

## **HEALTHY YOUTH SCHOOL THERAPIST**

### **BASIC FUNCTION/DESCRIPTION OF POSITION:**

Under the direct supervision of the Equity and Inclusion Administrator, the Healthy Youth School Therapist is responsible for providing individual counseling to students and families with mental, emotional, and behavioral health needs.

### **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

- 3-5 years of experience in providing direct services to adolescents, children, and/or families as a mental health professional, preferably in a school setting.
- Master's Degree desired.

### **LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must hold one of the following credentials or licenses in the state of California prior to employment:
  - Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)
  - Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT)
  - Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)
  - School Psychologist (PPS)
  - Licensed Educational Psychologist
  - Licensed Clinical Psychologist
  - California PPS Credential School Counseling
- Possession of a valid California driver's license and reliable transportation.
- TB Clearance
- Obtain Criminal Justice Fingerprint/Background Clearance through DOJ and FBI
- Proof of valid automobile liability insurance is required to make home visits.
- Bilingual Spanish skills a plus.

### **REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:**

- Provide individual counseling services to students who self-refer or are referred by a teacher, case manager, or administrator for issues related to mental, emotional, or behavioral health.
- Assist in the development and implementation of programs and initiatives aimed at promoting mental health awareness, prevention, and early intervention. This might involve conducting psychoeducational workshops for students, staff, and parents, and implementing school-wide initiatives to create a positive and supportive mental health environment.
- Perform screenings, evaluation, assessments, and recommendations for services.
- Design and conduct trainings on the school's suicide prevention, intervention and postvention protocols, trauma-informed practices, and socio-emotional instructional strategies.
- Support the Healthy Youth Department with student socio-emotional learning education and activities.
- Support parent and family engagement and education initiatives.
- Collaborate on design and implementation of mental health referral process for school-based and community-based mental health services.
- Act as a crisis intervention therapist for students and staff by responding to and managing mental health crises or emergencies that arise within the school setting. This could involve assessing risk, providing immediate support, coordinating with external resources, and implementing safety measures.
- Attend planning, staffing, IEPs, 504s, and other meetings as requested.

- Collaborate with teachers, case managers, counselors, Special Education and Equity & Inclusion staff and administrators on providing mental health services and referrals to community organizations.
- Document and maintain accurate and confidential records of student assessments, interventions, progress notes, and communications, adhering to legal and ethical guidelines regarding the storage, access, and sharing of sensitive information.
- Engage in ongoing professional learning activities to stay updated on the latest research, best practices, and interventions in the field of school mental health. This may involve attending workshops, conferences, and training sessions to enhance knowledge and skills.
- Understand and follow FERPA and Mandated Reporter regulations.
- Perform other duties as assigned or changed with or without notice.
- Maintain consistent and regular attendance.

**KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:**

- The Vision, Mission, and Values of Altus Schools.
- Technical aspects of field of specialty.
- Oral and written communication skills.
- Correct English usage, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary.
- Community resources related to mental health.
- Display commitment to the Altus Schools achievement of its Vision, Mission, and Values.
- Demonstrate positive working relationships with students, families and staff.
- Work with diverse groups of students in varied socioeconomic and multicultural areas.
- Establish workload priorities and meet timelines.
- Operate standard office equipment including microcomputers and related software applications.
- Communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others.
- Plan and organize work.
- Maintain records and prepare reports.
- Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.
- Work independently with little direction.

**WORKING CONDITIONS:**

- **ENVIRONMENT:** Office setting; exposure to computer screens; travel between sites as needed.
- **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:** Hearing and speaking to exchange information with staff, external persons, and vendors; seeing to perform assigned duties; sitting extended periods of time; dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a computer keyboard and other office equipment; kneeling, bending at the waist, and reaching overhead, above the shoulders and horizontally, to retrieve and store files and supplies; lifting light objects; driving a vehicle to visit resource centers/offices and attend meetings as needed.