

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT WORKER (MHSW)

Title:	Mental Health Support Worker (MHSW)
Classification:	Support Worker 2
Wage Rate:	Grid 34; 31.56 - 33.28
Collective Agreement:	Community Sub-Sector
Union:	Health Sciences Association of BC (HSA)
Location:	Nanaimo, BC

Job Summary

The Mental Health Support Worker (MHSW), under the direction of the Clinical Manager, provides support to adult residents with mental health and addiction issues. The MHSW facilitates life skill development using the principles of psychosocial rehabilitation and assists clients in their recovery process as they move toward independent living. The MHSW ensures a safe, comfortable, and planned environment to promote quality of life for residents.

Reporting Relationships

The MHSW reports to the Clinical Manager. The MHSW takes clinical direction from the Nurse.

Duties and Responsibilities

Supporting Rehabilitation Planning

- Contributes to the rehabilitation planning process in the development, maintenance, and delivery of the care plan.
- Assists residents to fulfill their goals as outlined in the rehabilitation plan.
- Provides feedback, both written and verbal, to the Nurse, multidisciplinary team, and resident during the development of the plan.
- Assists residents to identify their strengths, needs, objectives, and goals for life skill development, including specific rehabilitation and vocational goals.
- Encourages the resident's sense of empowerment and commitment by means of motivational interviewing and supportive counsel.
- Monitors and records resident's strengths, needs, and progress regularly, and instructions received from the Nurse and the multidisciplinary team.

Life Skill Development

- Assists residents to develop appropriate life skills in areas which include: self-care, home management, shopping, meal planning, food preparation, budgeting,

safety, spirituality, physical health, medication management, making/keeping appointments, community integration, suitability and job readiness, accessing available community resources, problem solving, social/interpersonal skills, emotional issues, and addictions.

- Provides support demonstrations, teaching, modeling and behavior management skills to residents, their families, and their personal networks to build capacity for independence and success.
- Driving residents to medical appointments and activities as required.

Teamwork

- Reports regularly to appropriate Nurse and multidisciplinary team on the condition, behavior, progress and needs of the resident.
- Works collaboratively with the Nurse on assignments and health related tasks as necessary.
- Seeks guidance as needed from the Nurse on clinical and health related issues/ tasks.
- Attends and provides input to Nurse and Clinical Manager at regular team meetings
- Attends in service/ staff development as required.
- Assists the Clinical Manager with the orientation of new staff and residents demonstrating job tasks and duties to reflect the needs of the residents and the team.
- Acts as a resource to volunteers and students by demonstrating job tasks.

Other Duties:

- Performs housekeeping duties as required collaboratively with residents wherever possible, including: cleaning, laundry, grocery shopping, menu planning and meal preparation, and maintenance chores (like changing light bulbs, and unplugging toilets).
- The MHSW performs other duties as required for the smooth operation and safety of the organization.

Skills and Abilities

- Excellent organization skills
- Exceptional written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to problem solve
- Insight into harm reduction and recovery oriented practice.
- Understanding of the principles of psychosocial rehabilitation



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- Empathy and compassion

Education and Experience

- 2-year Diploma in Community Social Services
- 1-year experience working with clients with mental health and addiction issues.
- Or, an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.
- Valid BC Driver's License (Class 5)
- Level 1 First Aid with CPR-C
- Valid Food Safe Certificate
- Non-violent crisis intervention an asset

To apply: email resume and cover letter to: maquinna.marriott@vimhs.org