



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position	Better Future Youth Support Worker	Position Number	
Reports to	Better Futures Team Leader	Direct Reports	N/A
Status	Full-Time (38hrs)	Time Fraction	Ongoing
Award	SCHADS Level 4	Location	Chirnside Park

OUR VISION

Aboriginal self-determination – Live, Experience and Be.

OUR PURPOSE

Supporting culturally strong, safe and thriving Aboriginal communities.

POSITION SUMMARY

The target group is Aboriginal young people in Eastern Metro area who are aged 15 to 21 years and were living in out of home care. They are eligible for Better Futures if they:

- Have been on a family reunification order, a care by secretary order or a long-term care order
- On leaving the care of the Secretary, are of an age to, or intends to, live independently.

The Better Futures Youth Worker will act as the key worker, being the main contact for the entire period of leaving care support, taking on case management support when the young person leaves care. The roles will include:

- A strong focus on achieving outcomes: economic, personal, social and housing.
- Developing and implementing a detailed plan including assigning a flexible support package based on the plan.
- Provide life and living skills development for the client group

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Internal: All VACCA programs and services

External: Child Protection, Better Futures Services, key stakeholders including Aboriginal young people who have experienced out-of-home-care., youth support services; including but not limited to NDIS, Justice, AOD and/or Housing services.



KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

ESSENTIAL

- Demonstrated commitment and understanding for the values that underpin VACCA' vision and purpose.
- Awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal societies and cultures and an understanding of the issues affecting Aboriginal people in contemporary Australia and the diversity of circumstances of Aboriginal people.
- A sound understanding of Aboriginal culture, values, protocols, inter-generational factors and complex kinship systems, as well as the issues facing vulnerable Aboriginal people today.
- A demonstrated knowledge and understanding of issues surrounding Youth, homelessness, adolescent out-of-home care and the Child Protection and Youth Justice systems.
- Demonstrated ability to assist young people transition and develop the necessary skills for independent living.
- A demonstrated commitment to establishing and maintaining collaborative relationships with families, colleagues, government departments, sector partners and the Aboriginal Community.
- Skills in assertive outreach and engaging with clients that have experienced trauma and/or neglect.
- Skills in working in multidisciplinary care team to get best outcomes for young people and families

DESIRABLE

- An understanding of the available resources and services in Inner and Outer Eastern Metro areas.
- Experience with the Better Futures Advantage Thinking Model, Home Stretch and flexible support packages.
- Demonstrated understanding working with a trauma-informed approach in strength-based model.

REQUIREMENTS

- Tertiary qualification – minimum – completed/completing a Diploma in Community Services. Where a degree is commenced but not completed, salary will be fixed at Award Level 4 until successful completion.
- You must have and continue to hold a full Victorian Driver's Licence; a current employment Working with Children Check (WWCC) card and a clear National Police Check.
- Current COVID-19 vaccination (including booster dose, as applicable).

POSITION ACCOUNTABILITIES

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- To be responsible for and maintain a caseload of clients.
- To build an engagement while the young person is subject to a Child Protection order and contribute to transitional planning.



- Advocate for cultural connection for young people when undertaking their leaving care planning.
- Provide case management support when the young person leaves care, facilitating assessment and planning with a focus on long-term outcomes.
- Motivate, encourage and empower clients to address areas of personal difficulty and consider options for the development of personal wellbeing.
- To actively support, encourage and maintain the development of positive relationships, networks and linkages with the young person's community and culture.
- To actively promote the establishment and maintenance of positive family relationships in accordance with the young person's wishes and as outlined in the care plan.
- To liaise effectively with relevant services and supports to create linkages and options for young people in the program.
- To assign, implement and manage a flexible support package based on the case plan for each young person.

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

- Work as part of a multidisciplinary care team, sharing individual skills and knowledge.
- Work co-operatively with other Government and non-Government agencies and with all relevant Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal stakeholders in maintaining an effective and responsive service delivery system for clients who are transitioning from state care to independence.
- Assist with seeking and developing new partnerships with external shareholders to improve the service delivery of the Better Futures program.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Participate in orientation and inductions, formal supervision, reflective practice, annual performance appraisals and professional development activities, in accordance with VACCA's supervision framework and related policies.
- Maintain a good working knowledge of resources and services available to vulnerable young people and their families.
- Further develop leadership and management experience and skills and support the team's ongoing professional development.

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING

- Ensure compliance with the OH&S Act and VACCA policies.
- Contribute positively and proactively to team and organisation wide OH&S activities.

QUALITY & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- Ensure compliance with legislation, contract and policy requirements in your day to day work to meet the organisation's audit, contract and registration obligations.



VACCA
Connected by culture

- Proactively apply your specialist knowledge in the review and maintenance of policies, systems and processes.
- Continue the development of a culturally strong and positive working environment using a continuous improvement approach.

OTHER

- Proactively facilitate team project initiatives.
- Support other team members in periods of high demand and during periods of absence.
- Participate in project groups and attend events.
- Undertake other duties as directed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are committed to Aboriginal self-determination and supporting strong, safe, thriving Aboriginal communities and aim to ensure every individual is treated with dignity, honouring all cultural backgrounds, abilities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities and spiritual beliefs.

VACCA is a child-safe organisation and is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and young people with zero tolerance for child abuse. All successful applicants will be required to undertake a National Police Record Check and Working with Children Check prior to commencement of employment and periodically following commencement.

VACCA is an equal opportunity employer and has a smoke-free workplace policy.

This position is designated under the Multiagency Risk Assessment and Management framework (MARAM) Identification (Tier 1) level which requires mandated MARAM Family Violence Screening & Identification training and VACCA MARAM Identification responsibilities.