



Equine-Professional Job Description / Duties

About the Position

Under direct supervision of the Clinical Director and the Equine Director, the Equine Professional teams with a Therapist to provide Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) to individuals, families, and groups. Individualized services focus on helping clients learn to self-regulate and build healthy relationships. The Equine Professional utilizes their education, professional and life experience, and training with horses to help serve children, youth and families impacted by trauma and other mental health concerns. The Equine Professional also utilizes their knowledge of trauma, brain development, and how trauma impacts an individual's worldview and functioning in relationships. Maintaining confidentiality of all records relating to clients' treatment is essential.

Essential Job Duties and Responsibilities

- Establishes personal relationships with horses to foster a safe, respectful environment for horses and clients. Assesses human-horse interactions and prohibits/stops any activity that compromises the well-being of the horse. Understands and is able to facilitate horse's value as a real relationship partner.
- Serves as the equine professional member of the therapy team, co-facilitating trauma focused psychotherapy. Assures horses are ready and available for scheduled sessions.
- Collaborates with Therapist in client intake/assessment, diagnosis, development and implementation of client therapy goals, treatment plans, discharge planning, and evaluation.
- Implements client treatment plans in collaboration with Clinical Therapist and with input from client and caregivers.
- Communicates with clients, family members and collateral contacts as needed.
- Participates actively in clinical and administrative team meetings, consultation, peer review and professional development trainings.
- Cares for the horses, land and equipment necessary for this position.

The above statements are not a complete list of all responsibilities, duties, skills held or performed by the employee in this job. The employee may perform other related duties as assigned.

Physical and Environmental Demands of Job Functions

- Physical demands included as part of working on a ranch with therapy horses include but are not limited to standing, twisting upper body, walking, climbing, kneeling, carrying, squatting, lifting and bending
- Environmental demands included as part of working on a ranch with therapy horses include but are not limited to exposure to heat, exposure to cold, exposure to dust/mites, etc.

Education and Experience Requirements

- Five or more years of experience working with horses
- Skills and/or training in relationship building with an equine partner, and/or a thorough understanding of natural horsemanship. The ability to recognize the emotional and physical responses of the horse in a session is an essential skill.
- Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university
- Bilingual (English & Spanish) preferred
- Excellent verbal and written communications skills
- Passion for the organization's mission, vision, and culture
- Ability to maintain appropriate boundaries with staff and clients in all circumstances
- Ability to work well in a multi-cultural, community-based organization
- Ability to work well both independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- Ability to utilize office software, clinical information system, email
- Ability to multitask and prioritize daily workload
- Ability to work primarily outdoors and withstand changing weather conditions
- Treats all people with respect and values diverse perspectives
- Must be flexible and have a sense of humor

Please send a cover letter and copy of your resume to our Equine Director, Kym, at kym@spiritreins.org if you are interested in this position.