

Job Description:MOBILE THERAPIST (MT)

The Mobile Therapist (MT) provides a child or adolescent and his or her family with intensive therapeutic services (“psychotherapy”) in the child’s home, school or elsewhere in the child’s community. The MT interacts with severely emotionally disturbed children or adolescents who may attempt to bite, kick, scratch, punch or otherwise assault the MT during the performance of their duties. He or she will use behavioral rewards and contingent consequences to achieve the goals specified in the Treatment Plan and will legibly and contemporaneously record, in English, data regarding the behavior and progress of the child, the involvement of the child's caretakers, and report unusual incidents as required by relevant laws, policies and procedures. **Psychotherapy sessions follow a written treatment plan**; they may include the Mobile Therapist and the child, family members, child’s friends, school personnel, a community leader, physician, psychiatrist or a combination of these people. The Mobile Therapist can also meet with these people without the child, as long as “meeting the child’s needs” is the purpose and focus of the meeting. MT providers will legibly and contemporaneously record, in English, data regarding the behavior and progress of the child, the involvement of the child's caretakers, and report unusual incidents as required by relevant laws, policies and procedures. Under the supervision of a Licensed Psychologist, Mobile Therapists are expected to:

- **Deliver therapy according to a written treatment plan.** Collect data and information about the child’s progress in treatment and consult with the Behavior Specialist Consultant to assure accurate and thorough understanding of the child’s progress in treatment. Mobile Therapists participate in meetings as necessary to alter the treatment plan as necessary based on ongoing assessment of child’s progress and needs. The MT provider cannot lift or carry or restrain a child (hold the child to prevent movement) for any reason.
- Develop child’s strengths and increase the therapeutic effectiveness of the family. Good communication (active listening, asking questions and sharing information) is essential. All ethical responsibilities of a licensed psychologist apply to Mobile Therapists.
- Encourage child to actively take part in his or her treatment. Allow the child to voice his or her opinions, goals and dreams. Encourage family participation in child’s treatment. Mobile Therapists facilitate the active participation of family members in Interagency Team Meetings, Treatment Plan development and reviews, Individual Education Plan (IEP) development, and monitoring of children receiving special education services in school.
- Subject to confidentiality limitations, collaborate with other professionals involved in the child’s everyday life. Teachers can provide valuable information about the child, and can suggest additional school activities that may be beneficial to the child. If changes are necessary in the treatment plan, notify the Behavior Specialist and have a meeting to discuss the changes. Sign appropriate forms to document attendance at meetings. Create a crisis plan that can be followed by all members of the inter-agency team.

As a Mobile Therapist, you agree to follow the treatment plan and to abide by the principles, policies and other guidelines published from time to time by The Institute for Behavior Change, the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare and the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP). You must obtain supervision from a Licensed Psychologist at a frequency that is sufficient in the opinion of yourself and the Licensed Psychologist to enable the Licensed Psychologist to assume professional responsibility for your assigned clients' psychological treatment in the event that you are unwilling or unable to continue to provide such treatment in the opinion of the Licensed Psychologist who is supervising you. Supervision by the Licensed Psychologist can be accomplished by telephone, face-to-face, e-mail or other mutually acceptable means.

Minimum Staff Qualifications

- Licensed professional *Psychologist* (Masters or Doctoral degree)
OR
- Master's level mental health professional with at least 12 **Graduate** credits (level 500 or above) in clinical areas (abnormal psychology, child psychology, child development, physiological psychology, behavior modification, applied behavior analysis, etc. in order to be eligible for supervision by a licensed professional psychologist) and
- At least one **Graduate** level course (not including a practicum or internship) in **Psychotherapy methods** or **Mental Health Counseling methods**.
- At least one year of post-graduate experience is required to work as a MT in Philadelphia
- Clearance via *FBI* as well as clear *Child Abuse* and *Criminal Background* checks.
- Additional qualifications as specified from time to time by regulatory agencies or employer.

Not Responsibilities of Mobile Therapist

- Baby-sitting
- Working with child without input from family and other inter-agency team members
- Administering medication
- Providing transportation for the child
- Replacing services that should be provided by another, such as teacher or guardian
- Reporting in court on a regular basis

Agreed to and Accepted:

_____ *Seal* _____
Mobile Therapist Date

_____ *Seal* _____
Executive Director Date