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**Job Description**

**Job Title:** Substance Abuse Counselor

**Organization:** La Comunidad Hispana

**Location:** Kennett Square&Oxford, PA

**Reports to:** Lead Behavioral Health Consultant

**Status:** Full-time; Exempt (includes evening hours)

**Date last updated:** 8/24/17

**Description**

La Comunidad Hispana (LCH) offers a comprehensive scope of healthcare, social services, outreach, and education programs for Latinos and other low-income, underserved families living and working in Southern Chester County.  As a Federally Qualified Health Center and Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home, LCH provides nurse-managed healthcare in a bilingual and bicultural environment that encourages compliance and fosters improved patient outcomes.  Using a holistic approach to care, LCH integrates healthcare with supportive services and education to empower patients to stay healthy, build strong families and lead productive fulfilling lives.

The Substance Abuse Counselor at LCH provides counseling and intervention services to help clients reach their full human potential while being integrated in a primary care setting. Duties include assisting clients to remove barriers to health and wellness. The Substance Abuse Counselor will collaborate with members of the health care team, the community service team, and the client/family to assure clients’ psychosocial needs are addressed.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

* Consultation with Primary Care Providers to enhance understanding of the patient, provide decision support for treatment planning and assist in the implementation and monitoring of biopsychosocial treatment plans.
* Individual, couples, and/or family consultation with patients, including:
	1. Functional and strength-based assessment and diagnosis;
	2. Psychoeducation for patients and their support systems;
	3. Medication adherence counseling and disease self-management counseling;
	4. Motivational Interviewing to develop behavioral strategies aimed at symptom reduction
	5. Brief problem solving cognitive intervention aimed at modifying negative thinking and promoting self-efficacy;
	6. Self-Care Plan development and skills training to facilitate disease self- management, improved coping, distress tolerance, stress reduction, and relaxation.
	7. Substance use/abuse evaluation, education, assessment screenings, identification of maladaptive coping strategies, provide brief intervention, and development of harm reduction strategies.
* Provide close monitoring and population health management of patients through follow-up contacts and coordinated services with other providers (internal and external to LCH) as needed.
* Conduct needs and resource assessment.
* Identify, refer, and advocate for clients needing specialty behavioral health service or substance use services by coordinating with local agencies and organizations as needed.
* Provide crisis intervention; assess and coordinate protective services as needed.
* Complete all charting as needed and required by contracted funding sources: including assessments, progress notes, and billing.
* Maintain knowledge of resources available in Southern Chester County.
* Participate as a member of LCH interdisciplinary care teams for clinical case review, care planning and progress reporting.

**Additional Responsibilities**

* Maintain regular attendance. Perform all duties in a timely manner. Attend staff team meetings as scheduled and/or directed by supervisor.
* Adhere to policies as outlined in the Employee Handbook.
* Collaborate with staff of all LCH programs to ensure efficient integration of services.
* Respect confidentiality at all times, in public, in team meetings, in consultation, in the community, and at home.
* Perform other duties as assigned. Job description subject to review and changes of business necessity.

**Qualifications and Experience**

* Bilingual in Spanish and English preferred.
* Master’s degree in social work, or related field, with a minimum of two years clinical experience preferred.
* Current Pennsylvania Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) or License Professional Counselor (LPC) or Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor (CDAC).
* Experiencing with servicing individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders and specific training in opioid abuse.
* Experience with evidence based tools: screening brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT), motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral therapy, and other short-term treatment approaches preferred.
* Excellent organizational skills.
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
* Community based experience preferred.
* Computer skills. Experience with Excel, Word, EMR preferred.
* Current Driver’s License (PA or DE).

*LCH is a culturally competent, bilingual, bicultural agency. Qualified members of the community are encouraged to apply.*