**Gregory R post to Class 7 week 1 introduction**

Hello everyone,

My name is Greg and I live in Southern California. I am currently earning an MA in psychology and have been working in the mental health/substance use disorder industry for almost five years. I have been wavering between pursuing a PsyD and obtaining an MSW after completing this degree. If I take the PsyD route, I will eventually become a licensed psychologist. Whereas, the MSW path will lead me to an LCSW with the BBS. I foresee myself working with middle school students by facilitating coping skills and emotional regulation. However, I also want the opportunity to work with higher acuity students who need more individualized modalities. Therefore, I am currently leaning toward the psychologist profession.

I found a mental health therapist posting for a local adolescent treatment center. Below are the job qualifications:

"· Current registration or license with Board of Behavioral Science: PhD, PsyD. LMFT, LPCC, , LCSW, or related degree and clinical qualifications.

· Familiarity with Health care laws and regulations, including HIPAA. ability to work collaboratively with co-workers at all levels of the organization.

· Previous mental health experience.

· Ability to demonstrate respect for cultural and lifestyle diversities of clients and staff. Knowledge of current legal standards pertaining to professional practice, reporting requirements, and professional boundaries."

I would present myself in the following manner to this potential employer:

I do not possess the required registration with the BBS yet, but I have considerable experience working with adolescents and adults struggling with co-occurring mental health disorders. I have performed preliminary assessments [similar to a biopsychosocial], facilitated group sessions, and have extensively studied compliance intricacies including HIPAA laws, mandates for the California Department of Healthcare Services, The Joint Commission regulations, and cultural sensitivity training. Ashford University has provided salient features of psychoeducation that will assist me in my work with clients. What I lack in terms of board registration I account for in professional, first-hand experience and formal education from a regionally accredited university.  I plan on furthering my education to obtain a license-specific degree that will allow me to take the appropriate law/ethics and licensure exams in accordance with the BBS. My diverse experience in the field has molded me into several positions that have permitted me to help clients in various capacities. I feel the position I discovered would inculcate additional skills for a broad population while enhancing the client's journey into a healthier way of life.

I am looking forward to working with all of you closely over the next several weeks.

-Greg

Reference

Primary Therapist - Part Time. Resilience Treatment Center. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=therapist%20mental%20health&l=Encino%2C%20CA&advn=3075418258987484&vjk=43c2a6281ec77fe7