Alternatives Overview:

Our mission is to inspire young people to create a just future through practices that heal individuals, restore communities, and transform systems. Since 1971, Alternatives has modeled innovative alternatives to the status quo in Chicago's youth services field. Our school and community-based therapy, prevention and leadership development programs support young people to individually and collectively address causes of substance abuse, grief and trauma while building social-emotional, career and social change skills. In addition to working directly with young people, we train, coach and advocate for youth-serving institutions like Chicago Public Schools to be restorative and trauma-informed.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Perform the following from a racial, gender, sexuality, and ability equity lens:

- Ensure implementation of BH program and administer all components of SeeIt model by staff through training and collaborative service provision
- Develop a process for youth to be referred to Alternatives’ for therapy; ensure youth have access to other options if they fall outside of Alternatives’ eligibility guidelines.
- Provide education and training for Alternatives and School staff using a positive youth development philosophy, trauma-informed, and Restorative Justice framework for working with youth.
- Administer and oversee screening and assessments to identify the mental health needs of schools’ student body as a whole; use assessments to inform the education and staff trainings offered while also identifying students in most critical need of groups and individual therapy.
- Develop and maintain appropriate external partnerships and relationships with schools.
- Stay current with behavioral health, youth development, restorative justice, racial equity, and SEL best practices.
- Collaborate with RJ team and BH team members.
- Actively work with the Director of Behavioral Health to ensure accurate data collection and evaluation of the program.
- Provide direct weekly supervision and program oversight of the assigned team.
- Work with assigned staff to manage budget lines related to direct service with program participants.
- Serve as backup to manage the review, opening and closing of therapist case files across departmental contracts.
- Administer relevant contracts including submitting monthly billing, quarterly report writing, and presentations to market the service.
- Serve as a leadership team member of the agency.
- Actively participate in all agency meetings, clinical staffings, weekly clinical supervision, and assigned partner/school meetings.
- Demonstrate knowledge of Alternatives, Inc. policies, practices, and services.
- Demonstrate a commitment to Positive Youth Development, Restorative Justice and Trauma Informed practices.
- Complete in a timely fashion all other tasks as assigned.

**Qualifications/Skills/Knowledge Desired:**
- Master’s Degree in Social Work or related field
- Past supervisory experience
- High level of comfort with public speaking
- Experience in school settings
- Developing curriculum and classroom workshops, particularly social and emotional learning topics or trauma-informed practices in schools
- Knowledge of adolescent/family dynamics, substance abuse, trauma and child abuse issues.
- Interest and commitment to working in a community-based youth service agency.
- Use of the car during working/ on-call hours and valid insurance.
- The COVID vaccine is mandatory for all employees to the full extent permissible under applicable law.

*Alternatives, Incorporated is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer.*