

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Terrebonne Parish Health Unit



SUMMARY

Provide professional nursing care to individuals and families in any clinical and community setting designated by OPH. Provide programmatic supervision over professional and paraprofessional personnel within the Terrebonne Parish Health Unit. Work with other members of the healthcare team to promote a positive image and perform the duties assigned by the Louisiana Department of Health/Office of Public Health (LDH/OPH) RN Supervisor.

JOB OVERVIEW

Starting Pay

\$53,581 - \$68,786 per year

Schedule

Monday - Friday

Shift

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

LOCATION

Terrebonne Parish Health Unit

REPORTS TO

Region 3 OPH Regional Administrator

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- Lift up to 25 lbs. (light)
- Walk/stand for long periods

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Frequent interactions with members of the public

EMERGENCY EVENTS

Required to work during emergency events.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

1. Perform nursing duties (e.g. conducting histories/examinations and providing treatment by protocol, CDC and OPH guidelines, and standing programmatic orders) alone or with another medical professional in all OPH clinics (i.e. reproductive health, immunizations, sexually transmitted infections (STI), genetics clinic, and Tuberculosis (TB) programs).
2. Refer patients as needed to other LDH agencies and community providers for treatment, assistance, and/or follow-up.
3. Educate patients and families on special procedures; provide preventative health assessments; complete medical and sexual histories; obtain lab specimens and interpret test results for urine pregnancy tests, IgG for syphilis, HIV, and DNA gen-probes for gonorrhea and chlamydia.
4. Provide treatment and counseling according to the standing orders of the STI program; collaborate with the Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) regarding contact investigations, treatment, and education of individuals infected with communicable diseases.
5. Administer immunizations and medications, educate and monitor for adverse reactions, and complete requisite documentation; use systems such as LINKS, EHR, Passport, and CARS to track immunization records.
6. Ensure Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) by adhering to OPH's policies and procedures and HIPAA guidelines. Assist the RN Supervisor with the purging of medical records in accordance with LDH-OPH's policies and procedures.
7. Oversee clinic to ensure that patients receive needed services, program requirements are met, and appropriate follow-up or referral is provided.
8. Ensure proper and timely attention to patients' special health needs (e.g., TB patients, child abuse reporting, communicable disease reporting) through ongoing caseload management/coordination with program DIS.
9. Participate in Emergency Preparedness and Response within the community and Region 3, including regional Medical Special Needs Shelters (MSNS), Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), and Points of Dispensing (PODS), etc.; collaborate with Environmental Health personnel, the Regional Rapid Response Team (RRT), and the Regional Epidemiologist regarding the collection of data, case management, referral, follow-up, and community education of individuals and/or groups who are at risk for exposure to environmental disease entities (i.e. West Nile Virus, COVID-19, Mercury, Lead, Foodborne illness, etc.).
10. Provide health education and outreach within the community and coordinate events with the Community Health Worker, Terrebonne Social Worker, and other Public Health Staff at the discretion of OPH regional leadership.
11. Function as orientation instructor for new RNs; assist nursing students from various schools of nursing, AD, BSN, and MSN programs to provide clinical experiences regarding community and Public Health Nursing.



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12. Attend staff meetings, trainings, in-service, conferences, seminars, workshops, and other continuing education programs to maintain professional expertise and licensing requirements. Practice within the scope designated by the Louisiana Nurse Practice Act (LRS 37:911); adhere to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing's guidelines and the policies, procedures, guidelines, and standards of the Louisiana Department of Health - Office of Public Health (LDH-OPH).
13. Perform other duties as assigned by supervisor.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Possess strong written and verbal communication and organizational skills.
2. Demonstrate a strong desire to work with the community in an energetic and positive manner.
3. Clear a criminal background check and drug screen.

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND LICENSES

1. Familiarity with Electronic Health Records, Google Documents and Microsoft Office will be beneficial.
2. Experience in case management, health systems, or public health is desired.
3. Possess and maintain a valid license with Louisiana Board of Nurse Examiners.
4. Possess and maintain current CPR certification.



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