SERVICES PROVIDED:

Northwest Human Services through the HOAP program offers community-based mental health and housing services for homeless adults, who suffer from a psychotic mental illness. H.O.A.P. offers an array of services designed to get and keep homeless mentally ill people off the streets and into housing. H.O.A.P.’s staff helps the client to achieve mental health stability, obtain a stable income, health insurance, and find housing. Case managers also provide crisis intervention, psycho-social education, skills training and therapeutic support, to integrate the client into the community and improve quality of life.

The H.O.A.P. Drop-In Center is a safe place with coffee and pastries, a lunch program, phones, clean clothing, showers and laundry facilities. The center also provides a stable mailing address, a chance to socialize, and a location for educational activities. Psychiatric services and medication management are provided on-site and transportation is provided three days per week, to West Salem Clinic for physical and mental health care. HOAP also maintain a continuum of supported housing for qualifying clients.

PRACTICUM STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

- Enrollment in first or second year of the Human Services Program.
- Ability to work well within a team environment.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Willingness to work with persons who have mental health issues and those who are in emotional distress.
- Ability to interact with clients and staff in a professional and courteous manner.
- Students must be self-starters who can make independent decisions.
- Basic computer and telephone skills.
- Pass pre-volunteering drug screening and criminal background check.
- Students must possess a valid Oregon Driver’s License and proof of automobile insurance.

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ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT:

- Consistently performs specific assigned daily and general duties.
- Regularly attends assigned meetings and meets established meeting attendance criteria.
- Consistently implements NWHS approved policies, protocols and procedures.
- Supports compliance and accreditation efforts as assigned including, but not limited to, OSHA, JCAHO and HIPAA.
- Consistently supports the organization's mission as defined by the Board of Directors and the Executive Director in word and action.
- Participates in cultural competency training and uses culturally appropriate actions and language at all times.
- Establishes and review goals for job performance.
- Maintain strict patient confidentiality.
- Participate in staff meetings, training sessions, committee work, and supervision sessions.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

- Understand the nature and extent of client's Mental Health (MH) and Co-Occurring Disorders (COD) presenting problem, and formulate a plan for service that addresses MH and COD issues, under the supervision of the Lead Clinician.
- Treatment planning and goal setting including periodic reviews under the supervision of the Lead Clinician.
- Collaborate and communicate with team members to provide holistic integrated treatment.
- Assist with lunch program under the supervision of lead shelter worker as needed.
- Assist with filing of medical records.
- Keep accurate and timely records and data in accordance with agency policy standards.
- Provide information, screening, and referral services to clients and to the public.
- Make collateral and community contact on behalf of clients.

TO APPLY FOR PRACTICUM; click on the link below.
http://www.northwesthumanservices.org/Employment.html

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIRED

As of April 15, 2011, practicum sites that use the Department of Human Services Background Check Unit will now conduct a weighing test and fitness determination when an individual has been identified as the perpetrator of abuse in certain cases of sexual abuse, physical abuse or financial exploitation. The Background Check Unit will specifically consider the most serious cases of abuse reported and substantiated from January 1, 2010, forward.

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