

**VALLEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM  
JOB DESCRIPTION**

**JOB TITLE: THERAPEUTIC RECREATION  
SPECIALIST**

**REVIEWED/REVISED: 05/2014**

**DEPARTMENT: THERAPEUTIC RECREATION**

**REPORTS TO: THERAPEUTIC  
RECREATION DIRECTOR**

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**JOB REQUIREMENTS:**

**GENERAL PURPOSE OF JOB:** Serving as a member of the interdisciplinary treatment team, to provide therapeutic recreational and activity services to adult, geriatric, adolescent and child patients.

**EDUCATION:** Must have a B.S. Degree in Therapeutic Recreation from an accredited program and obtain certification from the National Council of Therapeutic Recreation Certification (CTRS). Also requires CPR certification.

**EXPERIENCE:** One year minimum experience working with emotionally disturbed patients is preferred.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Ability to participate in CPR and Handle With Care Training. Must have certification from NCTRC. Strong oral and written communication skills. Must have organizational and time management skills; must possess assessment, evaluation and interpretation skills; teaching or training skills helpful; knowledge of applicable standards and regulations; problem-solving skills; basic mathematical skills; sound interpersonal skills; skills with ability to coordinate the efforts of, and mediate among wide variety of clinical, administrative, and support staff; customer service orientation; skills in maintaining highly confidential information. Must exert self-control in volatile or hostile situation.

**PHYSICAL/MENTAL REQUIREMENT:** Must be able to work under pressure and must be able to withstand stress. Must be dependable, honest, and must be willing to assume additional assigned as requested. Must possess the ability to follow explicit guidelines as set forth by regulatory agencies, such as Arkansas Department of Health and Joint Commission.

Ability to stand, walk, stoop, lift, and grasp. Ability to move about to accomplish tasks.

Talking: Adept at expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word. Ability to clearly and concisely express and exchange ideas and convey detailed information to others accurately.

Hearing: Ability to perceive detailed information through oral and telephonic communication and to make fine discriminations of sound.

Light Work: Able to lift 25 lbs., push/pull 50 lbs.

Visual Acuity: Must be able to see written documents.

The worker is not substantially exposed to adverse environmental conditions (such as in typical office or administrative work).

Must be able to concentrate on tasks amidst distractions; must be able to adhere to deadlines; willingness to travel occasionally, including overnight, in a work capacity.

**WORKING CONDITIONS:** Walks and sits intermittently. Works in a well-lighted, well-ventilated and comfortable environment. Job hazards include mechanical failure, exposure to office chemicals, and physical and mental stress.

**JOB SUMMARY:** The primary function of the Therapeutic Recreation Specialist is to provide professional services for patients with emotional and behavioral disorders. The services provided should be in concert with this primary objective in a manner that reflects warmth and concern, protects the patient's human dignity and pride. The specialist's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, organizing and carrying out a comprehensive program of therapeutic recreation. The Therapeutic Recreation Specialist will ensure that the delivery of quality patient care include evaluation, treatment, and documentation to a defined group of patients; oversees and organizes a comprehensive program of recreational activities for all capable patients within the hospital; participates in treatment planning meetings and others as assigned; participates in departmental duties, Performance Improvement, and others as assigned.

**Note:** *This job description is not intended to be all-inclusive; an employee will also perform reasonably related responsibilities as assigned. This organization reserves the right to review or change job duties as need arises. This job description does not constitute a written or implied contract of employment*