

**Mental Health Specialist (Mental Health Therapist)  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division  
St. Cloud, Minnesota**

**Who May Apply:** Open to all qualified job seekers

**Date Posted:** 06/23/2018

**Closing Date:** 07/13/2018

**Hiring Agency:** Department of Human Services

**Division/Unit:** Community Supports / Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division

**Work Hours:** 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Days of Work:** Monday – Friday

**Salary Range:** \$25.72 - \$37.90/hourly; \$53,703 - \$79,135 annually

**Travel Required:** Yes

**Classified Status:** Classified

**Connect 700 Program Eligible:** Yes

Are you looking for an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others using your expertise in mental health, ASL, and Deaf Culture? We are seeking an enthusiastic and innovative mental health clinician to provide services to deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing adults coping with mental health issues in Central Minnesota. These services will enable deaf clients to freely access culturally affirmative mental health services in their home communities. In addition to counseling individual deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing clients, the Mental Health Specialist may also work with couples, families, and groups when available. You will be part of a strong team dedicated to DHS's mission of helping people meet their basic needs so they can live, work and play with dignity in inclusive communities. You will be influencing the future of services. If this interests you, we want to hear from you!

### **Job Summary**

The Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing Mental Health Specialist provides direct mental health services to deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing adults coping with mental health challenges and to serve as the treatment expert to public and private mental health care agencies within the East/West Central region in Minnesota.

This Includes providing direct mental health services (independently or with supervision) to deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing adults and their families.

Job Responsibilities include:

- Individual/couples/family/group psychotherapy, intake evaluation, treatment planning, some clinical case management, inter-agency coordination, and psycho-education.
- Complete intake evaluations, treatment plans, progress notes, discharge summaries, and other reports as required.
- Some consultation duties are also involved (in-services and workshops on Deaf culture and mental health).
- Maintain close contact with local acute psychiatric units and group homes ensuring that their services are accessible for deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing clients.
- Assist in client capacity building in the regions covered.

In addition, this position will be housed in St. Cloud, MN and will travel throughout the travel 22 counties region as needed. These services will enable deaf and hard of hearing clients to access culturally and linguistically affirmative mental health services in their home areas and for the mental health care agencies to receive expert consultation services for providing appropriate services to this population.

## **Minimum Qualifications**

Must meet one (1) of the following education and experience qualifications listed below:

- Licensed or license-eligible for Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in the state of Minnesota and three (3) years of professional experience providing direct mental health services to deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing clients; or
- Master's or Doctoral degree in degree in Counseling, Psychology, Social Work behavioral-health or related field and one (1) year of professional experience providing direct mental health services to deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing clients

Experience must demonstrate the following:

- Fluency in American Sign Language (ASL)
- Knowledge of the video technology used by deaf and hard of hearing people;
- Providing psychotherapy or therapy services to clients for treatment of mental illness, symptoms, or conditions; and
- Able to perform some duties at remote work sites, involving some statewide travel.

## **Preferred Qualifications**

- Experienced or familiar with a statewide system of mental health services.
- Licensed or license-eligible for Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in the state of Minnesota.
- Knowledge of clinical/crisis interventions and psychiatric medications.
- Providing consultation services to mental health care organizations.
- Excellent client advocacy and interpersonal skills.
- Knowledge of relevant professional codes of ethics and DSM-5 diagnoses.
- Fully competent in deaf and hearing cross-cultures.

## **Why Work For Us**

**GREAT BENEFITS PACKAGE!** The State of Minnesota offers a comprehensive benefits package including low cost medical and dental insurance, employer paid life insurance, short and long term disability, pre-tax flexible spending accounts, retirement plan, tax-deferred compensation, generous vacation and sick leave, and 11 paid holidays each year.

Our mission as an employer is to actively recruit, welcome and support a workforce, which is diverse and inclusive of people who are underrepresented in the development of state policies, programs and practices, so that we can support the success and growth of all people who call Minnesota home.

## **St. Cloud, Minnesota:**

St. Cloud is Minnesota's eighth largest city, centered in the middle of Minnesota, and is known for its low cost of living (ranging from suburban housing on the outskirts of the city, to small family homes in the Lake George neighborhood, to magnificent homes in the Southside/University area), as well as its various employment, recreation, and entertainment opportunities. St. Cloud has been recognized as being the "Most Livable Community", "Best Blend of Business and Pleasure City", "Most Family Friendly City", "Healthiest Hometown", "Most Exciting Place To Live In Minnesota," and has been voted seven times in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal as one of the "Best Places to Work."

Cultural and arts opportunities are numerous in St. Cloud. The 2013 Arts Index stated that Stearns County has 62 artists and art-related businesses per 100,000 residents, which was quite a bit higher than the national average of 43.6. Some of the opportunities include: Central Minnesota Youth Orchestra, Downtown St. Cloud Art Crawl, which features over 40 shops and eateries, GREAT Theatre, which provides on-stage performing, and Paramount Center for the Arts, which is a 700-seat theater. In addition to these, The Visual Arts Center offers "exhibitions of regional artists and classes for all ages in pottery, painting, drawing, glass, wood burning, and weaving in its on-site studios." These mentioned here only touch the tip of what St. Cloud has to offer in regards to the arts.

Throughout the year, there are several events that occur, and the number of events continues to grow each year. Summertime by George, a weekly event that offers live music and arts, is one of the most popular events during the summer, and attracts over 11,000 people. In addition to various events, St. Cloud has several museums where one can learn about the history of any number of topics, or tour some of the historic home that have been carefully preserved. St. Cloud is the place to be if you are an active outdoors person and/or enjoy sports. With over 80 parks and more than 10 miles of biking and walking trails, there is something for everyone. Walk, bike, or run along the Mississippi River, or, if you enjoy being on the water, swimming, canoeing and kayaking are excellent options. Watch the St. Cloud Rox baseball team, or catch a hockey game at the Herb Brooks National Hockey Center.

St. Cloud State University was listed by Forbes as one of "America's Top Colleges," and currently has approximately 15,000 students enrolled. The university is situated alongside the Mississippi River on 100 acres. When it comes to K-12 education, the city of St. Cloud's website states, that the "St. Cloud area is home to 3 high-achieving, award-winning school districts with more than 16,000 students. Many of these schools specialize in helping prepare the future workforce."

## **Contact**

If you have questions about the position or want to submit your resume, please contact Dr. John Gournaris at [John.Gournaris@state.mn.us](mailto:John.Gournaris@state.mn.us)