JOB TITLE: Behavioral Health Consultant (BHC)

DEPARTMENT: Behavioral Health

REPORTS TO: Director of Behavioral Health

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Position Summary
LCSW, LISW-CP, or LPC (LCSW: Licensed Clinical Social Worker; LISW-CP: Licensed Independent Social Worker-Clinical Practice; LPC: Licensed Professional Counselor) to provide substance use disorder (SUD) counseling and mental health services in an integrated primary care setting. The clinician will provide direct, point of care counseling services (individual, family, and group counseling) to include ECCHC’s general underserved population, homeless, and migrant and seasonal agricultural workers. The addition of this position will increase access to SUD and mental health services for patients currently on the wait list, ensure patients have access to more routine care, and offer patients access to a highly skilled/trained, ethical professional who is knowledgeable and effective in implementing evidence-based practices.

Position Purpose
Under supervision of behavioral health division director and/or assistant director, the behavioral health consultant attends to patient care along with clinical responsibilities. The BHC is part of the primary care team and directly serves in the areas of assessment, triage, and management of patients who have medical and behavioral health needs in the primary care setting. They will also provide training to patients, providers, and staff through psychoeducation, and directly work with patients on treatment plans geared toward symptom remediation. In addition, the BHC will provide policies for specific patient populations along with primary care providers and clinical staff. They are required to work a minimum of 32 clinical hours per week unless otherwise specified. Administrative time may be added based on needs as determined by the behavioral health division director.

Principal Responsibilities:

• Work as a member of the care team rather than a solo provider, meaning working in the same chart as care team members who will have access to any information in the chart.

• Maintain a population health focus in the consulting role in keeping with primary care behavioral health model.

• Maintain concept of primary care provider as principal client of the behavioral health consultant’s services.

• Evaluate the behavioral/mental health and/or substance use conditions of patients referred by primary care providers through short, efficient, consultations.
• Collaborate with the care team in evidence-based treatment planning.

• Assist in the care management of patients with chronic medical and mental health conditions in an efficient manner, including relapse-prevention planning.

• Assist with referrals to specialty mental health providers as needed.

• For patients unmotivated or unable to get to specialty services for substance use disorders or other behavioral concerns, provide the best quality care possible within the parameters of the position and scope of practice/licensure.

• Collaborate in identifying patients who are at risk of seriously worsening physically, mentally, or emotionally, and collaborate on preventive solutions.

• Collaboratively evaluate care plans within the care team.

• Train patients, families, and clinical staff via psychoeducation on prevention and augmentation of remedial efforts.

• Team with patients, families, and care team members to generate solutions for behavioral change in order address current behavioral health conditions and improve overall health.

• Complete documentation and other administrative duties efficiently.

• Collaborate with patient care coordinators in order to assist patients and families facing social determinants as potential barriers to care.

• Assist with coordinating care with external organizations.

• Maintain active efforts toward quality improvement.

• Work as team member in efforts toward quality improvement and Patient-Centered Medical Home initiatives.

• Abide by HIPAA as well as patient, organizational, and practice standards for confidentiality.

**Additional Duties**

• Float between sites as needed.
• Recommend behavioral health program initiatives which would help with outcomes for the patient population.

• Generate data-based decisions for care management follow-up as needed.

• Direct calls to patients and families in need of care management follow-up.

• Grow the behavioral health division by helping with an area of need during administrative time (e.g., external referral contacts, consulting psychiatry, specialty populations, provider education).

• Supervise behavioral health students/interns, including shadowing, reverse-shadowing, live feedback, and written evaluations.

• Assist with ECCHC’s education efforts of the broader healthcare community.

• Serve on committees as requested, pending availability.

• Participate in the peer review process.

• Other duties as assigned.

**Education & Experience:**

• Fully licensed in South Carolina as an LPC, LCSW, or LISW-CP

• Understanding of diagnosis using DSM 5 and relevant evidence-based treatment options

• Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

• Understanding of the health care system and its various components.

• Ability to embody the mission of Eau Claire- Provide accessible, high-quality, compassionate health care in the spirit of the Good Samaritan

*The above information is intended to describe the most important aspects of the job. It is not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required in order to perform the work.*

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For more information, contact:

Emily Quinlog  
Recruiting Coordinator  
169 Laurelhurst Ave Suite 34-B  
Columbia, SC 29210  
Email: equinlog@ecchc.org  
Phone: 803.733.5969 ext. 4112  
Fax: 803.748.9953