



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSULTANT

Puentes de Salud: is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that promotes the health and wellness of South Philadelphia's rapidly growing Latino immigrant population through high-quality health care, innovative educational programs, and community building. Puentes de Salud is starting a behavioral health program to address the burden of depression, anxiety, PTSD, domestic violence, and alcohol abuse experienced by our patients.

Patient Population: Puentes de Salud provides primary care and women's health services to almost 3,000 Latinos in South Philadelphia. Very few patients speak any English, which requires that counseling interventions be conducted exclusively in Spanish.

Job Title: Behavioral Health Consultant in Primary Care

Minimum Required Skills, Knowledge, and Experience

- One of the following:
 - Master's degree in social work, or related field, with a minimum of two years experience as a therapist and a current license to practice in Pennsylvania as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (or working toward licensure)
 - Doctoral degree in psychology, with a minimum of two years experience as a therapist and a current license to practice in Pennsylvania as a Psychologist (or working toward licensure)
- Competency in providing cognitive and behavioral interventions to individuals, families, couples, and groups with behavioral health/substance abuse problems in a primary care setting.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work collaboratively with primary care staff, patients and other behavioral health clinicians.
- Fluency in Spanish (preferably a native Spanish-speaker)

Primary Function

Provide clinical behavioral health services in a manner that upholds Puentes de Salud's mission and improves patient health outcomes and overall satisfaction.

Primary Tasks and Responsibilities

Consultations in the context of primary care

- Consultation with PCPs to enhance understanding of the patient, provide decision support for treatment planning and assist in the implementation and monitoring of biopsychosocial treatment plans.

- Individual, couples, and/or family consultation with patients, including:
 - Functional and strength-based assessment and diagnosis;
 - Psychoeducation for patients and their support systems;
 - Medication adherence counseling and disease self management counseling;
 - Motivational Interviewing to develop behavioral strategies aimed at symptom reduction
 - Brief problem solving cognitive intervention aimed at modifying negative thinking and promoting self efficacy;
 - Self-Care Plan development and skills training to facilitate disease self- management, improved coping, distress tolerance, stress reduction, and relaxation; and
 - Substance use/abuse evaluation, identification of maladaptive coping strategies, and development of harm reduction strategies.

Coordination of Care – Provide consultation to and coordinate care of patients with Puentes de Salud’s primary care staff. Identify, refer, and advocate for patients needing specialty behavioral health service, and other services as needed.

Crisis Intervention – Be immediately available to Puentes de Salud staff during working hours in the event of a psychiatric emergency. Participate as a member of the staff in the event of any other kind of emergency.

Charting – Complete all charting as needed and required by contracted funding sources: including assessments and progress notes.

To apply, please send a cover letter and CV to:

Matthew O’Brien, MD, MSc
Medical Director, Puentes de Salud
mobrien@puentesdesalud.org