INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH CANDIDATES

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Appointment Hours: 8:30-12:00pm, 1:00-4:00pm Mon, Tues, & Fri
Walk-In Hours: 10:00-4:00pm Wed & Thurs

Open-Ended/Personal:
- Tell me a little bit about yourself?
- Why mental health counseling?
- How would a friend describe you?
- How are you unique?
- List three things you want me to know about you.
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- Why should we hire you?
- Why do you believe you are an effective counselor?

Questions about Motivation/Sincerity:
- Where do you see yourself in 5/10/20 years from now?
- What are your long-term goals?
- What challenges are you looking for in this position?
- Why do you want to work with us?
- Do you have a high level of patience?
- What are your career goals as a mental health counselor?
- What motivates you?

Questions about Your Qualifications and Experience:
- What work experience have you had?
- Tell me about a time you had a difficult client and how you handled the situation?
- What work experience do you have in the mental health field?
- How have you contributed to your community?
- Tell me about a time you have helped someone.
- What volunteer experience have you had?
- What's your toughest subject?
- Why do you want to enter a career in Mental Health?
- How do you encourage a client to talk about their issues?
- How do you approach a typical counseling session?
Questions about Your Knowledge of the Mental Health Counseling field:
• What do you know about us?
• How and when will client progress be assessed?
• What would you do if a client wanted to harm him/herself?
• What do you know about our facility?
• What specific goals will be set for treatment and how will they be communicated?
• How long do your counseling sessions last?
• What role does medication have in treatment?
• How do you treat coexisting mental health conditions such as depression or anxiety?
• What are the measurable criteria you use to assess how well your treatment is working?

Questions about Your Personality and Background:
• Tell me about a significant event in your life and how it shaped you.
• What relevant course work have you completed?
• Do you have a favorite book/class/professor?
• Who do you not get along with and why?
• Which of your qualities would you want to pass down to your children?
• What about yourself would you change if you could?
• What people have influenced you and how?
• Do you have any heroes?
• How do you handle stress?
• Give me an example of a time you contributed to a group effort.
• What do you do in your free time?
• What are your hobbies?
• What is your number one accomplishment?

Behavioral questions:
• Tell me about a time when you have helped improve a client through counseling.
• When have you helped a patient develop new strategies to address their issues?
• Tell us about a difficult client you had and how you handled the situation?
• Are you a patient person?
• What is your availability in an emergency?