

Position Description

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| Title | Manager Children, Youth and Families |
| Business unit | Child, Youth and Families |
| Location | Inner Gippsland |
| Employment type | Full time Ongoing |
| Reports to | Senior Manager Children, Youth and Families |

About Uniting

Uniting Vic.Tas is the community services organisation of the Uniting Church. We've been supporting people and families for over 100 years. We work alongside people of all ages in local communities in Victoria and Tasmania. Our services reach to Albury-Wodonga in the north, Mallacoota in East Gippsland, the Wimmera region in the west, and across Tasmania.

We empower children, young people and families to learn and thrive. We're there for people experiencing homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction or mental illness. We support people with disability to live the life they choose. We assist older people to maintain their independence and enjoy life. We provide opportunities to access training and meaningful employment. We're proud to welcome and support asylum seekers to our community. We work to empower people with the information, skills and tools they need to live a healthy, happy life.

As an organisation, we work in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Australia's First Peoples and as the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

We celebrate diversity and value the lived experience of people of every ethnicity, faith, age, disability, culture, language, gender identity, sex and sexual orientation. We welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse and non-binary, intersex, and queer (LGBTIQ+) people at our services. We pledge to provide inclusive and non-discriminatory services.

Our purpose: To inspire people, enliven communities and confront injustice

Our values: We are imaginative, respectful, compassionate and bold

1. Position purpose

The Manager Children, Youth and Families works as part of a team of managers and is responsible for efficient coordination and management of a group of client services and community development programs and services. Reporting to the Senior Manager, this role oversees the delivery of, and provides expertise in a portfolio of Government funded programs. This is achieved through:

- Ensuring effective planning, development and delivery of high quality, sustainable consumer and community focused programs and services
- Ensuring that all programs are managed in accordance with funding requirements, Uniting policies, allocated budgets and contemporary human resource management
- Developing effective systems to ensure compliance with quality and risk management accountability requirements and reporting processes in accordance with funding requirements and Uniting policy
- Providing strategic advice and support to the Senior Manager and Executive Officer, including the preparation of planning data, budgets, reports, continuous improvement strategies and funding proposals
- Leading the implementation of relevant service development and improvements in partnership with consumers, the community, funding bodies and employees
- Working collaboratively with external agencies, liaising with key stakeholders and funders and actively participating in and influencing the direction of the agency.

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2. Scope

Budget:

TBC

People:

- IFS Team Leader
 - Senior Worker PHN
 - Latrobe Local Practitioners x 4
 - Bushlink Practitioner
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3. Relationships

Internal

- Executive Officer and Senior Managers
- Management team across Uniting as required to promote collaboration and partnerships
- Uniting employees, volunteers and students
- Uniting Support Services (Quality, P&C, Finance, ICT etc.)

External

- Clients and their families/caregivers
 - Consumers and key stakeholders
 - Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)
 - Local Government Authorities and peak bodies
 - Other Community Service Organisations as required
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4. Key responsibility areas

Service delivery

- Represent the organisation and promote awareness of key issues in community networks
- Develop and maintain partnerships with key stakeholders
- Demonstrate commitment to social justice and social inclusion
- Supervise and support a diverse team of workers to meet program requirements and work within the values and ethos of Uniting
- Demonstrate and encourage reflective and evidenced based practice
- Manage and monitor adherence to, and report on relevant funding and service agreements / contracts
- Provide advice, guidance and assistance to workers to ensure program standards and working practices outlined in funding guidelines, quality accreditation standards and Uniting Code of Conduct are adhered to
- Direct oversight of site including orientation and induction of new employees, students and volunteers

Administration

- Prepare reports on delegated programs/services for senior management and relevant funding bodies as required
- Support and contribute to the development of annual budgets and acquittal processes for all services in consultation with the Senior Manager

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- Prepare, monitor and report on the annual budget and financial forecasts for delegated programs and services
- Ensure rigorous financial management practices are in place for delegated programs and services and that programs operate efficiently and are financially viable
- Prepare submissions for funding where required

Quality and risk

- Review programs and services and make recommendations in response to changing needs of relevant groups in the community
- Support the Management Team to implement systems, address adverse events and problems and assist teams to take proactive approaches to problem solving
- Participate in the review and development of policy and utilise policy and procedures to guide work practice
- Contribute to program objectives and develop and implement quality improvement plans / business plans
- Ensure that all staff are trained and have the necessary knowledge and understanding to perform their duties and comply with relevant legislation

People and teams

- Establish, lead, coach and inspire an engaged and productive team
- Lead the team in leading practices and effective process governance
- Provide support, guidance, coaching, leadership, and empowerment to the team including feedback through performance reviews and regular supervision.
- Undertake regular supervision and performance review with line manager, providing feedback to promote collaborative working relationships
- Promote and maintain a positive, respectful and enthusiastic work environment
- Provide authentic team leadership and the highest level of professional conduct in alignment with Uniting's values.

