



Name: Jennifer Burger, LPC-MHSP, NCC
Organization: Centerstone
Title: Program Manager, School-Based Services
Peabody Major: Human Development Counseling

Questions:

1. Job Duties – What are the 3-5 main responsibilities in your current role?

As a Program Manager for Centerstone’s School-Based Services, I provide clinical supervision for master’s level school-based counselors and bachelor’s level community-based case managers. Additionally, I provide clinical oversight of Centerstone’s School-Based Services in the South Central Middle Tennessee area. Working with Centerstone leadership and staff members, I assist in

the development and enhancement of Centerstone’s School-Based Services. This includes leading internal training as well as community-based training.

2. Necessary Skills – Which skills are most important for someone in your position? How does the skill set change as you advance?

Expertise in counseling, including the ability to diagnose and treat a variety of mental health disorders, is crucial. As a healthcare provider, maintaining company and ethical standards is at the forefront of client care. As a Program Manager, it’s important to work well in a team environment while providing leadership and motivation for my staff. As I have advanced in my career, I have developed a better understanding of the fiscal responsibilities of managing a program as well as the organizational skills it takes to lead a team.

3. Work challenges - What are the 2-3 major challenges you/your organization are facing?

The current economic climate has created new challenges for organizations across the world. As a not-for-profit behavioral healthcare provider, Centerstone has not been immune to these challenges. Everyone in our organization has adapted; from our executive leadership, to our psychiatrists, therapists, case managers and administrative staff members. We’re all working together to weather the economic storm, while maintaining our standard of excellent care for the 50,000 Middle Tennesseans we serve each year.

4. Peabody quote/Favorite Peabody Memory – How has your Peabody Education helped you?

The education I received at Peabody has helped me tremendously, both professionally and personally. I have always received professional and personal support and encouragement through my Peabody connection. Professionally, my educational background taught me to emphasize ethical standards and multicultural learning. Personally, I learned the value of self-care. Peabody gave me a solid base in order to be an effective clinician. My favorite Peabody memories include the HDC retreats and being involved with Chi Sigma Iota.

5. Recreation – What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I enjoy being outdoors. I enjoy hiking, camping, and I just started kayaking. I also like to scrapbook, make cards and spend time with family.