

# SCOPE OF PRACTICE GUIDELINES

## SOCIAL WORK SERVICE LAST UPDATED 22 JULY 2010

### MASTERS OF SOCIAL WORK AND DSW

The mission of DSW is to provide comprehensive Social Work Services to active duty personnel, their families and the military community. DSW provides outpatient and inpatient care that include:

- a. Outpatient Services: *Family Advocacy Program* which focus on clinical issues related to spouse/partner/child/elder abuse and neglect; *Deployment Care Manager Program* which focus on deployment related issues affecting soldiers & families; *Sexual Assault Program* which ensure appropriate processing and care management of sexual assault victim; and *Marriage & Family Counseling* which provide marriage and family counseling to soldiers and families. *Warrior Transition Battalion(WTB) Social Work*, specific team of social workers providing support to unique to WTB soldiers
- b. Inpatient Services: Clinical Social Workers are consulted to provide social work service to inpatients to assist with the discharge planning process, which may include: providing patient information/education, participating in multi-disciplinary meetings to conduct risk assessment and develop a safety plan or to managing complex family issues.

All Clinical Social Workers are identified as a credentialed provider by WAMC and approved to provide direct patient care. Clinical Social Workers provide direct service in the form of counseling individuals, couples, families, and groups on matters pertaining to family dynamics, parent-child interaction, couples communication, stress reduction, adjustment to military lifestyles, Family Advocacy Program (FAP) case management, treatment services and psycho-educational training programs. Clinical counseling includes the psychosocial assessment of individuals, development of treatment plans, treatment delivery, and appropriate referral. Case management services include the identification, reporting, risk assessment, safety planning, psychosocial assessment, treatment planning, treatment, referral, and follow-up of child abuse, child sex abuse, and spouse abuse allegations for active duty military members and their families. The position of a Clinical Social Worker requires knowledge of intensive psychosocial services and a wide range of skills (casework, group work, individual, crisis response and family therapy). Cases may involve multiple difficult and complex family problems including dual diagnoses, violence and impulsivity, and a variety of other mental health problems.

Clinical Social Workers have a Master's degree in social work or in a school accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or have 3 years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a Ph.D. degree or Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree. Clinical Social Workers are licensed or certified at the Master's Level to independently practice social work in a state.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student

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