

Contact

4049245560 (Mobile)
sandtricerussell@yahoo.com

www.linkedin.com/in/sandtrice-
russell-lpc-cpcs-90533282

(LinkedIn)

www.uniquedestiny.org (Company)
linktr.ee/UniqueDestinyInc
(Company)

Top Skills

Life Coaching
Reality Therapy
Microsoft Office

Languages

English (Full Professional)

Certifications

Non-Violent Crisis Prevention and
Intervention
National Certified Counselor
CPR
Certified Professional Counselor
Supervisor

Sandtrice Russell, LPC, CPCS

Licensed Professional Counselor & Mental Health Influencer
Fairburn, Georgia, United States

Summary

Dedicated Mental Health Professional looking for opportunities to network with like minded professionals. I specialize in clinical risk assessment, crisis intervention, and treatment plan writing. As a clinician my therapeutic model is William Glasser's Reality Therapy.

Experience

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

6 years 4 months

Supervisory Social Science Program Coordinator

September 2022 - Present (11 months)

Atlanta, Georgia, United States

Performs management and program work including but not limited to planning, training, scheduling, education, implementation, evaluation, staff appraisal, and monitoring adherence to VHA regulations, policies and procedures as well as program guidelines set by external regulatory agencies such as the American Association of Suicidology (AAS).

Provides first level oversight and supervision of the VCL's Supervisory Social Science Specialists (SSSS) and second-level supervision and management of over 240 Social Science Specialists (SSS), Social Service Assistants (SSA) and Workflow Coordinators (WFC).

Assists with the development of performance standards for SSS staff.

Evaluates the performance of supervisors, reviews and approves performance evaluations of their subordinates and makes recommendations for personnel actions including awards, performance improvement and discipline.

Identifies, assigns and plans work to be carried out by the supervisors of the department to ensure deadlines for performance appraisals and implementation of policies are met.

Takes action regarding conduct issues to include review of verbal and written counseling's, development and recommendations for reprimands and admonishments.

Hears and resolves group grievances and complaints and escalates problems that cannot be solved.

Responsible for first level responses to union matters.

Oversees the scheduling of department employees.

Utilizes analytical data reports from the AVAYA phone system to help determine short and long-range scheduling or staffing requirements and implements change as ensure appropriate coverage of all VCL business lines including phones, chat and text.

Supervisory Health Science Specialist

July 2020 - September 2022 (2 years 3 months)

Atlanta, Georgia, United States

- Provide leadership and supervision to a large staff of Crisis Hotline Responders;
- Monitor adherence to regulations, policies, procedures and program guidelines;
- Develop and implement policies and procedures to ensure efficient and safe operations of the VCL Program;
- Manage program resources (financial, human, material or informational resources);
- Complete structured diagnostic and clinical assessments;
- Review assessments completed by staff for accuracy and completeness and obtains missing information when necessary;
- Provide guidance and advice to subordinates regarding crisis intervention processes and skills, means reduction, and risk mitigation;
- Evaluate work performance of staff;
- Supervise and train employees including planning, organizing, prioritizing and scheduling work assignments;
- Work collaboratively with and provide source information for subordinate members of the VCL to identify appropriate services to patients in crisis;
- Recommend and develop detailed plan, goals, and objectives that ensure sustainability of clinical operations;
- Utilize critical decisions making skills to quickly, logically and accurately prioritize difficult situations.

Social Science Program Specialist

June 2018 - July 2020 (2 years 2 months)

Greater Atlanta Area

- Provide support for frontline tele-mental health staff who provide crisis counseling to high risk Veterans and Active Duty Military personnel
- Assist with the implementation of suicide/mental health crisis prevention strategies
- Assess daily schedule of staff members to ensure sufficient coverage, Proactively resolve coverage issues
- Advise and provide clinical direction on a range of issues/situations encountered and provides recommendations/solutions, course of action, or resources
- Monitor communication and work management in a call center environment
- Utilize data and information within specialized software applications to provide effective service, real time data, and document work
- Demonstrate effective use of analytical thinking, technical competence, attention to detail, and planning and evaluation of program needs.
- Prepare and maintain records and reports in accordance with program guidelines
- Work collaboratively with other members of the VA Crisis Hotline Program to identify appropriate services for patients in crisis

Health Science Specialist

April 2017 - June 2018 (1 year 3 months)

