

Recreation Therapy Specialist

Position Purpose: The Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist provides therapeutic treatment and activities for a pediatric and adolescent population in accordance to discipline training, Standards of Practices, and Code of Ethics of the American Therapeutic Recreation Association, and hospital standards. The Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist performs evaluations, develops a plan of care, implements therapeutic activities, and educates patients and caregivers related to life skills and leisure adaptations to maximize therapeutic gain.

Key Responsibilities:

- Provides developmentally appropriate patient care to infants, toddlers, children and adolescents with a wide range of conditions and limitations in an efficient and professional manner based on professional theory and practice and in compliance with the standards of the hospital.
- Documents patient response to treatment and provides timely and accurate information to other members of the treatment team. Contributes to patients' integrated rehabilitation programs by participating in interdisciplinary treatment team or core meetings.
- Effectively copes with emotional and behavioral changes exhibited by patients and provides support to family and caregivers including siblings in the treatment environment.
- Provides for a safe environment of care and skillfully coordinates activities that may take a patient outside the facility.
- Supervises volunteers' and students' interaction with patients and families.
- Participates in program development, quality assurance and improvement activities. Attends in-services and continuing education opportunities.
- Exhibits excellent customer service skills.

Qualifications:

Skills, Knowledge and Abilities: Must be knowledgeable of the principles of growth and development, of a range of medical disorders, conditions and injuries and the effects of injury or illness on the family unit. Must possess knowledge and skill in therapeutic recreation and adaptive play techniques and group and individual dynamics. Desire basic computer skills and data entry knowledge.

Education and/or Experience: Must be certified as Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. Certification as a Child Life Specialist is beneficial.

Physical Requirements:

- Must be capable of consistent and predictable attendance.
- Able to carry out CPR
- Capable of independent light lifting, 11 to 25 pounds; pushing patients in wheelchair across varying floor types and inclines.
- Able to document patient progress through dictation or in records.
- Able to communicate with a diverse patient population, teammates, and external customers.
- Must be able to accompany patients on community outings.