#### Taran L. Black, AA, BA, MS

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#### **Education:**

- Master of Science in Counseling and Psychology, May 2019, Troy University, Troy, AL 36082
- Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies/Criminal Justice, May 2012, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL 32514
- Associate of Arts in Pre-Law, May 2010, Pensacola State College, Pensacola, FL 32504

# **Work Experience:**

Lakeview Center Inc. Community Mental Health

September 2019- Present

Pensacola, FL

## **Therapist II for Home Intervention- (Community Action Team)**

- The Outpatient Therapist will consistently exercise discretion and independent judgment while utilizing advanced knowledge in the human services field to provide the highest quality individualized, integrated mental health, substance abuse and co-occurring services to individuals and their families based on the individualized plan.
- To act as a lead direct care provider to others in the division/program and to consult and mentor non-licensed Master's Level Direct Care employees, Bachelor's Level Direct Care employees, and Behavioral Technicians on provision of care issues.
- To conduct case staffing's with other direct care providers in division/program and to exercise discretion and independent judgment, while utilizing advanced knowledge in the human services field, to provide case specific consultation and professional insight as deemed necessary, and to assist other staff in coming up with appropriate treatment and services for their individual clients.
- To systematically and regularly conduct quality record reviews of documentation prepared by Bachelor's Level Direct Care employees and Behavioral Technicians / Peer Specialist.
- To provide the following services to clients: in-depth assessments, screening for potential services, biopsychosocial evaluations, limited functional assessments, treatment plan development, treatment plan reviews, individual and family therapy, group therapy, psychosocial rehabilitation services, brief behavioral health exams.
- To exercise discretion and independent judgment, while utilizing advanced knowledge in the field of human services.

# **Work Experience:**

Lakeview Center Inc. 2019

November 2016 – September

#### **Community Mental Health**

Pensacola, FL

#### **Case Manager for Home Intervention-(Community Action Team)**

- Provide services that enhance home, school, and community partnerships, while actively addressing mental health barriers that interfere with student performance and achievement by bringing clients and families together and creating an environment that is conducive to effective treatment planning and problem solving.
- Implemented service needs assessments, service needs plans, and service plan reviews to assist clients and families with essential tools to address mental health needs, behavior needs, and educational needs and transition from alternative school placement to traditional school placement, as well as facilitating group discussions on issues such as: avoiding the school to prison pipeline; conflict resolution; community engagement etc.
- Provided mental and behavioral health services to clients and families that have been referred by community agencies for treatment.

- Worked with Sylvan Learning Center (SLC), which sought to link client and families to academic tutoring in effort to reduce client inappropriate behavior in the school setting, as a result of being frustrated for having a lack of understanding in academics.
- Identify student and family needs to provide proper referrals to assist the student and family to community resources.
- Address the psychological and social well-being of clients labeled as having a Mental Health Disorder (MHD).

## Lakeview Center Inc. Community Mental Health

June 2017- Present

Pensacola, FL

#### **Behavior Technician for Acute Stabilization Unit (ASU)**

- Provide individualized services to assigned clients, which support client recovery and build resilience.
- Maintain knowledge of the population(s) served and awareness of the impact substance abuse and mental illness has on an individual and family.
- Maintain awareness of the importance of language used, and avoid stigmatizing language and conduct. Teach basic and community living skills to clients, either individually or in group settings.
- Assist and supervise clients in completing daily living activities, such as but not limited to, proper hygiene, grooming and meal planning.
- Organize, supervise and encourage participation in social, educational, spiritual, cultural and recreational
  activities.
- Implement each assigned client's designated interventions, and behavioral plans. Work with the client's family or designated support persons to understand needs of the client and to help the family/support person assist in the recommended interventions.
- Monitor and observe clients as appropriate, and measure client's response to interventions; document progress of the client in relation to treatment/service goals and objectives.

# **Motivate the Youth Mentoring Program (MTYM-P)**

January 2017 – December 2018

Pensacola, FL

#### Mentor

- Empowered youth to resolve current issues and helped develop coping strategies for the future.
- Provided a model for a healthy, trusting relationship through clear communication and setting appropriate communication.
- Acknowledged their strengths, talents and gifts and encouraged them to find ways to use them.

# **Alabama Department of Corrections**

**July 2015 – July 2016** 

**Holman Correctional Facility** 

Atmore Al.

#### **Certified Correctional Officer**

- Enforce polices and procedures to help with maintain order in the institution.
- Supervise activities of inmates.
- Aid in rehabilitation and counseling of offenders.
- Inspect facilities to ensure that they meet the rules and regulations for the Department of Corrections.
- Search inmates for contraband items.
- Conducted security checks of the dorms/cells.

#### Whataburger Inc.

February 2013- February 2015

Gulf Breeze, FL

#### **Crew Member**

• Maintained high standards of customer service during high-volume, fast-paced operations.

- Prepared a variety of foods according to customers' orders or supervisors' instruction, following approved procedures.
- Prepared all food orders within a specified time frame.

# Office of Public Defender for First Judicial Circuit of Florida October 2010 – April 2012 Pensacola, FL

## **Staff Assistant/Legal Intern**

- Helped with Client Intake's and Subpoenas.
- Conducted Legal Research.
- Helped Prepare for Depositions.
- Assisted Attorneys with paperwork for First Appearances, Arraignments, Jury Selection, and Jury Trials.
- Prepared Legal Motions for Court Proceedings
- Helped with Secretarial Duties: filing paperwork and scheduling appointments.

#### **Affiliations:**

- Member of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity (PADLF)
- Florida Youth Shine(FYS) Alumni
- Chairman of Youth Advisory Board for First Circuit of Florida (YAB).
- Motivate The Youth Mentoring Program (MTYMP)
- Epsilon Mu Lambda Chapter Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (2019).
- Student Government Association.
- African American Student Association.

#### **Trainings:**

-Health and Safety -Ethics & Professionalism -HIPAA Privacy/Security Compliance -First Aid -Case Management

-Sexual & Other Harassment -Client Rights/Grievance -Incident Reporting -CPR & CPI -Cultural Competency -Confidentiality -Abuse Reporting -WRAP

#### **Skills:**

Proficient use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Also proficient use of social media applications Facebook, and YouTube, and Problem solving,

#### **Leadership and Services Roles:**

### Chairman of the Florida Youth Shine (CFYS)), 2008 – 2012

• Advocated with elected officials at the local and state level for policies that empower youth in foster care to live a normal life and become leaders in communities.

#### Youth Advisory Board President for Independent Living First Circuit, (2008-2012)

- Attend meetings with representatives of organization.
- Planned events and voted for community and youth events.