Atlanta, Georgia

- Implement suicide/mental health crisis prevention strategies;
- Provide support for the identification of veterans at high risk, and coordinates enhanced care;
- Conduct interviews and utilize assessment tools to assess emotional, functional, and/or psychological conditions;
- Complete structured diagnostic and clinical assessments
- Prepare and maintain records and reports in accordance with program guidelines;
- Create and maintain forms, surveys, instruments, and materials for proper coordination of the different treatment modules;
- Provide psycho-education and direct advice regarding suicide/mental illness crisis.
- Work collaboratively with other members of the VA Crisis Hotline Program to identify appropriate services for patients in crisis;
- Assist patients and family/friend/significant other with issues regarding the patient's mental health issues, referrals, benefits, support groups

Unique Destiny, Inc
Mental Health Counselor
October 2012 - Present (10 years 10 months)
Atlanta Metropolitan Area

Provide contract services for Mental Health Agencies

Services:

Intake Assessments
Treatment Plan Writing
Documentation Training
MICP completion
Counseling/Psychotherapy
Test Administration

St Francis Hospital
Intake Coordinator
October 2012 - October 2019 (7 years 1 month)
Columbus, Georgia

- Provide onsite clinical risk assessments and crisis counseling in the Emergency Department of two high volume hospitals & walk-in crisis center; provide diagnostic impressions based on patient symptoms, and develop treatment and/or safety plans for delivery of quality services
- Utilize the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) assessment tool, LOCUS, and CIWA in order to determine patient risk for suicide/ substance abuse, implement suicide/mental health crisis prevention strategies, and assess emotional, functional, and psychological needs of patient.
- Consult with psychiatrist to report patient psychiatric/substance abuse symptoms and medical conditions (medications, labwork, EKG) in order to determine appropriate level of care
- Coordinate treatment services with RN and make outpatient referrals through the Georgia Crisis & Access Line for patients not meeting criteria for inpatient psychiatric hospitalization, Assist with creation of safety plans, Refer patient to community resources/support groups (NAMI, NA, AA,)
- Provide psycho-education to a population of individuals with a history of Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) and dual diagnoses to include individuals with a diagnosis of MDD, Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and co-morbid substance abuse problems

- Initiate clinical pre-certifications with insurance companies (Aetna, Amerigroup, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Cigna, Coventry, Peachstate, United Health, Wellcare) to secure payment for inpatient and partial hospitalizations
- Receive and review patient referrals from other agencies, work collaboratively with ED staff and community agencies
- Utilize multiple electronic health records (EHR) to include: MedHost, Star Navigator, Portal, & CAMS for efficiency of patient care and customer service.

Lakeview Behavioral Health Hospital

Licensed Mobile Assessment Counselor, PRN

March 2017 - August 2017 (6 months)

Norcross, Georgia

- Provide onsite clinical risk assessments and crisis counseling in the Emergency Department of three high volume hospitals & provide diagnostic impressions based on patient symptoms, complete 1013/2013 form when applicable
- Utilize the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) assessment tool, LOCUS, and CIWA in order to determine patient risk for suicide/ substance abuse, implement suicide/mental health crisis prevention strategies, and assess emotional, functional, and psychological needs of patient.
- Consult with psychiatrist to report patient psychiatric/substance abuse symptoms and medical conditions (medications, labwork, EKG) in order to determine appropriate level of care
- Coordinate treatment services with RN and make outpatient referrals through the Georgia Crisis & Access Line for patients not meeting criteria for inpatient psychiatric hospitalization, Assist with creation of safety plans, Refer patient to community resources/support groups (NAMI, NA, AA,)
- Provide psycho-education to a population of individuals with a history of Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) and dual diagnoses to include individuals with a diagnosis of MDD, Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and co-morbid substance abuse problems
- Initiate clinical pre-certifications with insurance companies (Aetna, Amerigroup, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Cigna, Coventry, Peachstate, United Health, Wellcare) to secure payment for inpatient and partial hospitalizations

The Pastoral Institute

Counselor Intern

August 2011 - December 2012 (1 year 5 months)

- Conducted intake/psycho-social assessments, developed treatment plan, & provided counseling services to individuals, couples, families, and groups on

parent-child interactions, couples communication, and stress reduction utilizing a CBT model

- Administered multiple psychological testing batteries to include: Stanford-Binet, WISC IV, WPPSI, WRAT- II, BDI, RCMAS, Conners, CPT, Piers Harris, Trauma Assessment, & HTP projective drawings
- Interpreted test results & documented findings in psychological reports
- Facilitated psychotherapeutic group sessions for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Participated in Individual & Group Video Supervision

Paxen Learning

Case Manager

May 2011 - August 2012 (1 year 4 months)

