



Dallas County

Public Defender's Office

January 11, 2024

SOCIAL WORKER, CASE MANAGER, SOCIAL WORKER SUPERVISOR POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Dallas County Public Defender's Office, established in 1983, has a diverse and talented staff of over 150 dedicated attorneys, social workers, case managers, investigators and support staff. Our staff is passionate about providing unparalleled legal representation to people forced to navigate the legal system without the means to hire an attorney.

Operating across adult criminal, juvenile, probate courts, and family courts in Dallas County, we are a model for excellence in indigent defense and holistic representation. Our office includes Misdemeanor and Felony Trial Divisions; an Appellate Division; a Mental Health and Special Programs Division; a Capital Division; an Actual Innocence and Exoneration Division; a Juvenile Division; a Child Protection Division; a Family Division; an Investigative Division; and an Administrative Division.

Firmly committed to our mission to provide holistic representation, we forge collaborative partnerships with social service organizations, mental health providers, municipal court programs, peer support initiatives, rehabilitative programs, reentry programs, housing providers, educational and skills-training programs and no-cost legal service providers, all for the benefit of our clients and the greater Dallas County community.

Central to our Special Programs Division is the indispensable Engagement Team, comprising Social Workers and Case Managers. Their roles are fluid and evolve based on client needs, but some duties include interviewing clients, assessing mental health and social service needs; facilitating housing referrals and rehabilitative placements; administering skills courses that address the root causes of justice system involvement; monitoring progress in competency restoration programs; offering on-call support to attorneys; and cultivating relationships with community partners.

The roles of our Social Workers and Case Managers are complex and their Impact is profound. They establish and nurture connections with clients,

enhancing our quality of legal representation and encouraging healthy behaviors that foster full community integration, thereby reducing the likelihood of future justice system involvement. Comfortable engaging clients that are grappling with mental health issues, homelessness, substance use disorders, and limited resources, our experts are passionate about serving a population often overlooked.

If this resonates with you, we look forward to discussing how you can contribute to our team. We have several positions available in social work and case management. One is a grant-funded position for a nine-month period, tailor-made for individuals seeking to gain valuable social work experience in a dynamic environment without the need for a long-term commitment. We also have longer-term positions for those looking to put down roots and dig in to the rewarding work of Case Management. Finally, for the individual ready to take on a leadership role, with the ability and credentials to direct professional development, while contributing innovative ideas to a motivated and enthusiastic team, there is the Engagement Team Lead position. Which position could be a fit for you?

To explore this opportunity, please forward your resume and letter of interest to Vickie Rice, Dallas County Public Defender's Office Special Programs Division Chief at vrice@dallascounty.org, cc: mhimes@dallascounty.org.