



## Terra Firma Social Worker

### **Organization Overview:**

The Bronx Health Collective (BHC), an innovative, mission driven, federally qualified community health center affiliated with Montefiore Health System-Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is seeking a Clinical Social worker to provide individual and group therapy, psychological assessments, and integrated mental health care to children, adolescents, adults, and families, to an under-resourced South Bronx community. *The position will focus on providing mental health evaluations and treatment for newly arrived unaccompanied immigrant children and families seeking US protection with the Terra Firma program.*

*Terra Firma (TF), founded in 2013, is designed to address the complex medical, mental health and legal needs of newly arrived unaccompanied immigrant children and families seeking humanitarian protection in the United States. Our wrap-around model provides healthcare and legal services in a federally qualified community health center, the Bronx Health Collective (BHC) of Montefiore Medical Center.*

Founded in 1987 to care for vulnerable families living in NYC's homeless shelter system, BHC has grown to provide high quality, comprehensive primary care to over 9,000 children, adolescents, and adults annually. BHC has "Gold Level" status as a Health Center Quality Leader, ranking in the top 10% in clinical performance among all health centers nationally. Since its inception, BHC has understood the importance of co-located, integrated mental health care, which is a fundamental part of its patient-centered model of care. Our mental health team consists of psychologists, clinical social workers, case managers, a patient navigator, and a psychiatrist. The BHC cares for some of NYC's most vulnerable populations, with a cluster of health centers in the Longwood/Hunts Point section of the South Bronx and a homeless-health care program that provides care via mobile medical clinics or on-site in family shelters. As an Article 28 health center, the BHC does not care for individuals with severe, chronic mental health issues that would be better managed in an Article 31 setting.

BHC strives to close the gap in health disparities through multi-disciplinary initiatives that target prevalent health conditions and promote healthy behavior, growth, and development. Understanding the role that psychological well-being plays in physical health outcomes, each initiative incorporates the mental health team into its interventions. *Terra Firma* is one example, but others include the Early Childhood and Family Resiliency Initiative, which focuses on building healthy parent-child relationships and understanding the roles that social determinants of health play in the well-being of communities we serve. Another is The HOME Program (unHoused Opportunities for Mobile Empowerment), which reduces barriers to comprehensive, integrated care for families living with homelessness by meeting clients where they are, whether through providing care onsite at family shelters, use of mobile vans, or by welcoming patients into our Bronx HOME clinic.



#### **SOCIAL WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Provides direct clinical care that may include individual, group, couples and family therapeutic interventions for patients of all ages, mainly within the Terra Firma Program, and additionally for general BHC clients
- Writes clinical declarations that may be used as evidence in an immigration case (experience is a plus, but willingness to learn is all that is required).
- Completes biopsychosocial assessments for new patients
- Writes letters of support and/or evaluations for gender-affirming care, housing, and other issues related to client mental health and well-being
- Collaborates with legal providers and medical staff, providing supporting documentation for immigration processes, and engaging in crisis assessment and intervention in a professional and knowledgeable manner.
- Documents care in a timely and appropriately manner using the electronic medical record (EMR)
- Attends and actively participates in mental health team meetings and events
- Coordinates care with medical staff working across an interdisciplinary team
- Serves as mental health consultant to medical providers during regular work hours as part of team coverage
- Offers trainings as part of the Mental Health Case Conferences series
- May participate in research and advocacy activities

#### **QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:**

- Masters in Social Work from a school of Social Work from a program registered by NYS Dept. of Education. LMSW or LCSW.
- If applicant has a limited permit, they must have an executed Memorandum of understanding with a licensed Social Worker for the purposes of supervision, and must obtain LMSW within 6 months of employment
- Minimum of 1 years of clinical experience preferred
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Bilingual (English/Spanish) required
- BHC participates in the Loan Repayment Program via HRSA (HPSA Score19): <https://bhw.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/nhsc>.
- Salary and benefits furnished upon request.

**If interested, please contact Pamela Guthrie, Psy.D. at [pguthrie@montefiore.org](mailto:pguthrie@montefiore.org)  
Please include your resume and description of interest.**

*Equal Opportunity Employer: Montefiore Medical Center is committed to a diverse workforce and a policy of equal employment opportunity in all of its activities. Applicants from members of under-represented groups are encouraged to apply.*