

## **Youth Care Worker I (YCW I)**

### **GENERAL DEFINITION OF WORK:**

Responsible for the day to day care, supervision, and security of detainees; does related work as required. Work is performed under the direct supervision of the Youth Care Supervisor.

### **TYPICAL DUTIES:**

Monitors and assesses detainee behavior for potentially dangerous and/or deceptive acts that may threaten the safety and well-being of themselves or others;

Maintains discipline of detainees through the systematic implementation of approved behavior management programs;

Coordinates and supervises detainee work assignments and recreational activities;

Develops and implements various psycho-educational groups as assigned;

Maintains daily program schedule;

Supervises detainee mealtimes;

Prepares detailed reports regarding detainee behavior;

Maintains detailed records of detainee's daily activities;

Models acceptable and appropriate behavior in conflict resolution, grievance resolution, language, conduct, and dress;

Issues clothing, bedding, toiletries, etc. as required;

Provides crisis intervention and exercises independent judgment in crisis situations as needed;

Maintains case files:

Conducts intake interviews and detainee orientation;

Conducts risk assessments and assigns detainees to appropriate living units;

Assists in preparing detainees for court, release, appointments, etc. as needed;

Processes releases;

Works cooperatively with other Youth Care Workers, Youth Care Supervisors and other detention staff;

Conducts searches;

Mediates detainee interpersonal conflicts;

Establishes professional interpersonal relationships with detainees and co-workers that promote agency philosophy and mission;

Serves as "Youth Care Worker In-Charge" of shift implementation as assigned;

Serves a "Med Agent" as assigned;

Operates the central control room as assigned;

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**

Ability to communicate effectively with detainees, staff, law enforcement personnel, and others, orally and in writing; general knowledge in the use of computers and basic word processing software; ability to efficiently plan and organize work; ability to work independently; ability to work effectively with co-workers, detainees, and other professionals; ability to work with maladjusted juveniles; ability to provide effective crisis management services; ability and willingness to work as a part of a professional team; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, supervisors, detainees, parents and/or legal guardians, and the general public; ability to exercise sound independent judgment; ability to safely and effectively physically restrain out of control detainees; ability to safely and efficiently operate a motor vehicle. Knowledge of the juvenile justice system, individual and group behavior, security practices, suicide prevention, crisis intervention techniques, medications and side effects, and group facilitation.

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in psychology, social work, sociology, criminal justice or related allied profession, preferring candidates with volunteer or paid experience working with children and/or teenagers; Associate degree, or equivalent, with at least 3 months of volunteer or paid experience working with children and/or teenagers; Or a High School diploma or equivalent with 6 months volunteer or paid experience working with older children and/or teenagers, preferably in a residential environment.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Must have the use of sensory skills in order to effectively communicate and interact with other employees, detainees, and the public through the use of the telephone and personal contact. Physical ability to effectively use and operate office equipment, such as, computers, calculators, copiers, and fax machine. Must have the ability to walk and stand for long periods of time. Must have the physical capacity to lift a minimum of 1.5 cubic feet of files (approximately 40 lbs.), move furniture, and restrain violent detainees.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Must have valid CPR and First Aid certifications prior to employment. Must be able to successfully complete and maintain certification in CPR, First Aid, Med Agent, OSHA, and physical restraint without accommodation outside normal training guidelines. Must have a valid Virginia driver's license.

THIS IS A JOB DESCRIPTION AND NOT AN INDIVIDUALIZED POSITION DESCRIPTION. A JOB DESCRIPTION DEFINES THE GENERAL CHARACTER AND SCOPE OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL POSITIONS IN A JOB CLASSIFICATION, BUT IS NOT INTENDED TO DESCRIBE AND DOES NOT NECESSARILY LIST THE ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS FOR A GIVEN POSITION IN A CLASSIFICATION.