Legal requirements & risk management

- Ensure all legal, funder and statutory requirements pertaining to the position are met including serious incidents, reportable conduct, and mandatory reporting (child safety)
- Foster a culture where risks are identified and appropriately managed
- Report areas of serious risk to next level supervisor and work together to mitigate those risks.

Personal accountability

- Compliance with Uniting's values, code of conduct, policies and procedures and relevant government legislation and standards where relevant.
- Cooperate with strategies to actively ensure the safety, protection and well-being of children who come into association with us.
- Ensure appropriate use of resources.
- Work collaboratively with Uniting (Victoria Tasmania) employees and external stakeholders in accordance with Uniting's values and professional standards of behaviour.
- Actively participate in initiatives to maintain, build upon and promote a positive and collaborative workplace.
- Identify opportunities to integrate and work collaboratively across teams.
- Take reasonable care for your own health and safety, and health and safety of others (to the extent required).
- Promote a positive safety culture by contributing to health and safety consultation and communication.
- Promptly respond to and report health and safety hazards, incidents and near misses to line management
- Attend mandatory training sessions (i.e. equal employment opportunity, health, and safety) and mandatory training specific to position.
- Declare anything that you become aware of through the course of your engagement which may impede your suitability to work with children and/or young people.

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- Declare any potential or actual conflict of interest that you become aware of through the course of your engagement:
 - Based on a relationship with a current member of Uniting's workforce
 - Based on my ongoing work with another organisation
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5. Performance indicators

- Compliance with funding and service agreement
 - Achievement of target by leading and developing a high performing team
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6. Person specification

Qualifications

- University qualification, degree level or above in social welfare, psychology, social work or related discipline (or working towards) plus three years post qualifying experience
- Current Australian Driver's Licence

Experience

- Demonstrated experience in a leadership role
- Strong understanding of Child, Youth and Families Act 2005 and the Best Interest Principles Framework
- Ability to manage programs/services, staff and budgets
- Demonstrated proactive approach to problem solving, innovative thinking and decision making
- Demonstrated ability to support change and improve agency and team culture
- Compliance and understanding/familiarity with organisational policies, procedures relevant legislation (Quality management system, Equal Opportunity, Health and Safety)

Core selection criteria

- **Values alignment:** ability to demonstrate and authentically promote Uniting's values
- **Respectful interactions:** ability to respect the uniqueness and value of every individual, establish and maintain relationships that enable people to be influential in their own support arrangement and ensure they are treated with dignity and respect, build on strengths and abilities of all, and demonstrate transparency and accountability
- **Consumer centeredness:** foster, promote and implement a culture that keeps consumers at the centre of everything we do; demonstrates an awareness of and prioritises the needs of consumers; and focuses on optimal outcomes for consumers
- **Leadership:** strong leadership and management skills and knowledge within a complex service delivery environment, ability to contribute to strategic planning and ensure the achievement of strategic goals, ability to build strong, high functioning, multi-disciplinary teams and align teams with organisational values and goals, particularly those related to consumer-centricity, role model expected behaviour; strong ability to establish credibility with staff and inspire a shared vision
- **Stakeholder relationships:** strong negotiation and influencing skills; ability to engage, build and maintain strong, mutually beneficial relationships with stakeholders; track record of being able to sustain positive, collaborative and effective relationships; capacity to position Uniting as a trusted advisor to peak bodies and key stakeholders in the sector including government and funding bodies; promotes harmony and consensus through diplomatic handling of disagreements; builds trust through consistent actions, values and communication
- **Program and service development:** significant experience in the leadership and development of programs and services in a complex environment; sound understanding of the principles of service delivery within Consumer Directed Services
- **Problem-solving:** proven ability to take a solution-focused and strengths-based approach within a complex, ambiguous and evolving community services environment

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- **Change management:** strong knowledge of contemporary change management models and demonstrated experience in leading successful change programs at scale
 - **Communication:** strong and clear communication skills with the ability to build positive professional relationships with key internal and external stakeholders; excellent interpersonal skills; high level written and verbal communication skills; ability to conduct presentations; ability to prepare high quality business cases and reports
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7. We are a child safe organisation

Uniting is a child safe organisation and is committed in everyday practice to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children, at all times. As a child safe organisation, employment with Uniting is subject to a satisfactory national (and international where relevant) police check and relevant Working With Children Check (and NDIS Worker Screening Check where relevant) to your State prior to commencement of any paid or unpaid work and/or participation in any service or undertaking.

This position description is subject to review and may change in accordance with Uniting's operational, service and consumer requirements.
