



**Position:** Social Worker  
**Program/Department:** Family Services  
**Reports to:** Social Work Supervisor  
**Work Location:** 20 New York Avenue, Brooklyn -- Bedford Stuyvesant Family Center  
**Hours:** Full Time

**Position Summary:**

In our Preventive Services program, Social Workers provide a range of supportive services to families who have been identified by the child welfare system as being at-risk for child abuse and/or neglect. Social Workers assist parents/caregivers address barriers to their children's health, safety, and well-being, so that families can stabilize, strengthen, and reduce the need for future involvement with the child welfare system. The Social Worker's primary responsibilities are to make safety-focused assessments of child and family functioning, develop intervention plans, and help caretakers take charge of their respective situations and avoid future child maltreatment.

**Responsibilities:**

- Provide supportive services to a caseload of 10 families, at least weekly; services include family therapy, client advocacy, parent coaching, service coordination, and case management
- Make safety and risk assessments regarding children's health, safety, and/or well-being and develops safety and intervention plans accordingly
- Collaborate with ACS (and other referral sources) to successfully engage families and transition them into specialized services, as needed
- Make at least monthly home visits to assess the safety of the home environment
- Provide advocacy and coaching to clients (off-site) to address any barriers to accessing any services needed by family members
- Document all casework activity into city and state reporting systems (i.e. PROMIS, CONNECTIONS), maintaining compliance with all mandates set by the child welfare system, as well as program protocols and procedures
- Actively participates in individual and group supervision, staff trainings, and unit meetings. This includes participating in consultations (of live or taped sessions) and receiving and giving direct feedback from/to peers and supervisory staff on a regular basis
- Engage in all activities required by the program's SFT model development process and delivers services as described by the current version of the model
- Collaborate with ACS and other service providers (as needed) to address barriers or challenges related to assessment, service coordination or planning, and/or crisis intervention
- Attend ACS conferences; intervenes and offers advocacy to families, as needed
- Other tasks as may be required

**Qualifications:**

*Required:*

- Master's degree in Social Work, Mental Health Counseling, or Marriage and Family Therapy required;
- Basic computer literacy;
- Strong time management and organizational skills;
- Previous work experience in a helping role with children, teens, parents, or families;
- Willingness and ability to do field work , including home visits in the community;
- Strong interest in learning Structural Family Therapy and working from a systemically- oriented perspective; willingness to participate in training and supervision methods that include live and taped observation (i.e. give and take constructive feedback) on a regular basis;
- Ability to be resourceful and remain communicative in the face of stress and change;
- Ability to work until 8 pm, twice a week



*Preferred:*

- LMSW; bilingual skills in Spanish; previous work experience in child welfare and/or family therapy

**Contact:**

Email Resume and Cover Letter to:

Jennifer Murayama, *Division Director of Family Services*

[jmurayama@wearebcs.org](mailto:jmurayama@wearebcs.org)

**Other Information:**

We apply a systemic and family-centered approach to problems. The goal of all casework is to help families tap into their strengths in order to build their capacity for higher functioning and greater self-sufficiency. Training and clinical supervision in Structural Family Therapy (SFT) are provided regularly (in both individual and group contexts) and peer feedback and support are provided regularly within a team-oriented learning and working environment. As part of Brooklyn Community Services' model development project, Social Workers participate in activities focused on aligning practice to Structural Family Therapy's theoretical framework and streamlining its application to the child welfare system. All Social Workers have regular access to training and consultation with family therapy experts from the Minuchin Center for the Family.