

Pediatric Oncology Support Group (POST) Therapist

Are you looking for a job where you can make a difference? Are you an out-of-the-box thinker? A team player? Do people consider you uber-dependable? Are you a person that others turn to in a crisis?

The Pediatric Oncology Support Team (POST) is seeking the right person for a full-time position providing support to local children and their families fighting cancer. POST is a multi-disciplinary team providing emotional and financial support to families. The POST therapist is expected must have a holistic point of view, provide supportive counseling, school advocacy, psycho-education, group support, expressive healing experiences, relaxation, guided imagery, medical play, pre-procedure support, sibling support, and bereavement. The successful candidate will understand that counseling can be provided in a variety of ways not just in a 1:1 session. The majority of our interactions are NOT in a 1:1 private session.

POST is a West Palm Beach-based organization helping local children with cancer and their families. We ensure that no family works their child's cancer journey alone. Most services are provided on-site at the hospital or oncologist's office, but sometimes travel to school, home, or another facility in needed. Our services are available to families 24/7 so on-call is rotated among staff. Play therapy is a plus. Any experience in a medical setting is also helpful.

Successful candidate will have good organizational, communication, computer, great people skills, and ability to work within a team in a hospital setting. Knowledge of Microsoft Office software necessary. Candidates will be required to complete fingerprinting, drug screen (including nicotine), and background check prior to starting work. Bi-lingual in Spanish preferred. Master's degree is REQUIRED. Florida license strongly preferred.

JOB SUMMARY:

The POST Child & Family Therapist is responsible for providing appropriate emotional/behavioral health services to children with cancer and their families in the hospital, clinic, schools, homes, POST office and other locations depending on the family's choice and needs. The therapist is also responsible for providing feedback to the team based on actions and clinical assessment, and helping the team create a Family Plan.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling, Social Work, or Marriage & Family Therapy (or the equivalent) from an accredited university or college in the field of counseling, social work, psychology, or related human service.

- Minimum of two years' experience with children with emotional disturbances, trauma, abuse/neglect issues, OR one year of experience working with children with cancer or chronic/critical illness.
- Licensed by State of Florida 491 Board of Social Work, Mental Health Counseling, and Marriage & Family Therapy preferred.
- Experience working with children and families with psychological, behavioral, and/or psychosocial issues.
- Experience with and knowledge of educational systems and ESE/504 eligibilities.
- Ability to work well as a member of a team and to be flexible.
- Understanding of the stages of early childhood growth and development.
- Demonstrate cultural competence and awareness of the socio-cultural characteristics of clients served.
- Willingness and ability to travel locally; work a flexible schedule, which includes evenings and possibly weekends to meet client family needs.
- Some knowledge of community resources.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Computer knowledge.
- Good organizational skills.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:

- Support families throughout their child's diagnosis and treatment of cancer, including either survivorship or end-of-life.
- Integrate innovative and research-based therapeutic interventions such as assistance with coping skills, stress management, problem resolution, parenting etc.
- Utilize proven assessment methods to help with treatment planning.
- Meet with or reach out to newly diagnosed families within 24 hours diagnosis.
- Completely and accurately complete psychosocial assessment within a timely manner, preferably within 72 hours.
- Get information from the hospital staff daily about each inpatient client, any adjustment issues, procedures, medical updates and relay that information to the team.
- Keep team updated daily on patient progress and any change in patient status.
- Provide individual, sibling, group and family support/therapy to children and families.
- Help children with adjusting to cancer through medical play and/or play therapy.

- Provide procedural support and distraction as needed using puppets, play, and other distraction strategies.
- Coach patients and family members in breathing techniques, relaxation, and guided imagery using child-friendly approaches.
- Assist in development, implementation, and evaluation of a bi-cultural clinical program for Limited English Proficiency families.
- Utilize measures for clinical practice and outcome based treatment planning.
- Provide crisis intervention and on-call support as required or scheduled.
- Provide support to families through the end-of-life including meetings about Do Not Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate.
- Attend admission Hospice meetings, convey client needs and advocate for client families about their goals.
- Manage bereavement support and mailings.
- Help develop and implement services for teens.
- Link families to appropriate referrals such as other agencies, resources, and camps.
- Ensure that all services comply with funding, agency, and professional mandatory regulations.
- Help coordinate school re-entry for clients returning to school and advocate with schools for appropriate services, including IEP and 504.
- Develop and support healing activities and expressive arts opportunities for patients, siblings, and parents.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling, Social Work, Marriage & Family Therapy (or the equivalent) from an accredited university or college.
- Florida License preferred.
- Minimum of two years' experience with children with emotional disturbances, trauma, abuse/neglect issues, OR one-year experience working with children with cancer or chronic/critical illness.

COVID-19 precautions

- Remote interview process
- Personal protective equipment provided or required
- Temperature screenings
- Social distancing guidelines in place
- Sanitizing, disinfecting, or cleaning procedures in place

Everyone entering the building and the office must wear a mask. Hand sanitation is required.

SEND RESUME TO babernathy@postfl.org