

# NUR 323: MILIEU ASSESSMENT

## Clinical Area Assessment Tool for Milieu Project

Agency: OSF Heart of Mary

Unit : Behavioral Health

Date of Assessment: 2/24/20

Student: Marianne Florido

Milieu Assessment:

The overall feel of the unit is appropriate for clients and staff. In general the processes run smoothly, there are public meeting spaces for socialization and games, the environment is decorated but simple and calm, there are appropriate safety measures in place to keep clients safe, and there are a variety of clients (males and females of varying cultures) that are served for their own mental and behavioral health needs.

Physical Layout:

- Secure back desk area/high wall
- Nurse desks in separate room that is offset from hallway and patient rooms
- Window at entrance to see who is trying to enter department with doorbell/ fairly secure
- 2 groups rooms

Lighting, color, décor:

- Lighting is soft
- Beautiful mural and landscape pictures line the hallway
- Décor in rooms are very minimal
- Neutral colors

Pace, activity level:

- Pace was slow and very calm for the first few hours, very calm
- Pace and activity level then picked up few hours later with clients being admitted and discharged (variable)

Emotional atmosphere:

- Pleasant, nurses are calm, relaxed, easy-going clients
- No one really stood out to me that was having a strong emotional reaction

Factors that are contributing to the emotional atmosphere:

- Television
- Clients in the group room
- Nursing students
- As day went on, floor became busier, more patients stepped out of their rooms to the common areas

Typical clients who use this service:

Age: (average and range)

- Average: 42
- Range: 18-59

Gender:

- Mostly males = 6
- Females = 5

Cultures:

- ½ of males are African American = 3
- 3 Caucasian men
- 5 Caucasian females

Socioeconomic status:

- Ranges from unemployed to low-middle class

Education level:

- Ranges from: some high school, high school degree, associate degree, college degree

Reading ability:

- From 6<sup>th</sup> grade, high school, to college level

Communication ability:

- All clients communicated their thoughts clearly and well

Reasons for using

this agency/service?

- Mental health help (substance use, depression, anxiety, bipolar, suicidal ideation)

What could a nurse do to improve the milieu today on this unit? (Use extra pages if necessary)

- Provide slippers for clients – only have sticky socks
- More interactive activities – for example:
  - Games
  - Arts and crafts
  - Music
  - Playing musical instruments
  - Making a simple snack recipe
- Encourage bonding time with the other clients to help with the community feel and for the patients to know that they are not alone and can lean on one another for support

What needs are being focused on by the staff? (Physical, vocational, social, spiritual, emotional, etc.)

- Physical: staff makes sure the clients stay safe with appropriate safety precautions
- Vocational: food service, i.e. McDonalds, some unemployed, family business, college student, coffee shop
- Spiritual: Pastor comes to have group for spiritual and faith-based needs
- Emotional: group every night with snacks encourages clients to talk about what went well today, if they met their goal, self-reflection time to address their mental needs

Honor Code: "I have neither given nor receive, nor will I tolerate others' use of unauthorized aid".

Signature\_\_\_\_\_Marianne R. Florido\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_2/27/20\_\_\_\_\_

**Instructor Comments**

