



KENDALL COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
EARLY CHILDHOOD
MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST
FULL-TIME EXEMPT

Education/Experience/Licensure:

- ▶ Master's degree in a human services related field required. Experience in group, family & individual counseling preferred.
- ▶ License as LCSW, LCPC or LMFT preferred or the ability to acquire as directed within an agreed timeframe.
- ▶ Bilingual in Spanish preferred.

Skills/Knowledge/Abilities:

- ▶ Ability to work with children, early childhood development, dynamics underlying young children's social-emotional development, & skills in behavioral health counseling.
- ▶ Experience in the early childhood care, education field, and/or behavioral health counseling, as well as an ability to be comfortable practicing in various early childhood settings.
- ▶ Requires an understanding of the importance of cultural sensitivity in relation to both staff & clients & the ability to exercise the same.
- ▶ Requires proficiency to work in a Windows environment (i.e. Foothold, social media, Microsoft Office Suite, etc.) & the ability to learn & work with a variety of software programs, including but not limited to new computer-based, data management programs, as they emerge & become available.
- ▶ Requires the ability to travel throughout Kendall County & other locations in Illinois as needed to perform assigned job duties, which includes maintaining current valid Illinois driver's license, auto insurance & reliable transportation.
- ▶ Requires the ability to apply common sense understanding to carry out instructions furnished in written, oral, or diagram form & the ability to deal with problems involving several concrete variables & the ability to communicate by phone & in person including excellent diction with a helpful & culturally competent approach.
- ▶ Position requires varied hours as directed.
- ▶ Ability to pass background check.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- ▶ Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist will performs various duties including, but not limited to:
 - ▶ Provide ongoing, relationship based mental health consultation, technical assistance, & referrals to ECCE (Early Childhood Care & Education) providers working with children ages birth to five/families.
 - ▶ Provide pertinent training to early childhood providers within the service delivery area & on a statewide basis & facilitate ongoing support for enhanced staff interactions with child & parents.
 - ▶ Work proactively to improve collaborative understanding between the early childhood providers & mental health, as well as promote community understanding for child/family mental health.
 - ▶ Assist ECCE providers in designing setting based intervention strategies to enhance children's social-emotional development & mitigate behavioral distributions.
 - ▶ Provide mental health consultation regarding particular children with mild social-emotional challenges, including the administration of screening & assessment tools as warranted.
 - ▶ Facilitate referrals for children & families with more intensive needs to the most appropriate available mental health provider as well as confer with providers & supervisor on training needs.
 - ▶ Assure that training provided is accessible & affordable for the intended audience, taking into account the working hours, geographic barriers, or financial realities of early childhood providers.
 - ▶ Develop & maintain collaborative, professional relationships with all major ECCE & mental health providers.
- ▶ KCHD offers pension, vacation, paid holidays & is a smoke free campus. Equal Opportunity Employer.

SEND RESUME & COVER LETTER TO:

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