



Clinical Coordinator Position Dismas House of Nashville

About Dismas House

HISTORY

In 1974, Father Jack Hickey and a group of Vanderbilt University students came up with an idea. What if, they asked, we could create a safe haven where we could share a home with incarcerated individuals transitioning out of prison — a place that would build a deeper sense of community for both parties and would help returning citizens find supportive services, obtain jobs and become full and successful participants in the larger society?

As Father Hickey saw it, college students and returning citizens were at a similar stage in life — preparing to take their place as contributors to society. He believed each could benefit and learn from the other. This vision was the genesis of Dismas House, which opened in Nashville later that year as an extension of the Vanderbilt Prison Project. Across the United States and internationally, other organizations have applied the Dismas House model, which has been widely recognized for its success. In March 2020, Dismas House moved from an 8-bed house to a 72-bed, 28,000 sq.ft facility. This expansion allows us to serve more than 150 men a year.

HOW IT WORKS

For returning citizens, having a place to stay in a supportive environment is the first step toward successful re-entry to society. Having a home, and not just a house, can make all the difference.

Upon their release, returning citizens who have been admitted to the holistic program live at Dismas House as they transition back into the community. They find a safe haven and a family-like atmosphere amid caring staff, volunteers and a community of support who become part of their daily lives. Professional caseworkers help to match them with resources to meet each person's unique needs while licensed counselors provide them with weekly trauma-informed therapy to work on more deep-seated issues. For their part, residents stay for a minimum of 90 days, uphold positive standards of living, participate in a holistic programming model, are active members of the household and broader community, and pay a modest program fee. Many of our residents apply to live in our transitional housing, the next level of independent living, upon successful completion of our main reentry program. They leave with a more stable emotional foundation, viable employment, a supportive network of friends, a greater sense of self-worth, a fresh chance and real hope for the future. In this way, Dismas House combines a mission of caring with a unique form of stopping the revolving door of recidivism.

To learn more about the impact of Dismas House, please visit dismas.org.

POSITION SUMMARY

Working from the Nashville office and reporting to the VP of Programs, Dismas House of Nashville seeks a full-time Clinical Coordinator who maintains primary responsibility for overseeing all Dismas House counseling services for our residents who are returning to the community directly from state prisons and county jails across Tennessee. This would include, in part, providing individual counseling, leading or facilitating groups, managing counseling partnerships with local



colleges and universities, intern supervision, using our data management software, Apricot, for timely documentation and running periodic reports, performing assessments, and making referrals as needed.

The ideal candidate is a licensed or licensed eligible counselor or social worker who has experience doing both individual and group counseling (primarily using a trauma-informed approach), can supervise others, and has some expertise or experience working with co-occurring mental health diagnoses including substance use disorders. This individual has experience administering and interpreting psychosocial assessments and making referrals to and coordinating with outside providers as needed. We are seeking a compassionate, care-driven professional who has experience and/or passion for working with justice-impacted individuals and ideally has some understanding of prison culture.

In addition to working closely with the VP of Programs, the Clinical Coordinator will work in collaboration with a Care Team that includes three case managers, the admissions manager and Licensed Clinical Addiction Counselor or a Peer Recovery Specialist; and are responsible for reporting to and communicating with the Care Team about resident progress. The ideal candidate will have flexibility with work hours including the ability to work some evening and weekend hours as needed and must have reliable transportation. Ideally this individual can start by March 1, 2021.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES: These will roughly fall in three areas - direct counseling, coordination of counseling services, and supervision of counseling and social work interns.

- Oversee and coordinate mental health and addiction recovery services for residents.
- Administer and interpret assessments for residents using this data to inform treatment.
- Work closely with VP of Programs to initiate and implement counseling partnerships with local colleges and universities.
- Work directly with colleges and universities to coordinate interns and/or an internship program.
- Provide weekly supervision for any counseling and/or social work intern(s) who may be placed at Dismas.
- Advise and assist in the development and management of a behavioral health treatment plan for each resident.
- Provide direct counseling services to residents as needed including both individual and group therapy.
- Lead or facilitate process and skills-based groups (CBT/DBT).
- Use our data management software, Apricot, for timely documentation and running periodic reports.
- Make referrals and schedule with our outside Behavioral Health provider, Centerstone, as needed for psychiatric needs and monitoring and adherence to prescribed psychotropic medications.
- Work closely and communicate regularly with our outside Mental Health provider, Centerstone, to schedule appointments, share feedback with the Dismas care team, and ensure Dismas staff is supporting residents in following the clinical recommendations in their treatment plans.
- Oversee schedule of clinical appointments in tandem with residents and case managers.
- If applicable, work closely with the peer recovery specialist to ensure effective and appropriate substance use disorder recovery programming for residents.



DESIRED BACKGROUND & QUALIFICATIONS

- Licensed (or licensed eligible) in Social Work, Counseling, or related field is required.
- Experience working with those with histories of substance use disorders or co-occurring disorders. Licensure in addiction counseling or expertise in substance use disorder treatment and/or training as a peer recovery specialist is a huge plus.
- Minimum of 3 years doing individual and/or group counseling and/or related experience in social services.
- Experience leading and facilitating groups.
- 1-3 years of supervisory experience.
- Experience working with justice-impacted individuals or other at-risk populations.
- Strong written and oral communication skills and a capacity to communicate effectively empathetically and with a trauma-informed approach to the clients we serve.
- Propensity to work with energy, a high degree of initiative, and from a positive perspective while maintaining flexibility and attention to detail.
- Enormous passion for and commitment to the mission of Dismas House; understanding of prison culture desired.
- Strong organizational and administrative abilities, including increasing efficiencies around systems, procedures and clinical laws and regulations.
- Excellent computer skills and knowledge of database programs and Windows-based operating system.
- Other duties as assigned by supervisor.
- Proficiency in Spanish is a plus.

COMPENSATION

Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Excellent benefits package including dental and vision.

Interested parties should send a cover letter and resume to careers@dismas.org. No phone calls please.

Dismas Inc. is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages applications from people of color, persons with disabilities, women, and LGBTQ applicants.