**Day in the life of the: Registered Nurse**

**Your schedule** – Nurses play a vital role at Hillside. Therefore, flexibility is necessary to meet the needs of the youth. This is an hourly position with set schedules; however, shifts vary and can occur days, evenings, overnights, and weekends. Day or night you get the job done!

**Your Responsibilities** – You are not fluffing pillows at Hillside! You are essential to delivering Hillside's Shared Vision of service excellence.

You use your skills, abilities and commitment to integrity to fulfill these primary responsibilities:

- triaging (critical to success in nursing at Hillside);
- verifying and passing medications;
- administrative duties;
- reviewing charts; and
- working in collaboration with other medical staff.

One-third of your time is typically spent with youth, while the remaining time is spent on administrative functions in the nursing office, but this can vary from shift to shift.

Nurses are an active part of the care team, so you may be needed to assist during crisis interventions (depending on program/funder requirements) and mental health arrests.

Nurses are asked to assess individual youths’ circumstances to help determine daily and/or crisis needs. You are also called upon to collaborate with other medical professionals in determining crisis situations versus attention seeking behaviors is important.

Our Nurses report in to our Nursing Managers who provide a strong network of support and guidance as needed.

**Your Background** – If you’ve had prior experience working in a hospital setting with exposure to psychiatric nursing, you will really stand out in this role. To ensure success, you will have demonstrated competence in collaboration and effective communication, as these skills are critical to carrying out your responsibilities. You will also have developed the ability to remain flexible, adapt to change, and balance triaging in a unique environment.
Your Total Experience – If you like being a part of the big picture, then you’ve found your place. This position affords you the opportunity to work on both clinical and medical aspects of nursing, while engaging on the psychiatric side of working with our youth. We can assure you that you will be energized in this busy, fun, dynamic, and ever-changing environment.

As a compassionate human being there will be times when you feel emotional stress when witnessing a restraint or youth who have been isolated from or not support by their families. However, as much as you give, it will not be long before you start receiving the rewards that come from the youth knowing that YOU are there to help provide a warm and stable environment!

Hillside is proud of its commitment to supporting the goals and aspirations of our staff. For you, career advancement may include moving from an level I RN to a level II or to a Nurse Coordinator or Assistant Nurse Manager. It’s important to understand that Hillside is a complex agency, so there is a steep learning curve. That’s why new employees should always feel comfortable to ask questions and know that there are always resources and the ability to collaborate with your team.

Hillside Family of Agencies provides individualized health, education, and human services in partnership with children, youth, adults, and their families through an integrated system of care. Our Nurses are personally and professionally dedicated to this mission not only in practice but in spirit.

“There is a wonderful team of Doctors, Nurses, and other departmental teams that are knowledgeable and here to support each other and the youth. It truly makes coming to work each day enjoyable.”

-Nurse, Rochester