



**WESTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
LOT 31B, FAIRVIEW SHOPPING CENTRE
MONTEGO BAY
ST JAMES**

Applications are invited from qualified persons for the position of:

MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKER (HPC/MSW 1)

ST. JAMES HEALTH SERVICES-Child & Adolescent Mental Health Clinic

Salary Scale: \$3,477,245.00 - \$4,133,352.00 per annum

JOB SUMMARY/PURPOSE:

Under the Direct supervision of the Psychologist, the Medical Social Worker is primarily responsible for supporting patients and their families by coordinating patients' care and support services with the respective health teams. The incumbent is also responsible for providing psychosocial support to chronic disease patients; identifying social challenges that adversely impact compliance, facilitating internal and external referrals, linkage to care and reducing dropouts.

KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Maintain a comprehensive record/database and reports of social cases assigned
- Conduct comprehensive investigations and reporting on social cases
- Assess the social, emotional and economic factors relevant to medical diagnosis and treatment and communicate these to other members of the health team
- Utilize therapeutic casework or group work to resolve psychosocial issues that may be causing strain/distress which may delay response to medical treatment
- Patients with chronic diseases are monitored and managed
- Incorporate psycho-educational sessions to help patients and their relatives understand, accept and adjust to medical diagnoses and or disabilities
- Assist with the implementation of Psychosocial Support Groups to address stress management, positive coping mechanisms and other topics that help to promote healthy living with diseases such as Sickle Cell
- Do follow-up calls to patients and other relevant persons/places in order to make social assessments
- Assist patients in procuring medical and surgical supplies necessary for maintenance or reasonable health and mobility through available aids
- Inform the relevant authority of cases of abandonment, child abuse and neglect and see to the appropriate following up of cases
- Maintain relationships with the relevant state agencies concerned with the health and welfare of children and utilize their services in the interest of patients and their families
- Identify and communicate with public, voluntary and private agencies and apply for available resources to the needs of patients as guided
- Advise the MO(H)/SMO/Parish Administrator of the social needs of patients and the expansion or establishment of services to meet the needs

- Provide counselling and make referrals to appropriate agencies for survivors of abuse (child abuse/neglect, intimate partner violence, elderly abuse etc.) or human trafficking
- Help patients and their families to access and benefit from social safety-net and community programmes
- Assist with the creation of comprehensive treatment plans and progress notations for all cases assigned in keeping with established professional formats to facilitate continuity of care
- Assist with the supervision of Social Worker students placed on field assignments when necessary
- Perform other duties assigned from time to time

SKILLS/COMPETENCIES AND SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE:

- Sound knowledge of the relevant agencies to support patients in need
- Excellent knowledge of the scope and methods of social work
- Working knowledge of the public health systems relating to the delivery of healthcare
- Basic knowledge of medical terminologies
- Well-developed interviewing and counselling techniques
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Excellent organization, coordination, problem-solving skills and techniques
- Independent, flexible and innovative attitude
- Strong crisis intervention skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent time management and planning abilities
- Ability to work under pressure and outside of close supervision

SPECIAL CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE JOB:

- Will be required to work in hospital settings
- May be exposed to severe or complex social conditions of patients
- May be required to travel within the parish
- May be required to respond to crises outside of normal working; hours, including weekends and Public Holidays
- Required to conduct home visits

QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work
- Knowledge about social work legislation dealing with the rights of individuals
- Minimum of two (2) years experience in a similar capacity

Application letter along with detailed résumé should be submitted no later than

July 3, 2026 to:

**The Director
Human Resource Management and Development
Western Regional Health Authority
Lot 31b, Fairview Shopping Centre
P. O. Box 900
St. James**

Or

E-mail: wrojobs@wrha.gov.jm

Website: www.wrha.gov.jm

NB: ONLY SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS WILL BE CONTACTED