Griffin, Georgia

- Managed a case load of 180 youth in a Workforce Investment Act sponsored Program.
- Facilitated a Career Development Program for Youth utilizing an Individual Employment Plan
- Provided career counseling to Younger Youth by exploring career interests, college preparation, and employment search
- Facilitated Summer Work Experience for Economically Disadvantaged Youth
- Developed relationships with community agencies
- Administered TABE testing and screened participants for eligibility to receive services
- Entered counseling notes into the Georgia Workforce System database
- Tracked performance outcome measures

Center for Creative Growth and Human Development

Admissions Director

January 2007 - November 2009 (2 years 11 months)

lagrange, georgia

- Received referrals from DJJ/DMH/DFCS and other Mental Health Agencies
- Performed Pre-Placement and Intake Assessments
- Completed a CAFAS on each client at admission
- Served as liaison between the community and the agency through public relations assignments
- Oriented new clinical staff to agency
- Formulated and implemented Individual Resiliency Plans and Room Board and Watchful Oversight Service plans based upon each client's mental health and residential needs.

- Completed MICP utilizing APS Healthcare's Care Connection
- Completed Psychosocial and Diagnostic Assessments with Clinical Supervision
- Prepared and maintained a permanent organized file of each client's case records per DHR, DJJ, and ORS regulations
- Served as an advocate for each client to ensure their emotional, educational, vocational, dental, medical, and mental health needs were met.
- Responded appropriately to mental health emergency situations and utilized crisis intervention techniques and procedures.
- Prepared and presented detailed oral and written reports utilizing BIRP/GIRP notation.
- Facilitated interdisciplinary treatment team meetings
- Provided recommendations and testimony in court as to client's mental health status and submitted appropriate documentation to the court.
- Facilitated a range of therapeutic groups (Life Skills, Social Skills, Drama Therapy, Relapse Prevention, and Anger Management)
- Co-Facilitated Relapse Prevention Group with adolescent Male Sex Offenders
- Coordinated discharge services

Racham Foundation

Instructor

June 2006 - January 2007 (8 months)

Douglasville, Georgia

- Assisted a group of male & female clients with intellectual disabilities/ developmental disorders
- Ensured each client's safety by maintaining knowledge of their whereabouts at all times
- Observed and recorded a daily/weekly assessment of each client's progress with their goals using DAP notation
- Facilitated the day to day running of the day program
- Administered medication to clients
- Engaged clients in outings within the community to increase their community involvement skills
- Taught a variety of classes ranging from health and hygiene, cooking, math, money management, and arts and crafts.

Wings of Destiny

Resident Counselor (Live In Position)

February 2006 - May 2006 (4 months)

Lithonia, Georgia

- Counseled a group of 6 male clients in a group home setting, ages 13-17, with a range of emotional and behavioral problems to include: ADHD, ODD, Conduct Disorder, MDD & Bipolar Disorder
- Observed and recorded a daily assessment of each client's behavior utilizing BIRP notation
- Prepared snacks & meals for clients

Kiya House Inc

Clinical Director

November 2005 - February 2006 (4 months)

Riverdale, Georgia

- Counseled a group of 6 female clients in an independent living program & 6 male clients in a group home setting
- Provided weekly individual and group counseling
- Assisted clients with job search, money management/budgeting, & formulating discharge planning

KidsPeace

Child Care Worker

November 2004 - September 2005 (11 months)

Bowdon, Georgia

- Counseled a group of 20 female clients ages 11 – 17, with a range of emotional and behavior problems
- Completed a daily assessment of each client and recording individual therapy notes utilizing BIRP notation
- Served as shift supervisor three days per week
- Monitored youth on the unit and on outings in the local community
- Educated youth utilizing psycho-educational training and skill building
- Ensured each client's safety
- Observed and recorded a daily assessment of each client's behavior
- Served as a positive role model for all clients
- Served as shift supervisor 2-3 days per week
- Facilitated weekly outings within the local community

University of West Georgia

Resident Assistant

August 2002 - December 2004 (2 years 5 months)

Carrollton, Georgia

- Acted as a liaison between residents and the Department of Residence Life
- Assessed and responded to the needs of 40 residents on a wing in Watson Hall
- Developed & planned educational, social, and recreational programs within the Residence Hall and on campus at UWG
- Counseled residents regarding personal, educational, and career concerns
- Enforced and upheld university policies
- Performed Administrative duties to include room inspections, incident reporting, and maintenance reports

Education

Troy University

Master of Science (MS), Clinical Mental Health Counseling · (2009 - 2012)

University of West Georgia

Bachelor of Arts (BA), Psychology/Theater · (2001 - 2004)

LaGrange High School

Diploma, College/University Preparatory and Advanced High School/
Secondary Diploma Program · (1997 - 2001)