

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Classification:	Nutritionist
Title:	Child Care Nutritionist
Employee Name:	VACANT
Program:	Child Care Outreach
Division:	Prevention Services Division
FTE:	0.5 FTE
FLSA:	Non-Exempt
Represented Status:	AHPU – Allied Health Professionals Unit
Salary Range:	16
Position Number:	638
Effective Date:	July 1, 2020
Revised From:	January 1, 2017

Definition:

Under the direction of a Prevention Services Supervisor, or designee, this position will perform a variety of services related to nutrition of children in child cares. Activities will include nutritional assessments in child care facilities, nutrition education, development and facilitation of distance learning and on-line trainings, and collaboration with child care providers and community partners to improve nutrition in child cares.

Incumbent will work collaboratively with various disciplines and agencies serving child cares to identify and address nutritional needs impacting the child care population. The nutritionist serves as an expert of children's nutritional issues and applies a working knowledge of public health practices and concepts of child nutrition. The individual demonstrates cultural competency in the ability to engage with people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and socioeconomic circumstances to influence the child care community.

Work is performed under general supervision. The supervisor defines objectives, priorities, deadlines and assists incumbent with unusual situations, which do not have clear objectives or precedents. Incumbent plans and carries out assignments and handles problems and deviations in accordance with experienced judgment, instructions, policies, procedures, and/or accepted practices. Work is evaluated for competency of professional judgment and achievement of goals and objectives.

Examples of Work Performed:

This individual is expected to operate with considerable latitude and apply sound judgment to make recommendations, decisions and solve problems consistent with public health practice and participate as a member of cross-functional teams. Specific examples of work will include, but not be limited to the following:

Screening and Assessment:

- Supports and/or facilitates child care process(es) to assess strengths, weaknesses and resource gaps in nutrition
- Assesses nutrition practices and consults with child care providers on topics such as feeding, menu planning, managing special dietary needs and safe and healthy eating environments
- Assesses educational and resource needs of child care providers; designs and implements appropriate training
- Identifies cultural patterns influencing child care nutrition practices

Policy Development and Program Planning:

- Works collaboratively in community efforts to develop, promote and implement policies and action plan to improve the nutritional health of children in child cares
- Educates policy makers about child care nutrition issues in Snohomish County and recommends policies or other solutions to meet identified needs
- Mobilizes partnerships between policy makers, parent child health providers, social service agencies, families, general public and others to identify and address nutrition problems in child cares
- Provides input into the fiscal and narrative components of proposals for funding from external sources
- Researches best practices that seek to improve the nutritional health of children in child cares and determine new ways to address issues

Partnership and Collaboration:

- Collaborates with child care providers and parents to promote a unified approach to serving the child in group settings
- Develops/maintains collaborative working relationships with providers, child care, preschools, school age care, early learning centers, licensing, social service providers and others serving the population
- Represent child care nutrition concerns in community- based work groups
- Collaborates across SHD programs, including Environmental Health, Community Health and Communicable Disease to promote health to children and providers in child cares
- Refers, consults and conferences with program supervisor and team/community members on a regular basis
- Assists in orientation of new team members and may act as a preceptor to students

Communication and Education:

- Promote healthy eating through menu assessments; disseminate healthy meal and snack ideas, and support the USDA Child Care food Program and Department of Early Learning regulations
- Work with child care providers to assist them in developing menus which include variety and balance with an emphasis on serving fresh fruits and vegetables, low fat snacks and less processed foods
- Assist child care providers with creating mealtime environments that promote healthy eating and social development
- Provide technical expertise for managing the dietary needs of children with special needs or food allergies/intolerances
- Offer opportunities to learn about the importance of physical activity and ways to incorporate it into the child care setting; offer implementation strategies for regular physical activity that meets the guidelines for children 0-12 years old, as established by the National Academy of Sports and Physical Education
- Presents information sensitively, effectively and professionally with persons from diverse cultural, socioeconomic, educational, racial, ethnic and professional backgrounds and persons of all ages and lifestyle preferences

Associated Duties:

- Performs other related duties as assigned.
- Participates in appropriate continuing education workshops/conferences to increase skill and competencies

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of public health and nutrition practice
- Knowledge of infant and child nutritional health, physical development, special health care nutrition needs, feeding, and healthy mealtime environments
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with staff, management, colleagues, other professionals, and the public.
- Ability to interpret and present data and information to diverse populations
- Ability to participate in public health planning and outreach efforts
- Ability to plan and conduct educational programs

- Ability to work independently and exercise good judgment in carrying out position responsibilities
- Ability to utilize a variety of computer equipment and software
- Ability to effectively analyze information and data points
- Ability to effectively review research and other background information
- Ability to reach conclusions for effective decisions or recommendations
- Skilled in communicating ideas effectively orally and in writing
- Skilled in working with diverse populations
- Skilled in effectively using interpersonal skills with tact, diplomacy, patience and courtesy

Job Location, Working Conditions and Equipment Utilized:

Work is performed in a variety of settings such as in an office, school, home child cares, child care centers, and other community settings. Duties require travel to other locations throughout the county and state. The incumbent will utilize a vehicle, telephone and other standard office equipment including a personal computer and other IT equipment. The incumbent may be exposed to individuals who are irate or hostile. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

Required Physical Traits:

The physical demands described above are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of the job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Working conditions and physical demands vary by assignment.

- Requires manual and finger dexterity and hand-eye-arm coordination to write and to operate computers and a variety of general office equipment. Requires mobility to accomplish other desktop work, retrieve files, and to move to various locations throughout Snohomish County.
- Requires visual acuity to read computer screens, printed materials, and detailed information; specific vision abilities required by this classification include close vision, distance vision and color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.
- Required to use hand to eye coordination, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls.
- Requires ability to drive an automobile and sufficient mobility to access various locations.
- May involve occasional kneeling, squatting, crouching, stooping, crawling, standing, bending, climbing (to stack, store or retrieve supplies or various office equipment or files).
- Lifting and carrying up to 50 pounds occasionally with or without assistance (example: a box of copy paper).
- Requires the ability to communicate with others orally, face to face, video, by telephone and via email.

Education and Experience Required:

Education: A Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university in human nutrition, foods and nutrition, dietetics, or food systems management.

Experience: One year of recent, relevant experience in public health or community based nutrition services

Or: In place of the above experience requirement, the incumbent may possess any combination of relevant education and experience which would demonstrate the individual's knowledge, skill, and ability to perform the essential duties and responsibilities listed above.

Licenses, Certifications and Other:

- Washington State Department of Health Certified Dietitian or ability to obtain within six months of employment.
- Fluency in a foreign language/culture, *preferred*
- Department of Early Learning certified trainer; may be completed after hire
- Valid Washington State Driver's license or ability to obtain one within 30 days of hire and a driving record which meets the requirements of Snohomish Health District's insurance carrier.

- Background check pursuant to RCW 43.43.830.

Acknowledgement: Position description reviewed by Employee and Manager/Supervisor

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Assistant Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Division Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Human Resources Signature: _____ Date: _____

The statements contained herein reflect general details as necessary to describe the principal functions of this job, the level of knowledge and skill typically required, and the scope of responsibility, but should not be considered an all-inclusive listing of work requirements. Individuals may perform other duties as assigned including work in other functional areas to cover absences or relief, to equalize peak work periods, or otherwise to balance the workload.