

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Statement of Duties

Position Title:	Family Violence Counsellor - Children and Young Person's Program
Position Number:	Generic
Classification:	Allied Health Professional Level 1-2
Award/Agreement:	Allied Health Professionals Public Sector Unions Wages Agreement
Group/Section:	Community Mental Health and Wellbeing – Statewide Allied Health Services Family Violence Counselling and Support Services
Position Type:	Permanent/Fixed-Term/Casual, Full Time/Part Time/Casual
Location:	South, North, North West
Reports to:	Team Leader - Children and Young Persons Program
Effective Date:	May 2021
Check Type:	Schedule 1
Check Frequency:	Pre-employment
Essential Requirements:	<p>Current Working with Children Registration</p> <p>Satisfactory completion of an approved allied health professional tertiary qualification/program of study and registered with the relevant National Board or, in the case of self-regulated allied health professions, eligible for membership with the relevant professional association.</p> <p><i>*Registration/licences that are essential requirements of this role must remain current and valid at all times whilst employed in this role and the status of these may be checked at any time during employment. It is the employee's responsibility to ensure that registration/licences remain current and to advise the Employer if their circumstances change. This includes notifying the Employer if a registration/licence is revoked, cancelled or has its conditions altered.</i></p>
Desirable Requirements:	Current Driver's Licence

NB: The above details in relation to Location, Position Type and Work Pattern may differ when this position is advertised – please refer to these details within the actual advert. The remainder of the content of this Statement of Duties applies to all advertised positions.

Primary Purpose:

Work as an effective member of the Family Violence Counselling and Support Service (FVCSS) in the Children and Young Persons Program (CHYPP) which was established as part of the Tasmanian Government Safe at Home initiative.

Provide specialist services to children and young people affected by family violence in accordance with best practice principles and within a collaborative and multidisciplinary framework.

Provide programs that incorporate multi-level assessments and interventions and address the needs of children and young people affected by family violence.

Duties:

1. Assist children and young people to recover from their experience of family violence trauma through the delivery of evidence based and family violence trauma informed therapeutic counselling and support. This will include a range of developmental and age appropriate techniques and tools within a counselling/therapeutic setting.
2. Contribute to and participate in the development, implementation and evaluation of group programs.
3. Provide information and support, referral and advice to clients and other service providers.
4. Assess and monitor the ongoing needs of the children and young people who access the service in relation to safety and stability in the context of family violence.
5. Identify, develop, provide or purchase the services required to meet the needs of children and families. Provide support and input to the child's care team parent/carers and other professionals where necessary.
6. Liaise with other relevant program areas to ensure coordination of services, including other Safe at Home service providers.
7. Participate in team meetings, case reviews, peer supervision and regular clinical supervision conducted by the service.
8. Accurately record and maintain the case data requirements and details of counselling sessions, assessments, supports, interventions and closure summaries in the client record as required.
9. Participate in quality improvement, education and research projects undertaken by the multidisciplinary team as required.
10. Maintain contemporary professional knowledge through appropriate continuing professional development activities.
11. Ensure the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable people you may be working with (including children and young people) and immediately report any concerns, disclosures, allegations or suspicions of harm. Actively participate in and contribute to practices that will ensure Communities Tasmania is a child safe organisation including reporting, record keeping and information sharing obligations.
12. The incumbent can expect to be allocated duties, not specifically mentioned in this document, that are within the capacity, qualifications and experience normally expected from persons occupying positions at this classification level.

Key Accountabilities and Responsibilities:

- Responsible for exercising professional judgment in the provision of safe, effective and efficient services as part of the multidisciplinary FVCSS in the CHYPP under the general direction of the team leader. Regular professional supervision and performance reviews will be provided by the team leader or an appropriate person.
- Responsible for promoting the principles of workplace diversity and exercising reasonable care in the performance of duties consistent with the relevant Work Health and Safety legislation.
- Responsible for working in accordance with the *Family Violence Act 2004, Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997* and other relevant legislation.
- Where applicable, exercise delegations in accordance with a range of Acts, Regulations, Awards, administrative authorities and functional arrangements as mandated by Statutory office holders including the Secretary and Head of State Service. The relevant Unit Manager can provide details to the occupant of delegations applicable to this position.
- Comply at all times with policy and protocol requirements, including those relating to mandatory education, training and assessment.
- Actively participate in and contribute to the organisation's Quality & Safety and Work Health & Safety processes, including in the development and implementation of safety systems, improvement initiatives, safeguarding practices for vulnerable people, and related training.

Pre-employment Conditions:

It is the Employee's responsibility to notify an Employer of any new criminal convictions during the course of their employment with the Department.

The Head of the State Service has determined that the person nominated for this job is to satisfy a pre-employment check before taking up the appointment, on promotion or transfer. The following checks are to be conducted:

1. Conviction checks in the following areas:
 - a. crimes of violence
 - b. sex related offences
 - c. serious drug offences
 - d. crimes involving dishonesty
2. Identification check
3. Disciplinary action in previous employment check.

Selection Criteria:

1. Demonstrated knowledge, understanding and practice experience of family violence trauma and its impact on the developmental needs of children and young people, together with the ability to assess complex dynamics and risk and safety assessments within a specialist family violence framework.
2. Demonstrated ability to work therapeutically with children and young people who have complex needs, including the ability to work effectively with family members and other service providers in a complex care context.
3. Demonstrated ability to exercise professional judgment and initiative, work with general supervision and seek guidance as appropriate.
4. Demonstrated time management skills and ability to prioritise and monitor a busy workload while providing a high standard of client care.
5. Ability to communicate verbally and in written form, and liaise effectively with clients, carers and other staff and stakeholders.
6. Ability to work collaboratively as part of a multidisciplinary team and be adaptable and flexible in a complex environment.
7. Demonstrated commitment to quality improvement, research and ongoing professional development.
8. Understanding of the principles of primary health care and the needs and best interests of children and young people affected by family violence.

Working Environment:

The Department of Health is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of patients, clients and the Tasmanian community through a sustainable, high quality and safe health system. We value leading with purpose, being creative and innovative, acting with integrity, being accountable and being collegial.

The Department seeks to provide an environment that supports safe work practices, diversity and respect, including with employment opportunities and ongoing learning and development. We value the diverse backgrounds, skills and contributions of all employees and treat each other and members of the community with respect. We do not tolerate discrimination, harassment or bullying in the workplace. All employees must uphold the *State Service Principles* and *Code of Conduct* which are found in the *State Service Act 2000*. The Department supports the [Consumer and Community Engagement Principles](#).