Population Health Management of Jensen Class Members

Position Information

Employer:
Minnesota Department of Human Services

Division:
Equal Opportunity and Access

Title:
Population Health Management of Jensen Class Members

Description:
Students interested in this position should send a cover letter, resume, unofficial transcript, 4-5 page academic or professional writing sample to Peg.booth@state.mn.us by Friday December 9th.

Background
In July of 2009, three families of people served in the Minnesota Extended Treatment Options (METO) program filed a lawsuit against DHS and the State of Minnesota. This lawsuit was expanded to include all people served at METO between July 1, 1997 and May 1, 2011. The lawsuit alleged that the program used restraint and seclusion in a way that broke the law and violated the rights of the individuals. Rather than going to trial, the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota adopted a Settlement Agreement on Dec. 5, 2011. This allowed DHS and the plaintiffs to resolve the claims in a mutually agreeable manner.

As part of the Jensen Settlement Agreement (JSA), the Department of Human Services agreed to provide therapeutic follow up to all Jensen Class Members and clients discharged from METO/MSHS-Cambridge since May 1, 2011. The JSA Comprehensive Plan of Action Evaluation Criteria 98 states that “DHS will maintain therapeutic follow-up of Class Members, and clients discharged from METO/MSHS-Cambridge since May 1, 2011, by professional staff to provide a safety network, as needed, to help prevent re-institutionalization and other transfers to more restrictive settings, and to maintain the most integrated setting for those individuals.”

Population health has been defined as “the health outcomes of a group of individuals, including the distribution of such outcomes within the group.” For this project, the “group of individuals” will include those persons receiving therapeutic follow-up identified above. Medical care is only one of many factors that affect those outcomes. Behavioral risk, including psychiatric diagnosis is relevant as well. Population health strategies have been embraced by many elements of the health care system in the United States, but have been slower to be utilized by services for people with intellectual disabilities.

People with intellectual disabilities (ID) may have physical and mental health (MH) diagnoses. The rate of mental illness is higher among people with ID than the general population. Additionally, behavioral health concerns are often present as well. The rate of problem behaviors is high, and often presents a challenge to community inclusion.

Project Description
The Jensen / Olmstead Quality Assurance and Compliance Office will work with the intern to in the development of a population health management strategy, for members of the therapeutic follow-up group. To support wellness and recovery, the JOQACO has developed a checklist with items comprising the most important components of effective supports for people with dual diagnosis (ID and MH). If
effective supports are put in place, as reflected by the items on this checklist, risk can be minimized and people’s lives can be enhanced.

A second area of emphasis is to develop strategies for identifying risk factors, which predict behavioral crises or destabilization of current housing

Intern Responsibilities
The intern will utilize multiple sources of existing data to gather a precise understanding of the different risks, including behavioral health concerns encountered by Jensen Class Members. Additionally, information will be gathered using the checklist noted above.

The intern will utilized this information, with extensive mentorship and support from the Jensen / Olmstead Quality Assurance and Compliance Office, to design a population health management strategy to support members of the therapeutic follow-up group, potentially using a public health model of supports (primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of intervention).

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Location:

Location #1
Nationwide
no
City
Saint Paul
State/Province
Minnesota
Country
United States

Position Type:
Part Time, Unpaid, Internship

Desired Major(s):
All Majors

Desired Class Level(s):
Senior

Work Authorization:
None

Salary Level:
Unpaid

Job Function:
Public Policy, Government, Law, Non-Profit, International Development, Social Services

Desired Start Date:
February 6, 2017

Duration:
Spring 2017

Approximate Hours Per Week:
10 hours/week
Qualifications:
Student must receive some form of a stipend and/or academic credit from their school in order to qualify for this internship.

Experience/knowledge of population health management and precision businesses intelligence software.

Attachment(s):
Title
Jensen Settlement Fact Sheet
File Name
Jensen_Settlement_Agreement_Fact_Sheet.pdf
Size
131089