



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Position</b>	Journey Walker	<b>Position Number</b>	
<b>Reports to</b>	Principal & Adult Journey Walker	<b>Direct Reports</b>	Nil
<b>Status</b>	Fixed term – 12 months	<b>Time Fraction</b>	Full Time
<b>Award</b>	SCHADS 6	<b>Location</b>	Frankston

**Please note: This is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander designated position, classified under Section 12 Special Measures of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. This employment opportunity is only available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people**

## OUR VISION

Aboriginal self-determination – Live, Experience and Be.

## OUR PURPOSE

Supporting culturally strong, safe and thriving Aboriginal communities.

## POSITION SUMMARY

This position is responsible for....

The Journey Walker position has been designed to walk alongside Aboriginal Community members impacted by family violence to ensure they receive the right services to meet their needs. The model is unique and promotes a strengths-based approach to working with Aboriginal families where culture is acknowledged as a protective factor against family violence.

This holistic approach to working with families means that Journey Walkers will have a sound understanding of the family violence and broader service system to empower Community members to make positive choices to keep themselves and their families safe. The Journey Walker may also see Community members at different points in the system, from self-referral through to longer term support required following a specialist family violence service closing their case

is an exciting new initiative which will enhance the integrated family violence service system in the Bayside Peninsula Area and support self-determination and agency of Aboriginal families to:

- Navigate the family violence service system in ways that are culturally safe and responsive
- Have choice and agency in accessing services
- Access culturally safe information, planning, referral and exit pathways



## KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- Internal:* Family violence teams, client services staff, the family violence initiatives team, the family violence practice leaders, senior and executive managers
- External:* The Orange Door, Mainstream family violence services, ACCO's, FSV, Government departments, local support services across a range of sectors

## KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

### ESSENTIAL

- Demonstrated commitment and understanding for the values that underpin VACCA' vision and purpose
- Demonstrated awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal societies and cultures, and commitment to continually build knowledge of such, along with a high level of awareness of the key issues which impact upon Aboriginal communities
- A comprehensive understanding of Family Violence and the implications on individuals, families, and the community
- Demonstrated experience in working with Aboriginal men impacted by family violence and the ability to support them in their journey toward safety and healing.
- Ability to empower and advocate for clients with a non-judgemental approach.
- Substantial and relevant experience working across Family Violence, Child and Family Welfare Services and the Aboriginal sector.
- Strong advocacy skills and the ability to champion cultural safety for Aboriginal Community members accessing a mainstream service
- Demonstrated understanding of Family Support Services and different models of intervention.
- Ability to work independently and as a collaborative team member in a challenging environment, including the ability to prioritise workload and tasks effectively
- Self-care and reflective practice strategies leading to resilience and self awareness
- Effective and culturally appropriate interpersonal skills e.g. active listening, empathy in all verbal and non-verbal communications.
- Ability to prepare accurate documents and reports e.g. case notes, incident reports, work reports that meet audience needs
- Sound knowledge of the Family Violence Protection Act 2008, Information Sharing and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Framework (MARAM).

### REQUIREMENTS

- A Bachelors qualification in social work, psychology, counselling, family therapy or a related discipline along with demonstrated experience or willingness to work toward the qualification in line with the mandatory minimum qualifications policy
- You must have and continue to hold a full Victorian Driver's Licence, a current employment Working With Children Check card and a clear National Police Check



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## POSITION ACCOUNTABILITIES

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provision of information, advice and education in relation to family violence and child wellbeing to community, clients and broader agencies
- Provision of information, advice and education in relation to culturally safe and responsive service delivery to professionals and agencies in the broader service system
- Respond to referrals and direct contact from clients, community and other professionals and agencies, including provision of immediate or crisis responses to risk
- Direct support to clients and families, including active engagement and relationship building, identification and assessment of family violence and child wellbeing risks and needs, service planning and connection to the service system including cultural connections
- Ensure practice is client centred and recognises culture as a protective factor
- Assess risk, safety planning and needs of families with a focus on cultural connection
- Make referrals to suitable supports and services in partnership with Community members.
- Provide cultural advocacy to ensure identified supports and services meet the needs of families in their service delivery.
- Actively support Community members to access and engage with the identified supports.
- Collaborate with other professionals and services to meet the Community member's needs and manage risk

### ADMINISTRATION

- Accurate record keeping, including case notes, completed forms and reports as required according to program guidelines and agency registration obligations
- Case management and maintenance of client files in line with legislative and policy requirements
- Maintain accurate statistical data using data systems as required by VACCA and DFFH

### RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

- Establish effective working relationships with partner agencies providing services and support for women and children who have experienced family violence
- Participate in local, regional and other network meetings encompassing issues and current initiatives addressing family violence

### HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING

- Ensure compliance with the OH&S Act and VACCA policies.



**VACCA**  
Connected by culture

- 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.
- 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

- Participate proactively in team 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.