



**North Eastman Health Association Inc.
Job Description**

Aboriginal Liaison Interpreter

Position Summary

To provide a comprehensive service to Aboriginal patients/ residents of the Pine Falls Health Complex, assisting them to adjust to institutionalization and their subsequent care, with major emphasis given to language and cultural differences; interpreting and facilitating health education for clients and cultural awareness for all staff; acting as a liaison and advocate between the aboriginal people and staff of the Pine Falls Health complex.

Reports To: Care Team Manager

Union: MGEU – Facility Support

Std Grp. 52A

Qualifications:

Education and Experience

- Completion of Grade 12 or equivalent.
- Post secondary education related to a community health program.
- Experience in the health care field.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Ability to inter-relate constructively with staff, physicians, patients, residents and their families.
- Ability to accurately translate and speak English/ Ojibway.
- Good understanding of medical terminology.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Valid driver's license.

Position Duties and Responsibilities:

Interpreting

- Translate vital information for the patient/ resident and/ or family, as well as for health care staff.
- Understand and interpret medical problems and terminology between the client and health care personnel in order to provide him/ her with a better understanding of the patients condition and to relate this to the patient in terms relevant to their lifestyle.

Client Advocacy

- Act on behalf of the client as a result of a request for problem solving in facility related matters between client and/ or family, and staff.
- Refer any such problems needing intervention to the Care Team Manager and further review appropriate action.

Liaison

- Relate to other agencies in the health and social services system, as directed by the Care Team Manager, with respect to discharge planning, transportation, medical services, etc.
- Participates on committees and scheduled community meetings.

Client Assessment

- Interrelate as necessary with clients as a result of referrals from the nursing staff or physicians, individual worker's identification of a need or problem, and/ or through a family or community referral.
- Utilize suitable interview techniques to assess the client's situation.
- Relay pertinent information to the nurse in charge.
- Carry out a program of recreation to meet the emotional needs and development levels of the pediatric patient.

Therapeutic Intervention

- Offer comfort and support to aboriginal clients, and help him/ her to better understand cultural differences and ease necessary adjustments when institutionalized.
- Help create a pleasant and less stressful environment for clients.
- Assist in providing regular and appropriate stimulation and supervision to pediatric and elderly clients during their stay in the facility.
- Seek out and visit with clients on isolation techniques and/ or who are bedridden.
- Accompany clients to various hospital service departments in order to interpret procedures and give support.
- Participate in exchange of client information on a daily basis with nursing staff.
- Participate in discharge planning meetings.
- Document each visit and specify services performed on the specified chart form, to be included as part of the client's overall record.

Health Education

- Attend appropriate health education/ inservice sessions in order to improve his/ her individual knowledge and skills.
- Assist in teaching a client about a specific diagnosis or treatment.
- Maintain accurate information about certain health conditions.
- Be informed sufficiently of the system so that clients' questions may be directed to the appropriate source for response.

Cultural Awareness

- Provide a positive image of the aboriginal person to other health team members.
- Assist/ educate facility personnel in cultural awareness.

Administrative

- Responsible for purchasing culturally suitable toys and/ or equipment with budgetary guidelines.
- Carry out office duties as required, including maintenance of statistics, purchasing, reports, client documentation, etc.
- Other duties as may be assigned.

Revised: _____
Date

Approved by: _____
Manager/ Supervisor Date

Approved by: _____
Vice President/ CEO Date

Reviewed by: _____
Director, Human Resources Services Date

NOTE: Original Signed and Dated September 1, 2009