

Vocational Services

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Professional Practice Leader (West 5th)

Scope of Practice

Vocational Rehabilitation professionals assist individuals with overcoming barriers to accessing, maintaining or returning to employment or other useful vocational roles.

Professionals utilize evidence-based, client-centered processes and services to assist persons with or at risk of functional, psychological, developmental, cognitive and emotional impairments or health conditions.

Number of Members of Discipline:

SITE	FTE	PTE	POSITION
West 5th	8		Vocational Counsellor

Major Achievements

CARING

Clinical Practice:

- Collaboration with Rainbow's End Community Development Corporation to offer food service training program at Colours Café for patients in Mental Health and Addictions Program (MHAP)
- Working with YWCA TOPS Program to help clients enter and complete their work program
- Liaised and work with 541 Eatery to develop volunteer opportunities with their new Volunteer Coordinator
- Collaborated with Therapeutic Recreation to offer gardening group for outpatients with primary mood disorders; continued work with City of Hamilton and SJHH leadership to build and run a community garden program at T. Melville Bailey Park; collaborate with occupational therapy and recreation therapy in other MHAP programs to support their community garden initiatives
- Partnered with occupational therapy to offer cooking skills group for outpatients with primary Mood Disorders
- Offered ongoing volunteer-based groups in the community with local agencies geared to client interests and needs
- Co-facilitated interprofessional group programming on Waterfall 1, Mood Disorders

CARING

Clinical Practice Continued...

- Continued engagement in team care approaches and processes on inpatient units across MHAP where needed to support quality patient care
- Engagement on inpatient and outpatient group committees with Mood Disorders Program
- Support unit through participation as Hand Hygiene auditor, Safewards participant, contribute to weekly team meetings, unit searches, community meetings
- Complete vocational/education related spot checks for forensic psychiatry clients
- Collaborate with employment service providers, refer to programs, support job searches – March of Dimes, Goodwill, Mission Services, etc
- Collaborate with temporary agencies for opportunities, prepare patients for upcoming employment opportunities
- Continue to offer opportunities in the Forensic Enclave such as Tuck Cart Program and the Greeting Card Program
- Engaging patients in secondary school coursework, provide support, attend graduations
- Connect patients with peers for support with studies i.e., same patient in same course
- Continue to provide supported employment opportunities to patients through Rainbow's End – Lawncare and Grounds Keeper
- Continue to work with Mohawk College to facilitate a City School course at West 5th Campus for Forensic Psychiatry patients
- Provide support with NSLSC to take old loans from collections back to NSLSC and RAP funds off – help build patient credit profile
- Attend pre-board hearings, prepare Ontario Review Reports and attend ORB's
- Attend eHarm meetings to determine risk and level of privilege a patient can have – this allows me to seek opportunities for patients on grounds and community

LEARNING

Education:

- Continued affiliation agreement with York/Seneca Rehabilitation Services Certificate program.
- Continued opportunities to orient new unit staff and interprofessional learners to the vocational counselling role on MHAP programs with vocational counselling.
- Liaised and toured vocational services and programming at Waypoint (October 2023) to support future vocational rehabilitation initiatives within Forensic Psychiatry.

Internal Education

- One member provides Crisis Prevention Intervention instruction for SJHH staff

Research

- Collaboration with other disciplines in running therapeutic groups on Forensic Psychiatry – this includes participating in related research (Scribl)

BUILDING

Staff:

- One member maintained RVP designation
- One member maintained RCSS designation
- One member maintained CPRP certification
- One member maintained College of Vocational Rehabilitation-Fellow (CVRP(F)) designation
- One member maintained Registered Rehabilitation Professional (RRP) designation
- One member completed CPI instructor course

Internal Education:

- Providing ongoing updates on community employment services and programs to interprofessional at SJHH that support clients with these linkages
- One member provides CPI instruction for SJHH staff

Professional Practice Development:

- Virtual Vocational Practice Council (VPC) sessions
- Ongoing opportunities to build knowledge and capacity around vocational rehabilitation, best practice vocational rehabilitation approaches, community resources and programs that support vocational rehabilitation practice
- One member involved in the Self-Management Support (SMS) Training, using the *SET for Health* approach developed at Schizophrenia and Community Integration Service
- One member and PPL oversees transfer of accountability practices via self-audit collection and review

LEADING

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- Continue to offer opportunities in the Forensic Enclave such as Tuck Cart Program and the Greeting Card Program
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LEADING

External Activities:

Presentations

- Attended Job Fairs to educate community on our programs, build connections with employers

Committees

- Hamilton Employment Resource Network

Major Initiatives for 2024/25:

CARING

- Continue to offer unit programming and program specific initiatives that will assist persons in recovery with vocational rehabilitation in areas of return to work, continuing education, volunteering

LEARNING

- Explore viability of building new partnerships (and affiliation agreements) with vocational/career counselling education programs to support clinical education

BUILDING

- Continue building employment supports knowledge and capacity among vocational counsellors and other pertinent staff/referral sources across MHAP
- engage in team building and collaborative initiatives/pursuits among remaining counsellors

LEADING

- Continued engagement with community partners and programs to develop and maintain partnerships while facilitating supported employment and supported education initiatives for persons in recovery