COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF:

Public Health Nurse-Extra Help

An Equal Opportunity Employer

We are seeking a Public Health Nurse with a passion for promoting community health and wellness to fill one (1) current vacancy in Santa Barbara to respond to the needs of the People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) Program.

The PEH program in Santa Barbara provides resources, care, and advocacy to patients experiencing homelessness in our community. This position covers a wide demographic area, providing outreach nursing services and case management to Carpinteria's, Santa Barbara's, and Goleta's homeless population.

This position is classified as an Extra-Help Appointment (Civil Service Rule 905), and is defined as an “appointment made to a non-regular, non-permanent position(s) established on a temporary basis to meet peak loads, unusual work situations, seasonal and recurrent work, intermittent assignments, or emergencies.”

On your application, please indicate all locations you are willing to accept employment for. Your name will be sent to the hiring manager(s) of the vacancy location(s) where you have expressed you are willing to work.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

1. Educates and counsels clients and their families in health maintenance and promotion and disease prevention in order to enhance the individual's ability to recognize the need for and to seek treatment to meet health care and general social needs; and demonstrates basic nursing techniques for the ill or injured in the field.

2. Assesses the physical, psycho-social, and health care status and needs of families and/or individual clients; interviews client and/or family, collecting a health history and data regarding current health status and life situations; observes client and client-family interaction in the home; develops plan of care; detects cases of physical and/or emotional illness; and participates in epidemiological studies and communicable disease control by conducting community investigations.
3. Coordinates client care with other health professionals to improve client's health; refers clients and/or families to appropriate community or public agencies to obtain services or assistance to improve or maintain social functioning and health; and refers clients to physicians when medical intervention is indicated.

4. Manages a caseload of clients requiring prioritization of patient care; records patient data; completes state forms and nursing daily reports; develops care plans; documents client and family-based assessments, interventions; plans and evaluations; provides written referrals to other agencies; plans and organizes caseload to ensure that service is delivered according to program and professional guidelines; ensures caseload is covered during short periods of absence; and acts as client advocate with health care providers.

5. Coordinates and participates in public health clinics or outreach programs targeting specific populations or in response to epidemic outbreaks and disaster operations; interviews and counsels patients; conducts health screenings and assessments; directs the daily work activities of support staff and volunteers; aware of and utilizes community resources and efforts that effect the population served; provides health education presentations to schools and other community groups.

6. Coordinates health and related services in categorical programs; determines eligibility according to program guidelines; manages an assigned caseload, including needs assessment, care coordination, and service authorization; interprets and explains program guidelines to beneficiaries, service providers, and community agencies; refers beneficiaries to other appropriate community services; maintains case records according to program requirements.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM-SPECIFIC DUTIES FOR THE (PEH) PROGRAM:
1. Perform core Public Health nursing functions, including evaluation of health, psychosocial and developmental histories, assessment, planning, and interventions through direct patient care.
2. Case manage high-risk homeless patients and coordinate care for these patients with Public Health Providers, Mental Health Workers, Social Workers, drug and alcohol staff, shelter staff, and other community resources.
3. Coordinate and direct work activities for the HCH Health Service Aide.
4. Complete appropriate documentation on the HCH encounter form and TB forms, and self-enter or supervise entry of TB testing date in the PHN Database by the Health Service Aide

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS
- Possession of a valid Registered Nurse license issued by the California State Board of Registered Nursing AND certification in Public Health Nursing.

Additional Qualifications: Independent travel is required. Possession of a valid California Class C Driver's License is required.
**Knowledge of:** the principles and practices of general clinical and public health nursing, including community nursing programs; case management and provisions for continuity in patient care; health promotion techniques; laws and regulations governing public health nursing; causes and means of transmission and methods of control for communicable diseases, including tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases; maternal and child health; child abuse and neglect detection practices; gerontology and the sociological aspects of aging; environmental, sociological and psychological problems encountered in disease processes; contemporary health management principles; current trends in public health nursing; work of other social and health agencies, as well as functions of other professions related to public health nursing; sociological and emotional problems involved in care of those with special needs and medical conditions; principles of mental health nursing; use and effects of medicines; principles of nutrition and personal hygiene practices; cultural differences affecting health care service delivery and public health; effective counseling and coaching techniques; and principles of clinical health screening including charting histories and system reviews.

**Ability to:** exercise independent judgment; plan, organize, and carry out public health nursing activities in a local area; apply public health nursing laws and regulations; work effectively with individuals and families to assist them in satisfactory solution of health problems; perform assessments of health status determining the need for and level of nursing and/or medical care; identify problems and develop a plan for follow-up; communicate effectively verbally and in writing; maintain accurate records and document actions taken; prepare clear and concise reports; work with groups; direct work of support staff; make home visits in assigned geographic areas; deal with clients of various socio-economic backgrounds and temperaments; provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services; demonstrate tact, diplomacy and compassion; respond appropriately in emergency high-risk and/or stressful situations; provide nursing assessment and care in a disaster; identify and report domestic violence and child abuse and neglect; refer clients to social service agencies and health care providers; act as patient advocate; collect and analyze data to draw logical conclusions and make appropriate recommendations; interview and counsel clients on health and related matters; and maintain confidentiality of information.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

The Public Health Department (PHD) requires all employees working in direct contact with patients or clients in a high-risk environment to comply with the PHD Employee Immunizations policy. This can be accomplished by providing documentation of immunizations, submitting laboratory immune titers demonstrating adequate immunity, or obtaining required vaccinations. A list of requirements, based on the specific program, will be sent at the time an offer letter is presented to the selected candidate(s) and initial documentation will be required at this time.

Pre-employment Medical Clearance is required for this position.
This position may be subject to State Health Officer Orders (SHOOs) or County policy regarding vaccine verification and/or testing. Please contact the hiring department for more information.