South Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners
dss.sd.gov/licensingboards/social.aspx
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Spearfish, SD 57783
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DSS
Strong Families - South Dakota's Foundation and Our Future

April 12, 2018

Dear Licensed CSW-PIP,

During the 2017 Legislative Session, House Bill 1183 expanded the professions who are able to conduct court ordered competency evaluations. Prior to HB 1183, licensed or certified psychiatrists and clinical psychologists were the only professionals who could conduct court ordered competency evaluations.
HB 1183 expanded the list of professionals to include:

- A certified social worker licensed for private independent practice with two years of supervised clinical experience in a mental health setting and with training on how to conduct and score competency evaluations.
- An advanced practice registered nurse with at least a master's degree and a psychiatric certification and with training on how to conduct and score competency evaluations.
- A licensed professional counselor-mental health with training on how to conduct and score competency evaluations.

Training on how to conduct and score competency evaluations is now available to professionals who are interested in being included on the list of professionals who are able to conduct court ordered competency evaluations. The list is used by the court when selecting an examiner, and can be found at http://dss.sd.gov/licensed_professionals_comp_eval.pdf. The training can be found at the following website: https://www.concept-ce.com/product/best-practices-in-competence-to-stand-trial-self-paced-south-dakota/.

Individuals who complete the training will need to submit a copy of the certificate of completion, which is generated upon successfully passing the training, to their board office. Their name and contact information will then be provided to DSS and added to the list of professionals qualified to conduct court ordered competency evaluations.

The Unified Judicial System has limited available funding to offer reimbursement for the $500 cost of registration for those professionals that complete the competency training and are located in areas of the state with a shortage of providers or are willing to serve those areas. If you are interested in seeking reimbursement for the competency evaluation training, please contact Sadie Stevens at the Unified Judicial System at Sadie.Stevens@ujs.state.sd.us for more information concerning participation in that reimbursement program. Attached for your reference is a map indicating the location of the current providers willing to perform competency evaluations.

If you complete the training and wish to be added to the list, please mail a copy of your certificate of completion to the South Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners at 810 N. Main Street #298, Spearfish, SD 57783.

Sincerely,

Carol Tellinghuisen

Carol Tellinghuisen
Executive Secretary