

# Associate Chief of Staff for Mental Health New Orleans, LA

Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (SLVHCS) strives to be an efficient organization through continual process improvement and orderliness by eliminating waste in everything they do. The organization is generating a Lean environment of abundance and ownership; building a culture of "one team creating the perfect patient experience" to honor Veterans and their families.

SLVHCS is in the process of constructing and activating a new medical center that will serve as a model for health care of the future and set the standards for patient-centered care, flexibility and sustainability. It will be a level one, 200-bed tertiary care regional referral center that is projected to serve 70,000 enrolled Veterans. The new medical center will be approximately 1.6 million square feet, with two additional 1,000-car garages for both patients and staff on a 30-acre site in New Orleans. The facility has been designed to meet the full array of VA missions: health care to America's heroes, education, research and national preparedness. It will authentically reflect the culture of the region and be the cornerstone for the emerging biosciences industry in New Orleans. You can help us build from the ground up. Create history with us and join our team!

## **Position Overview**

The Associate Chief Of Staff, Mental Health (ACOS-MH) will work with the Chief, Psychology Service and Chief, Social Work Service to provide a fully integrated approach to mental health care. The New Orleans VAMC has a close partnership with its two medical school affiliates (Louisiana State University School of Medicine and Tulane University School of Medicine) and the selected candidate will supervise the undergraduate and graduate medical programs within psychiatry and must be able to receive academic appointment at the level of Associate or full Professor commensurate with academic accomplishments and experience. Both medical school affiliates have large departments of psychiatry sponsoring many academic, including research programs. Board certification in psychiatry and a subspecialty of psychiatry is preferable.

The ACOS-MH will be an experienced clinician who demonstrates extensive and progressive leadership experience, both as a clinician and an administrator and possess the ability to promote innovation, inspire organizational excellence, be able to build teams, respect health care professionals regardless of degree and coach clinical leaders as they work toward common goals. Excellent interpersonal skills are essential. The ACOS-MH must have the ability to meet the array of VA performance measure goals, and possess knowledge of the standards of the Veterans Health Administration and other external accrediting bodies. The ACOS-MH should possess the ability to promote innovation, inspire organizational excellence and build programs within the new medical center and between the medical center and its other regional VAMCs for whom it will be a referral site.

## **Job Details**

- Estimated Pay Range: \$130,000 — \$320,000
- Application Open Date:
- Application Close Date:
- Organization: Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration
- Who May Apply: US Citizens
- Status: Full Time

## **Work Schedule**

Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (some weekends and holidays may be required).

## **Basic Requirements**

The ACOS-MH will be an experienced clinician who demonstrates extensive and progressive leadership experience, both as a clinician and an administrator and possess the ability to promote innovation, inspire organizational excellence, be able to build teams, respect health care professionals regardless of degree and coach clinical leaders as they work toward common goals. Excellent interpersonal skills are essential. The ACOS-MH must have the ability to meet the array of VA performance measure goals, and possess knowledge of the standards of the Veterans Health Administration and other external accrediting bodies. The ACOS-MH should possess the ability to promote innovation, inspire organizational excellence and build programs within the new medical center and between the medical center and its other regional VAMCs for whom it will be a referral site.

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations (e.g., professional; philanthropic; religions; spiritual; community; student; social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience.

Physician shall perform the ACOS-MH in accordance with the standards of practice for Hospital and hospital behavioral health departments as established by such bodies as (i) the Joint Commission, (ii) the American Hospital Association, (iii) the Louisiana State Department of Health, (iv) the United States Department of Health and Human Services, (v) all other laws and regulations relating to licensure and practice of physicians, (vi) all requirements of such voluntary professional and facility accrediting institutions in which Hospital becomes a participant, and (vii) the standards of practice for such specialty in Louisiana area.

## **Duties & Responsibilities Include**

- Collaborate with service line management in formulating the goals, objectives and operational plan. Implement medical staff goals, objectives and operational plan for psychiatric services.
- Actively lead in the coordination of patient care for all psychiatric patients.

- Deviations from accepted standards of medical care, Veterans Administration behavioral health policies, protocols and standards of practice shall be referred to the Associate Chief of Staff – Mental Health. The Associate Chief of Staff – Mental Health shall review the issue, concerns and situation with the attending physician. If resolution of the issue cannot be accomplished, the Associate Chief of Staff – Mental Health may intervene directly in patient care, if in his opinion, it is in the patient's best interest. This may take the form of writing or canceling orders and obtaining further consultation. A quality service memo will be completed by the Medical Director and staff if such occurs and referred to the appropriate medical staff peer review committee and appropriate follow up action will occur through the medical staff process.
- Actively contribute to the development and revision of behavioral health programs and services in an evidence-based, cost-effective system and process.
- Collaborative development, monitoring, implementation of practice change, to achieve balanced scorecard, goals and targets, and demonstrate improvement.
- Ensure the availability of eligible physicians for providing inpatient psychiatric patient care that meets hospital and community standards.
- Actively prepare for and participate in the Louisiana State Department of Health (DOH) and Joint Commission surveys and all activities related to accreditation or certification.
- Identify and develop opportunities to provide behavioral health services in a changing health care market.
- Facilitate ongoing education presentations to clinical staff and the medical staff.
- Attend relevant meetings of physicians, staff and Administration.
- Adhere to the policies, procedures, and practices outlined in the Code of Conduct and Organizational Ethics policy. Report any business practice/compliance concerns according to organization policy.

**Preferred Experience:**

- Holds board certification after specialized training
- Obtained an M.D. or D.O. through fellowship programs or specialist registrar positions or DM in India or equivalent programs throughout the world
- Four years of undergraduate school, four years of medical school, and three years of residency, and three years of Fellowship training

**Grade Determinations**

GS-15 Senior Psychologist (Service Chief)

**Experience**

Board Certification in psychiatry and a subspecialty of psychiatry is preferable.

**Demonstrated Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSAs).**

Summary of Responsibilities: Provide for the quality, safety and appropriateness of the medical care and services provided in the Department and for psychiatric patients throughout the Hospital.

ACOS-MH should be board certified in the required specialty. ACOS-MH should have a documented record of intensive experience in the provision of services with at least three

(3) years of professional experience beyond residency. ACOS-MH should have demonstrated administrative and leadership skills.

### **Benefits**

Working for the Department of Veterans Affairs offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes, in part, paid vacation, sick leave, holidays, life insurance, health benefits, thrift savings plan, and participation in the Federal Employees Retirement System. This link provides an overview of the benefits currently offered. For more information please visit us at [http://www.va.gov/JOBS/Job\\_Benefits/benefits.asp](http://www.va.gov/JOBS/Job_Benefits/benefits.asp)

### **How to Apply**

Send cover letter and resume to [apply@reffettassociates.com](mailto:apply@reffettassociates.com) and note **NOLA ACOS-MH Candidate** in the subject line.

***NOTE:*** Applicant's education and length of practice and experience will be considered by a Compensation Panel in determining the salary of the applicant selected.