rooms, searches for prohibited items on residents, in rooms, and throughout the facility, and performs regular counts of potentially dangerous items. Performs ongoing safety checks to make sure juvenile is not harming himself/herself while in individual rooms and documents same.

Assesses medical emergencies, administers first aid, dispenses authorized medications, complies with nutritional requirements and treatments as ordered by medical staff, sets-up after hour emergency medical care, assists medical staff with physicals when necessary, and adheres to universal precautions.

Acts as a positive role model and utilizes reality therapy principles when conducting individual counseling to assist residents in decision-making. Discusses various matters of concern with youths and serves as an empathetic listener on topics such as family problems, court hearings, homework, and general interpersonal relationships. Assists residents with their homework.

Based on observations, refers residents to Youth Center Therapist or Psychologist for consultation as appropriate.

Performs and assists with intakes of residents to gather information, search residents for contraband, and assess resident's potential for suicide or health concerns, provides manual to residents and provides orientation on Youth Center policies and procedures.

Ensures good health and hygiene practices are followed by residents.

May perform some duties of a Group Leader or Shift Supervisor in the absence of one of these individuals.

### Other Functions

None listed.

*This list may not be inclusive of the total scope of job functions to be performed. Duties and responsibilities may be added, deleted or modified at any time.*

### Employment Qualifications

**Education:** Equivalent of one year of college level coursework related to human services; or high school graduate with equivalent of two years of experience in a child care institution.

**Experience:** Prefer experience working with delinquent or emotionally troubled youths and/or families, which may have been in a part-time, intern or volunteer capacity.

**Other Requirements:**

*The qualifications listed above are intended to represent the minimum skills and experience levels associated with performing the duties and responsibilities contained in this job description. The qualifications should not be viewed as expressing absolute employment or promotional standards, but as general guidelines that should be considered along with other job-related selection or promotional criteria.*

**Physical Requirements** *[This job requires the ability to perform the essential functions contained in this description. These include, but are not limited to, the following requirements. Reasonable accommodations will be made for otherwise qualified applicants unable to fulfill one or more of these requirements]:*

Ability to move desks, beds and other furniture to conduct security checks.

Ability to step up on elevated surfaces, such as beds or stools, to conduct room searches.

Reaching, bending, and stooping to perform security checks, housekeeping and other tasks.

Extended periods of walking throughout facility.

Ability to physically restrain youths, including the ability to pull weights of 75 lbs. to 200 lbs when restraining adolescents.

Hearing ability to use auditory monitoring, alarm, and communications systems.

Lifting and carrying containers for meals, laundry bags and other items weighing up to 35 lbs.

Visual acuity sufficient to monitor control cameras and security panel, distinguish colors on the control panel, and provide other forms of resident supervision.

**Working Conditions:**

Exposure to physical assault by youths.

Exposure to youths with various states of cleanliness and hygiene.

Exposure to various bodily fluids.

Exposure to communicable diseases of youths.