

**A SAFE PLACE
LAKE COUNTY CRISIS CENTER**

Mental Health Therapist

The Mental Health Therapist is a critical position of A Safe Place that helps meet the mission of the organization by helping free clients from Mental Health Illness as a result of witnessing or experiencing domestic violence. Therapist will provide evidence-based prevention, treatment, trauma-informed and recovery support services to identified clients. The Therapist works closely with all programs and clients with A Safe Place. Therapist reports to the Program Director - Promotora under the Health expansion grant.

Position is located in Libertyville, IL

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide individual therapy, counseling, support and education regarding mental and medical health issues, using a non-judgmental approach in working with clients and/or their children.
- Conduct intake and eligibility evaluations to determine client needs.
- Develop individual service and safety plans and connect clients to specialists as needed, assisting with navigating the healthcare system and referrals.
- 70% direct client service hours.
- Review and utilize appropriate evaluation tools for the purpose of assessing needs of parent & children served by A Safe Place (ASP).
- Assist in development of, and utilize, evaluation tools to assess the quality and effectiveness of the family services.
- Complete IM+CANS assessment with clients to provide a standardized framework to evaluate the needs and strength of an individual seeking treatment.
- Therapist will provide mental health individual counseling support that is person-centered, goal oriented, and trauma informed at various location to meet client's treatment needs
- Provide education on the Illinois Domestic Violence Act, Orders of Protection and stalking laws to enhance client safety and abuser accountability, providing referral sources internally and/or externally when appropriate.
- Ensure documentation in client records is appropriate, accurate, timely and in accordance with agency policies and funding requirements.
- Develop and provide activities to enhance the bond between parent and child.
- Collaborate with other client providers and advocates (upon obtaining a release of information) to ensure quality services are being delivered.
- Timely delivery of client notes and documentation to report effectiveness of delivery services for grant funding.
- Attend and participates in staff meetings, case management, and other training and meetings as requested.
- Work as a team player in the organization.

- Participate in staff meetings as requested.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Complete required training such as IM + CANS and 40-hour Domestic Violence training to enhance skills and competencies in serving clients effectively.
- Train and utilize a solution-focused therapy approach to effectively engage with and support clients in achieving their goals.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Master's degree in Social Work, counseling or closely related field. Current license in the State of Illinois (LSW/LPC). Full Licensure preferred, must be eligible to obtain.
 - Proven experience in a mental health focused counseling/therapy role.
 - Flexibility in scheduling to accommodate client and agency requirements, including availability for evening appointments and travel to multiple locations.
 - Bilingual strongly preferred.
 - Trauma informed skills and ability to engage clients in services.
 - Ability to create and present programs and ideas to community leaders, centers of influence and decision makers for marketing and awareness through the use of various technology and materials available.
 - Ability to provide active listening, encouragement, motivation and counseling to clients through the use of a self-help, empowerment model of service provision.
 - Ability to manage time effectively and to organize and prioritize daily assignments and scheduling of client appointments
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- Excellent written and oral communication and interpersonal skills that demonstrate genuine concern and respect towards clients and other staff.

Ability to accept, understand and relate sensitively to people of varied socio-economic, racial, cultural and experiential backgrounds.

Commitment to the philosophy and program of ASP, which includes a commitment to survivor's and children's issues, sharing a belief in helping to create a society free from violence, and working in a cooperative environment.