

Alberta's Health Regions and Voluntary Organizations and the Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA)

This classification specification identifies representative duties and responsibilities, and is intended to assist in the determination of the appropriate classification level within each discipline. Some duties and responsibilities may overlap between class levels. The classification specification is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of all duties performed.

Classification Title: **Family Counsellor**

Date Updated: **May 20, 2008**

Job Summary:

The Family Counsellor provides assessment/diagnosis, treatment and follow-up to a specific client group and their respective families. This position provides clinically focused consultation services with other programs or community resources. Acts as a liaison to develop and promote preventative mental health programs in the community. The Family Counsellor collaborates with other health care providers and educational professionals in school settings.

Key Responsibilities and Typical Duties:

Core Duties

- Collaborates with the client(s) to form therapy goals and a treatment plan.
- Provides individual and family assessment, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up.
- Participates in providing a range of therapies including family, group, play therapy and individual interventions.
- Provides consultation to families and other care providers regarding the needs of identified clients.
- Collaborates with other health care professionals in treatment planning and implementation.
- Arranges referrals to appropriate resources.

Leadership

- Serves as a preceptor for Family Counsellor Students.
- Participates in the recruitment, orientation and training of staff, practicum students and volunteers as required.
- Organizes and participates in education/training sessions with other health care providers regarding client care issues.
- Participates in program planning.

Decision-Making

- Assesses high risk behaviors (e.g. suicide, addictions and abuse) and determines appropriate treatment modifications, interventions and/ or the need for additional resources or referrals.
- Provides clinical consultation to other health care providers, schools and community agencies.

Knowledge:

Education

- Master's Degree in a health-related discipline.

Registration Requirements

- Registered with their applicable professional college/association.
- May require special authorization from their applicable regulating body to perform psychosocial interventions.

Working Conditions:

Physical Demands

- Bends, twists and assumes awkward positions.
- Lifts and carries equipment and supplies.

Work Environment

- Office and/ or school environment.
- Travel in all weather/road conditions.
- Subject to exposure to verbally/physically aggressive clients and/or family members.