



## **POSITION: STAFF THERAPIST (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL)**

**JPA** is a 120 year old social impact agency whose mission is to improve the social and emotional well-being and functioning of children so they can reach their fullest potential at home, in school, and in our communities. JPA partners with schools and centers across the city with the hope of sharing its trauma-informed, mental health, developmentally-informed lens.

**JPA is seeking to expand its team and hire full-time clinicians to provide relationship-oriented school-based therapy for children in Prekindergarten through eighth grade.** School-based therapists provide trauma-informed, talk and play-based therapy for individuals and small groups for children in elementary school.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Provide individual therapy and small group therapy to children in the school setting. Caseloads will include: 20 individual children and 3 small groups for the entirety of the school year. Caseload must meet program's funding requirements and is subject to review by the Senior Director of Clinical Practices.
- Conduct intake interviews with children, family members and/or relevant school staff, providing an initial assessment and treatment plan that best reflects the needs of the client.
- Provide clinical support and guidance to clients' parents/caregivers, as it relates to the well-being of the client.
- Provide guidance and advocacy on behalf of the child's and family's needs with key stakeholders in the community.
- Engage in active outreach with school staff, parents/caregivers, and community resources.
- Regular collaboration and consultation with school staff, as it relates to caseload and social-emotional topics.
- Support clinical and logistical elements of maintaining on-going school partnerships, including but not limited to, attending regular meetings with school administration and other relevant stakeholders.
- As a leader within the therapeutic milieu, serve as a role model, particularly regarding treating oneself and others with respect and dignity, in a thriving learning community.
- Adhere to ethical, legal, and the organizational expectations of documentation of clinical services, record keeping, and data collection.
- Document all direct and indirect clinical services, and any other miscellaneous professional activities (such as school meetings), in a timely manner, including ongoing documentation for Medicaid.
- Attend all relevant organizational meetings, including but not limited to case consultation, clinical supervision, clinical team meetings, and program meetings.
- Commitment to on-going professional development regarding race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religion, other cultural components, and issues of social justice.
- Other duties may be assigned as the needs arise.

**Qualifications:**

- Master's degree in Social Work, Counseling, or Marriage and Family Therapy and a valid licensure in Illinois as an LSW, LCSW, LPC, LCPC, or LMFT
- Clinical approach rooted in a trauma-informed, strength-based, child-centered practice. Applicants must demonstrate a solid understanding of significant developmental tasks for children; an appreciation for systems theory and its application within the child's life; and a foundational competence regarding the therapeutic process
- Must have experience working with young children
- Must demonstrate flexibility, adaptability, assertiveness, an openness to learn, and self-initiation
- An understanding of urban, under-resourced educational environments preferred but not required
- This position may require travel; therefore one must own a car to be able to travel to multiple sites if necessary during the work day
- Excellent communication skills that can be applied to a variety of settings
- This position requires the ability to write treatment plans, mental health assessments, and case conceptualizations. Able to present information and respond to questions from key stakeholders
- Knowledge and previous experience of Medicaid is preferred

**Benefits:**

- Weekly individual clinical supervision
- Opportunities for case consultation, which includes case presentation and analysis, with clinical team and clinical consultant
- Becoming part of a creative, innovative, energetic team
- Very generous PTO package (vacation, sick and personal days)
- Excellent health benefits with substantial employer cost share
- Family leave, if applicable
- Retirement plan with employer matching

Job Type: Full-time

Salary: Commensurate with experience

**COVID-19 considerations:**

Must be vaccinated to work in CPS schools or agree to weekly testing.

Our therapists will provide sessions, virtually, to students if schools return to remote learning. Please send your cover letter and resume to [Humanresources@jpachicago.org](mailto:Humanresources@jpachicago.org) to apply. *JPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*