Part-Time (20 hours per week) Clinical Prevention Specialist

Overview:

The Boston Arts Academy, a public high school for the visual and performing arts, is starting its 19th year in September 2015 with 420 students in Grades 9-12. It is a joint project of the Professional Arts Consortium, Inc., (comprising the Berklee College of Music, Boston Architectural Center, the Boston Conservatory, Emerson College Massachusetts College of Arts, and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts) and the Boston Public Schools. The Boston Arts Academy is charged with being a laboratory and a beacon for artistic and academic innovation. The Boston Arts Academy prepares a diverse community of aspiring artist-scholars to be successful in their college or professional careers and to be engaged members of a democratic society.

This innovative school features a college preparatory curriculum supporting integrated and interdisciplinary teaching and learning among arts and academic disciplines. Students explore the arts in both traditional and new media form. The Academy’s program is enriched by the involvement of the six members of the Professional Arts Consortium. Both the program and the student body at the Academy reflect the culture, ethnic and linguistic diversity of Boston.

General Description:

Boston Arts Academy (BAA) will be implementing the Bridge for Resilient Youth in Transition (BRYT) program, an innovative program for adolescents who have experienced a psychiatric crisis or hospitalization for emotional, behavioral, medical, or substance related issues. The BRYT program at BAA will provide support to adolescents and their families during the critical period of transition back to school. In the past 3 years, we have seen a steady increase in hospital admissions, with a record 34 hospital admissions this year, and we believe this program will be critical to their success.

The Clinical Prevention Specialist will be responsible for supporting and coordinating services for students who are returning from medical leave and/or who are at risk of needing a medical leave of absence due to medical and/or behavioral health concerns. The Clinical Prevention Specialist will help oversee a “home base” classroom located within the Wellness Office, which will serve as a source of psychological, academic/artistic, and case management support and to foster a smooth transition for students to their regular schedule.
We seek a unique individual with an interest in helping high-risk teenagers in educational and clinical environments. Experience with school-based work with high-risk adolescents highly desirable. Additional skills include flexibility, solid knowledge of school and community-based resources, ability to work collaboratively with multidisciplinary teams, competence in case formulation from bio-psycho-social and systemic perspectives, strong negotiation and conflict resolution skills, and experience in providing crisis intervention and treatment planning.

**Clinical Responsibilities:**

- Provide clinical support and crisis intervention counseling to the BRYT program students and families.
- Communicate with hospitals and programs regarding student progress and discharge planning.
- Schedule & facilitate re-entry meetings for students and provide meeting notes to the Director of Health & Wellness, Academic & Artistic Deans, and teachers.
- Facilitate communication between the BRYT program students and school personnel, therapists, pediatricians, and other agencies.
- Assess student functioning and make appropriate referrals to school and community resources (e.g., clinical, substance abuse treatment, tutoring) as indicated.
- Communicate with teachers and obtain classwork for students enrolled in the BRYT program.
- Provide a link between the student, teachers, and parents to ensure students can maintain coursework to the extent possible.
- Collaborate with Director of Health & Wellness and Academic Dean to resolve student grades.
- In collaboration with the Director of Health & Wellness, oversee and facilitate the design, coordination, implementation and evaluation of all day-to-day activities related to Bridge programming.
- Participate in program evaluation -- including administering CAFAS survey instruments, data collection, and quarterly reports.

**Prevention, Intervention, and Consultation:**

- As part of the Health and Wellness Team (HWT), provide individual, family, and group counseling interventions and classroom prevention services.
- Collaborate closely with the Health & Wellness Team, advisors, teachers, and families to create prevention/intervention plans to address student concerns and to intervene in social-emotional situations affecting the student’s educational development.
- Consult with Director of Health of & Wellness to facilitate mandated assessments when abuse is suspected (child, disabled adult, elder), and safety assessments when violence is reported.
• Perform any other duties requested by the Director of Health & Wellness and the Headmaster.

**Professional Practice:**

• Engage in best practices and professional standards of care.
• Adhere to the values and ethics of the mental health profession and/or use the American Psychological Association Code of Ethics, and use as guides in decision-making.
• Model professional behaviors that contribute to addressing the needs of students, families, and the school community.
• Maintain accurate and appropriate records and documents related to clinical case-load, records and documentation.

**Qualifications:**

• Massachusetts License as a Social Worker (LCSW or LICSW), Mental Health Counselor (LMHC, or Marriage & Family Therapist (LMFT) or School Social Worker License issued by DESE.
• Master's Degree in Social Work, Counseling, Psychology, School Psychology, Expressive Art Therapy, or other related field (i.e., MSW, MHC, MA, MS, Med, CAGS).
• Minimum of three years professional clinical experience providing treatment to adolescents and their families.
• Excellent interpersonal, written and oral communication skills required.
• Experience with child/adolescent development, family dynamics, and systems work.
• Experience in working with students with diverse socio-emotional and learning needs.
• Experience working with multicultural families, underserved communities and economically disadvantaged populations required.
• Commitment to working with families and students as partners in education
• Bilingual and/or bi-cultural (English/Spanish or English/Haitian Creole) applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.
• A deeply rooted understanding of cultural diversity.

To apply, please submit your resume and two (2) letters of reference to Dr. Charmain Jackman at cjackman@bostonartscademy.org.