SAN JUAN COUNTY
POSITION DESCRIPTION

CLASSIFICATION: Public Health Nurse II
PAY RANGE: H-10
OCCUPATIONAL GROUP: 19
BARGAINING UNIT: Local 1849

Position Title: Public Health Nurse II
Date: April 9, 2012
Reports to: Personal Health Service Manager
Department: Health and Community Services
FLSA Status: Nonexempt

BASIC FUNCTION: Provides public health nursing services to people of all socioeconomic levels in San Juan County, including individual services, family services, and services to the entire population. Provides a wide range of professional nursing assessment, planning, intervention and evaluative services through federal, state and county public health programs to improve the overall health status of the community. Works with minimal supervision.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor’s degree in nursing from a school with National League of Nursing (NLN) accreditation with specialization in public health nursing and two years of nursing experience equivalent to Public Health Nurse I. A valid license to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of Washington. A valid Washington State driver’s license. Must be able to translate complex medical concepts into clear and understandable language. Must have respect for and ability to work with people of diverse ages and socioeconomic status utilizing cultural sensitivity as needed. Must be able to work with the public in potentially confrontational or adversarial situations. Must be able to implement public health programs. Requires Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response training (NIMS). Must be able to facilitate public meetings and effectively engage the public in discussions. Requires the ability to work with minimal supervision. Must have excellent written, oral, and computer communication skills. Must be self-motivated and a good team player.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES - Asterisk designates essential function:
*1. Provides assessment of individual, family and community health status.
   Provides direct population specific programs services to 25-100 San Juan County residents per week, including screening and physical examination, interview for nutrition status, medication review, immunization status, knowledge base and risk factors, communicable disease exposure, psycho-social status, financial status, substance use and domestic violence. Organizes and conducts screening clinics Facilitates community meetings and focus groups to gather public input regarding specific health issues. Collects anecdotal information, documented and statistical data related to health risks and concerns.

*2. Conducts planning at individual, family and community levels.
   Develops individualized client and/or family-directed plan of care and coordinates with multiple agencies/health professionals. Participates in long range planning and facilitates public involvement in health promotion projects. Collaborates with university professors, school administrators, school principals, teachers, counselors, physicians, visiting nurses, case workers, public health workers and state regional administrators at multiple agencies and community providers to facilitate ongoing health promotion and health services. Participates in the development of grant applications. Participates in disaster preparedness planning and response.

*3. Carries out intervention strategies for individual, families and communities.
   Collects, organizes and maintains confidential and sensitive information relative to individuals, families and the community, including diagnoses of sexually transmitted diseases, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, financial status, pregnancy, and communicable diseases. Implements programs for
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- Target populations through direct client services including, but not limited to, WIC supplemental food and nutrition education program; Maternal/Infant Health (Maternity Support Services/Maternity Case Management, Newborn Outreach, and Breast Feeding Support); Child Adolescent, and School Health/Communicable Disease Prevention and Control (immunizations, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis sexually transmitted diseases, Hepatitis C; Children with Special Health and Developmental Needs (CHSCN/ITEIP); Chronic Disease Prevention and Control; Violence and Injury.

*4. **Implements prevention strategies, including child abuse/neglect, safety equipment distribution and domestic violence.**

Provides education, motivational counseling and resource referrals. Advocates and assists in access to services. Compiles, maintains and distributes current information regarding community resources. Organizes, coordinates, and participates on interdisciplinary teams including for example, parent, occupational therapist, speech therapist, day care provider, physician, school counselor, principal. Researches health related problems and requests for information. Investigates incidence of communicable and infectious disease outbreaks, locates index case and exposed individuals, and advises about control strategies. Implements outreach strategies to target-specific or general populations. Represents public health agency in multidisciplinary local and regional meetings. Speaks in public settings. Facilitates discussion groups. Develops health education curricula. Trains various community groups (school students, daycare providers, health care providers, volunteers) in areas of health promotion and communicable disease prevention. Coordinates and facilitates special projects, e.g., adolescent Hepatitis B immunizations, Women’s Health Conference, etc. May be called upon to testify in court regarding child abuse and neglect in child custody cases.

*5. **Conducts or participates in evaluation activities.**

Maintains time and activity records, client health records and collects program specific data. Reviews program outcome data and periodically reports on program activities. Plans and participates in professional education opportunities for professional growth and quality performance. Reviews professional journals for current research regarding effectiveness of PH related programs.

*6. Act within the scope of his or her responsibilities, working as a public employee with courtesy and professionalism, and adhering to the highest standard of ethics in accordance with RCW 42.52

**PHYSICAL AND MENTAL REQUIREMENTS:** Requires frequent sitting, standing and walking. The employee is frequently required to lift objects weighing up to 25 pounds and must infrequently lift more than 50 pounds or carry objects with both hands and arms. This position frequently requires continuous hand and finger movement. This position frequently requires visual acuity at 20 inches or less, and frequent hearing acuity for speech discrimination. The employee must be able to talk and to receive and understand written and oral communication and give written and oral instruction. The position requires the ability to occasionally calculate mathematical problems. Must receive preventative immunizations against common communicable diseases in San Juan County as recommended for health care workers by the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practice (ACIP) Must be able to interpret complex medical concepts in work situations.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment/Tool</th>
<th>Frequency of Use</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
<td>1-6 hours per day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone / Fax</td>
<td>0-5 hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lactation equipment, audiometer, Snellen vision screen, sphygmomanometer, stethoscope, phlebotomy equipment, syringe, and nasopharyngeal culture.</td>
<td>1-15 hours per week</td>
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<td>Maps and measuring tools</td>
<td>.5 per week</td>
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<td>Vehicle/ferry</td>
<td>0-4 hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Copy machine</td>
<td>0-.1 hour per week</td>
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WORKING CONDITIONS: Works in a variety of settings, including home, office, schools, business sites and other community settings. Physical setting may be unsanitary and potentially dangerous. Encounters occasional traumatic results that require post-event counseling. Works occasional weekend and off hour calls. Travel less than 10% of the time. Possible exposure to blood borne pathogens and other communicable diseases. Potential for exposure to hostile individuals and settings. Requires the ability to maintain maximum flexibility regarding schedules and work loads.