Position Title: Public Health Nurse I  
Date: February 28, 1997

Reports to: Personal Health Services Manager  
Department: Health & Community Services

FLSA Status: Nonexempt  
Positions Supervised: Volunteers

BASIC FUNCTION: Provides public health nursing services to individuals, families, groups, and the community, including all socioeconomic levels, in largely unsupervised settings. Provides professional nursing assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation services through federal, state, and county public health programs involving individual and group health promotion and disease prevention activities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor’s degree in nursing from a school with National League of Nursing (NLN) accreditation for training in public health nursing. One year experience as professional nurse in general or public health practice. A valid license to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of Washington. A valid Washington State Driver’s license. Basic computer skills in word processing.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES - Asterisk designates essential function:

*1. Provides assessment of individual, family and community health status through screening and physical examination, interviews for nutrition status, medication review, immunization status, knowledge base and family health care capabilities, socioeconomic status, living environment, exposure to communicable disease, substance abuse, domestic violence, and other risk factors. Organizes and conducts screening clinics. Collects anecdotal information, documented and statistical data related to health risks and concerns.

*2. Conducts planning at individual and family levels. Develops individualized client and/or family-directed plan of care and coordinates with multiple agencies/health professionals. Participates in long-range planning within agency and in the community regarding health promotion projects. Collaborates with community and regional providers to facilitate ongoing health promotion and disease prevention services.

*3. Carries out intervention strategies for individuals, families, and communities. Implements a variety of public health programs for target populations through direct client services. Administers immunizing vaccines, diagnostic skin tests, medications and other treatments according to protocols, relying heavily on professional judgment when deciding to withhold vaccines or treatments. Collects, organizes, and maintains confidential and sensitive information relative
to clients served. May perform school nurse duties; counsels school staff regarding adapting school environment for children with physical emotional, and mental impairments; screens students for temporary illness and evidence of permanent disorder; interviews family caregiver to evaluate the source and extent of problems; interprets school findings to families, assists families to plan for care and access resources.

*4. Provides education, motivational counseling and resource referrals. Advocates and assists in access to services. Participates on interdisciplinary teams with nurses, nutritionist, social worker, other health care and social services providers, and educators. Researches health-related problems and requests for information. Provides information and referral services. Investigates infectious disease reports and advises about control strategies. Implements outreach strategies as indicated for specific program. Facilitates group discussions. Trains various community groups in areas of health screening, health promotion, and communicable disease prevention. May be called upon to testify in court regarding child abuse and neglect in child custody cases.

*5. Maintains time and activity records, client health records and program data collection. Participates in evaluation activities. Reviews outcome data. Performs program record reviews. Prepares reports as needed. Organizes and manages work assignments with minimal supervision. Participates in professional education opportunities for professional growth and quality performance. Reviews professional journals for current research regarding effectiveness of public health intervention strategies.

*6. Acts within the scope of his or her responsibilities, working as a public employee and municipal officer 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. Frequently requires lifting objects weighing up to 25 pounds and infrequently lifting more than 50 pounds or carrying objects with both hands and arms. Continuous hand and finger movement is frequently required. Visual acuity at 20 inches or less, as well as distance vision for driving, and hearing acuity for speech discrimination and physical assessment procedures are frequently required. Clear speech is required for oral communication. Must be able to interpret complex medical concepts and occasionally calculate mathematical problems.

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment/Tool</th>
<th>No. of Hours</th>
<th>Frequency of use</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maps, aerial photos, measuring tools</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>x Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle/ferry</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>x Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>x Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copy machine</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>x</td>
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</tbody>
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Lactation equipment, audiometer, sphygmomanometer, ophthalmoscope, tympanometer, otoscope, stethoscope, scoliometer, phlebotomy equipment, centrifuge, Snellen vision screen

WORKING CONDITIONS: Works in variety of settings, including office, homes, schools, business sites and other community settings. Physical setting may be unsanitary and include potential for exposure to hostile individuals. Encounters occasional traumatic results that require post-event counseling. Potential for exposure to blood borne pathogens and other communicable diseases. Works occasional weekend and off-hour calls. Travel less than 10% of the time includes ferry and small planes. Requires ability to maintain flexibility regarding schedules and work loads.