

AgeGuide, Northeastern Illinois is accepting applications through October 16, 2020 for the position of:

OPTIONS COUNSELOR

AgeGuide is well respected and well-established non-profit company serving older adults and their families living in the collar counties of DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will is seeking an Options Counselor. This position, in conjunction with the Veterans Independence Program Staff, provides options for veterans to allow them to live independently in their homes and communities by assisting the veterans to self-direct their care and manage their resources through their participation in the Veterans Independence Program (VIP) by performing the following duties.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

I. Veterans Independence Program (VIP) Primary

- Work with the veteran to gain access to needed services.
- Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment and reassessment for each veteran assigned.
- Assist the veteran in the development of a service plan in conjunction with the veteran/authorized representative.
- Educate and support the veteran/authorized representative in his or her role as an employer.
- Works with the veteran to develop an emergency backup plan.
- Monitors the services included in the veteran's budget in conjunction with the veteran.
- Works with the veteran to assess the adequacy of the care being provided.
- Assess the ability of the veteran to manage services using the Mini Mental State Exam (MMSE).
- Report suspected cases of abuse, neglect, exploitation to the appropriate agencies.
- Maintain veteran's files, both paper and electronic.
- Attend and participate in VIP trainings and quarterly meetings.

II. Community Outreach, Training and Coordination

- Maintain an Agency on Aging presence, representing the interests of the agency and the populations we serve before local agencies, organizations, governmental bodies, legislative offices, etc.
- Conduct outreach to local VAs, VACs, SSVF providers.
- Participate in the My VA Communities initiatives in PSA 02.
- Assist with training to locals VAs, VACs, SSVF providers and Veterans on the aging network and services available.
- Assist with training on VA benefits, military culture, and other Veteran specific competencies to the Aging Network.

- Attend Veteran Service Officer Training (or similar) to ensure understanding of VA benefits, military culture and other Veteran specific competencies.
- Attend other relevant trainings and conferences to ensure ongoing continuing education relevant to Veteran benefits, services and Veteran specific issues.
- Serve as an Area Agency on Aging point of contact for Veteran inquiries.

This is a full-time salaried position with excellent Health, Dental, 401k, Life & Pension benefits. Salary is commensurate with experience. AgeGuide is an equal opportunity employer. Older persons and minorities are encouraged to apply. Ideal candidate will start on or before November 1, 2020.

For immediate consideration, applicants must apply with a cover letter and resume to Jeri Colucy, Director of Human Resources at jcolucy@ageguide.org. Requested information must be submitted electronically by Friday, October 16, 2020.