

**JOB DESCRIPTION**  
**FRANKLIN COUNTY JUVENILE UNIT SOCIAL WORKER**

**SOCIAL WORKER I**

**GENERAL:**

The Franklin County Juvenile Unit Social worker duties include, but is not limited to, case planning, interviewing, treatment planning, community resources and human development. The social worker will work with indigent clients on cases in juvenile delinquency, abuse, neglect, dependency cases, unruly, traffic offenses, and permanent custody of children for purposes of adoption and child support. Juvenile social workers also collaborate with the Common Pleas, Municipal, Appellate and Investigator Units to provide specialized knowledge to best defend Public Defender clients.

**TYPICAL DUTIES:**

1. Interviews client, family and all pertinent parties to compile social histories and information relative to clients' presenting problems, environment, behavior patterns, etc. Has client and family sign release forms to gather all service provider history. Provides psychosocial write-ups and case summaries to defense attorney.
2. Collaborates with defense attorney, court personnel, social services agencies, psychologists, Franklin County Children Services, court appointed attorneys, prosecutors and other professionals to provide best possible dispositional outcomes for client. Remains in constant contact with these professionals and completes community visits when necessary.
3. Aids defense attorney by assessing clients for possible competency evaluations, psychological testing, sex offender assessments, polygraphs and other assessments based on interview and psychosocial information gathered on the client.
4. Proposes positive alternatives to incarceration, removal of children from the home and other penalties.
5. Visits clients in the Juvenile Detention Center, attends client's team meetings in probation, family assessment and Franklin County Children Services to advocate on clients' behalf and gather information to aid in their case. Completes home visits when necessary.
6. Educates clients on the workings of the court system and provide information and referrals on community services to clients and families.
7. Attends court hearings for all clients and works with defense attorney on defense strategy and on-going needs of the case.

8. Maintains a knowledge of social agencies and their services and a line of communications with such agencies.
9. Performs other similar and related duties as may be designated by the Unit Chief, Social Work Supervisor or Attorneys.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Minimum four (4) year degree in an accredited college or university in social work.
2. Must have a current License for Social Work (LSW) in the State of Ohio.
3. One (1) year of experience in the field of social work, preferably associated with the judicial system, counseling and knowledge of local social agencies and services.
4. Ability to effectively communicate with clients and others, both inside and outside the Public Defender organization.
5. Must have a car, good driving record, valid driver's license, and automobile insurance.
6. Ability to maintain confidentiality of information relative to clients and other associates.

**Social Worker II**

The Social Worker II position incorporates all of the duties of a Social Worker I along with two (2) to three (3) years additional experience as a Social Worker I, including exemplary performance of job duties and recommendation for promotion from Unit Chief.

**Full-time 40 Hours per week: Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm**  
**Salary is \$40,361.07; annually. Franklin County benefits eligible.**

**TO APPLY:**

**Please send resume and cover letter to:**  
**Franklin County Public Defender**  
**Attn: LaNiya Harris-Hicks**  
**Human Resources Officer**  
**373 South High Street, 12th floor.**  
**Columbus, OH 43215**  
[lsharris@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:lsharris@franklincountyohio.gov)