

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

General Summary

Under the supervision of a Public Health Nurse Supervisor, provides comprehensive nursing services in preventive health, home health, and clinic programs including assessment, diagnosis, teaching, counseling, and prevention services to individuals, families, and groups to promote health and wellness to clients in the county. Maintains patient records and program activity records and prepares required reports.

Essential Functions

Identifies health needs in the community and creates and facilitates programs.

Conducts evaluations of referral information and conducts home visits to determine clients' needs including physical assessment and interview to determine current and past health problems.

Develops, implements, and evaluates an individualized plan of care based on assessment. Implements plan of care by performing skilled nursing services and on-going evaluation. Instructs families in home care procedures to facilitate client's return to independence.

Provides comprehensive case management and coordinates services provided through a multidisciplinary approach collaborating extensively with multiple community agencies. Coordinates the services of home health aides, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech pathologists according to the patient's needs.

Interprets health screening findings to the family and makes appropriate referrals, utilizing an up-to-date list of resources in the county. Contacts local health providers and community agencies to make referrals.

Conducts health assessments in clinics, including conducting physical assessments, obtaining blood pressure, temperature, measurements, and other data and developing information on health history, diet history, and family health status. Administers immunizations and TB and STD medications, educates clients on potential side effects, and monitors for adverse reaction. Reads and interprets lab reports, administers urine pregnancy tests, and performs a variety of related procedures in clinics.

Provides education to clients and families relative to parenting, nutrition, health care, prenatal care, breast feeding, safety, substance abuse,

communicable diseases, and other subjects as needed by client. Provides self sufficiency classes to clients.

Provides home visits and health assessments for new born infants, pregnant women and other clients.

Investigates and monitors reports of communicable diseases such as measles, hepatitis, sexually transmitted disease, and tuberculosis. Coordinates efforts with physicians, school personnel, and others regarding spread and treatment of the disease. Provides health care services, instruction, and information to clients in compliance with related public health laws.

Reviews documentation in charts on a periodic basis to ensure compliance with federal and state rules and regulations for the specific program area. Initiates, maintains, and updates various records and prepares reports of work activities, communicable diseases, and other subjects for physicians and departmental administrators.

Participates with other members of the community in assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating health services including the promotion of a broad continuum of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of illness.

Represents the department on various advisory committees throughout the county, determining community needs and assisting with goal implementation.

Represents the department at various community activities related to the promotion of health and the prevention of disease.

Provides on site services in the jail health program including health care and education on subjects including disease prevention, hygiene, and life issues to prisoners in the county jail. Oversees day-to-day activities of inmates including medical care, record maintenance, and scheduling.

Coordinates, implements, and documents quality improvement efforts such as chart audits, tuberculosis review, disaster drills, and OSHA, blood borne pathogens, and other training.

Ensures that clinical documentation regarding clients is kept secure and confidential and maintained consistent with Health Department policies and procedures.

During a public health emergency, may be required to report for specialized assigned duties or perform emergency response roles, inside or outside Monroe County.

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: Possession of an Associate's Degree or a diploma in Nursing. Prefer a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and certification in Community Health Nursing.

Experience: Two years of nursing experience.

Other Requirements: Possession of a current license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Michigan. Possession of a valid Michigan driver's license.

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]:*

Lifting babies and small children to examination tables and equipment.

Stooping and bending to examine children and adults.

Restraining children while administering injections.

Ability to travel throughout the county to various clinic locations.

Ability to access clients in their homes. Ability to access office files.

Ability to enter and access information using a computer.

Carries clinic supplies needed to perform tasks to clinics or homes.

Working Conditions:

Works in office conditions and travels throughout the county to work in clinics, homes and other locations such as schools, youth centers, women's shelters, migrant camps, senior centers, fairview county home, and community centers.

Exposure to inclement weather conditions.

Exposure to unstable and dysfunctional family settings and high risk neighborhoods.

Exposure to communicable diseases, blood, and other bodily fluids.