

Position Description

Family Counsellor - First Nations Team

Position No:	TBA
Business Unit:	Provost
Division:	Psychology & Public Health
Department:	The Bouverie Centre
Classification Level:	HEO7
Employment Type:	Fixed term 3 year. 0.6 to 1.0 EFT negotiable
Campus Location:	Brunswick , Melbourne
Other Benefits:	http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jobs/working/benefits

Further information about:

La Trobe University - <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/about>

The Bouverie Centre - <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/research/centres/health/bouverie>

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Position Context/Purpose

The Family Counsellor – First Nations provides in-person family therapy services within the Bouverie Centre's *Strengthening Connections for Women in Prison* program and within its broader clinical programs for First Nations and non-First Nations families for at least 0.5 EFT. The incumbent will also contribute to the provision of training and /or consultations within the context of working with First Nation Families.

The position will sit within The Bouverie Centre's First Nations Team. The team has been operating for over 15 years, which has led to a deep centre-wide cultural sensitivity, rarely seen in mainstream organisations. The activities of the First Nations team also reach into most ACCHOS across Victoria and into First Nations organisations in Far North Queensland, which provide numerous opportunities to build strong partnerships through sensitively designed and conducted research.

The incumbent will be based 1 day a week at Dame Phyllis Frost Centre in Deer Park and will occasionally travel to Tarrengower women's prison (90 mins from Melbourne CBD) to provide clinical and supervisory services. When working on site in the prison/s, counsellors attend in teams of two, one day per week. Follow-up work with the woman and/or her family normally occurs via Telehealth, which can be conducted from the Bouverie Centre or by arrangement, the staff members home office.

Clinical supervision is offered by the Strengthening Connection Lead Clinician and by the Lead First Nations Counsellor on the program. Cultural support and care is offered through the Bouverie Centre's Indigenous Team, the DJCS Yillum and Indigenous Healing Centre Team in the Women's Prisons.

Subject to renewal of funding by DJCS in June 2023, this work in the prison will be ongoing, or time will be re-allocated to working within the broader Working with the Mob clinical team activities in the Bouverie Centre. Providing family counselling services and consultations within Bouverie's 'Working with The Mob' Clinical programs for Indigenous families. Depending on demand and availability, the incumbent may also provide training and consultations in the context of working with First Nation Families.

Duties at this level will include:

- As part of the Women's Prison's Project team, deliver clinical services to First Nations and non-First Nations women and their families, provide cultural consultancy to project staff and liaise with First Nations families and community organisations as well as other key stakeholders.
- Provide small group, individual and family therapy services to First Nations and First Nations female prisoners
- Offer case management of personal clinical caseload and cultural consultation to the wider project .
- Liase with the Family Engagement and Aboriginal Healing Centre programs in the prisons.
- Participate and contribute to clinical supervision pertaining to work within the Prison Team, and Bouverie Clinical and Working with the Mob teams.
- Attend and contribute to Prison team meetings and staff meetings associated with the work of the Indigenous Program specifically and the Bouverie Centre more generally.
- Participating in professional activities including attendance and presentations at relevant conferences and seminars

- Contribute to the provision of training and /or consultations within the context of working with First Nation Families.
- Provide direct family therapy within the Bouverie Centre Clinical Program for First Nations and First Nations families

Essential Criteria

Skills and knowledge required for the position

- A qualification in social work, counselling, family therapy, or a related discipline along with demonstrated experience or willingness to enrol in a family therapy course.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, especially the capacity to work collaboratively and cooperatively in small teams.
- Demonstrated high level of self-motivation and personal management skills.
- Sound knowledge and experience in the provision of clinical services in the specialist field of family therapy adult mental health services, with families from different cultural backgrounds.
- Demonstrated experience of family therapy/counselling, with families in the First Nation Community.
- Established connections across many communities and be well known by local First Nations communities.
- Demonstrated experience of working with families in First Nations communities.
- Experience of working in teams, community development and project implementation.
- Skills in working with trauma, family violence and child protection related issues from a systemic perspective; and/or dual diagnosis from a family sensitive perspective.
- Well-developed organisational, interpersonal and communication skills with a capacity to work independently and as part of a team as circumstances require.
- Hold a current Victorian Driver's License and can travel to the two Women's prisons in Victoria (Involving weekly travel to the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre in Deer Park, and occasional travel to the Tarrengower women's prison, 90 minutes from Melbourne CBD)

Desirable

- Experience in providing culturally safe and trauma informed training, secondary consultation, supervision and support to human service practitioners and their managers.
- A postgraduate qualification in clinical family therapy

Capabilities required to be successful in the position

- Knowledge of own strengths, weaknesses and biases – modifying behaviour, based on self-reflection and feedback, to respond to others with empathy and act on feedback to improve knowledge, skills and behaviour.
- Ability to work collaboratively, demonstrate inclusivity and tailor communication in a way that is meaningful to the audience – consistently modelling accountability, connectedness, innovation and care.

- Ability to cultivate and create space for creativity and innovation, enabling staff members to solve local problems and identify improvements to current work practices.

Essential Compliance Requirements

To hold this La Trobe University position the occupant must:

- hold, or be willing to undertake and pass, a Victorian Working With Children Check;
- Pass a Police Check completed by Dame Phyllis Frost Centre (DJCS) prior to commencement of work in-prison
- take personal accountability to comply with all University policies, procedures and legislative or regulatory obligations; including but not limited to TEQSA and the Higher Education Threshold Standards.

Other Information

The position description is indicative of the initial expectation of the role and subject to changes to University goals and priorities, activities or focus of the job.

Position Flexibility

La Trobe University is committed to providing a diverse, inclusive and respectful working environment for all staff. We offer flexible work arrangements that can assist you in balancing your work and other responsibilities.

Why La Trobe:

- Develop your career at an innovative, global university where you'll collaborate with community and industry to create impact.
- Enjoy working on our inspiring and stunning campuses – the perfect hub for industry, students and academics
- Help transform the lives of students, partners and communities now and in the future

This is more than just a job. Working at La Trobe offers opportunities to demonstrate excellence and transform lives.

Here, you'll join exceptional people, partners and communities, who power our operations with ambition and purpose.

We are forward-looking and culturally inclusive. We continuously review, improve and transform our processes to embrace new, flexible approaches. That means you'll always have the opportunity to succeed and make a difference.

La Trobe's Cultural Qualities:



We are accountable

We strive for excellence in everything we do. We hold each other and ourselves to account, and work to the highest standard.



We are connected

We connect to the world outside – the students and communities we serve, both locally and globally



We are innovative

We tackle the big issues of our time to transform the lives of our students and society.



We care

We care about what we do and why we do it. We believe in the power of education and research to transform lives and global society. We care about being the difference in the lives of our students and communities

For Human Resource Use Only

Initials:

Date: