



## **MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION SPECIALIST 6 TRAINEE**

### **FUNCTIONAL DEFINITION:**

This is advanced work of a training nature in the therapeutic care and rehabilitation of the mentally disabled. An employee in this class participates in cross-disciplinary training designed to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for advanced work in a facility-based program for the mentally disabled. Work involves a variety of training assignments involving increasing latitude in initiative, judgment and decision making as knowledge and skills are acquired. Training and work assignments are performed under the supervision of a higher level Mental Health/Mental Retardation Specialist or other supervisor. Work is reviewed through individual and group conferences and an evaluation of participation in classroom activities and training assignments.

### **EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:**

- Participates in training designed to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for advanced work in the therapeutic care and rehabilitation of the mentally disabled
- Assists a higher level Mental Health/Mental Retardation Specialist or other supervisor in a variety of advanced duties such as planning training programs, administering a small cross-disciplinary community based program, or supervising a team of Mental Health/Mental Retardation workers
- Learns the methods of development and implementation of therapeutic care and rehabilitation programs for the mentally disabled
- Learns the principles and methods of administration and supervision and their application to community, institutional or facility-based programs for the mentally disabled
- Leads or participates in training seminars and discussion groups in area of expertise, as required
- Attends staff meetings and conferences as assigned
- Performs related work as required

### **REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

- Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of social and behavioral sciences
- Considerable knowledge of individual and group behavior, with emphasis on the problems and attitudes of the mentally disabled
- Knowledge of common mental disabilities
- Considerable knowledge of current social, economic and health problems and available resources
- Some knowledge of the principles and methods of program interpretation
- Ability to learn and apply the principles, practices and procedures involved in advanced work in a cross-disciplinary program for the mentally disabled
- Ability to identify the needs of patients and/or clients and to gain their confidence and cooperation
- Ability to learn to plan and organize work and to evaluate the results obtained
- Ability to analyze and interpret records and reports and to learn to develop alternative courses of action
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with patients and/or clients, staff, public and private agencies and the general public
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing

### **QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**

One year of experience as a Mental Health/Mental Retardation Specialist V; or a Master's degree in a field directly related to the therapeutic care and rehabilitation of the mentally disabled; or any equivalent combination of experience and training.