

Position Description

Lead Practitioner

About Us

Anglicare Victoria works with children, young people, individuals, and families. We prevent harm and empower people to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.

We believe in families and know that with access to the right support every family can grow and achieve their goals.

We work with families towards positive change. Whether it be a helping hand in a time of crisis or providing longer-term support and care. We partner with local communities, the private and public sectors, and our donors to deliver better results.

Supporting tens of thousands of Victorians every year, our 2000+ staff and volunteers operate from more than 90 sites across the state, as well as delivering assistance online, at home and in the community. We are Victoria's largest provider of Out of Home Care and Family Services, and one of Australia's most innovative agencies in working with vulnerable children youth and families.

Family Services

Family Services Programs are delivered through a range of tailored services to strengthen families and improve the wellbeing of children, and can include individual, family and group work. These programs aim to increase the capacity of parents to better meet the needs of their children, which leads to better opportunities and outcomes for children. Family Services promotes the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by supporting and empowering families using strength-focused approaches to fully realise their potential. Many families have long histories of involvement with Child Protection and community agencies and require flexible and responsive interventions to promote the best social, emotional, educational and health outcomes for their children.

Family Preservation and Reunification (FPR) Response Anglicare Victoria (AV) offers flexible and tailored support services as part of the Family Preservation & Reunification (FPR) Response, a Department of Families, Fairness & Housing (DFFH) state-wide initiative. FPR supports children and their families in creating a positive and safe environment within the family home, focusing on families remaining together and where children in care can return to reside with their family. The services within the FPR use various approaches including early intervention and assistance strategies, targeted and specialist support and continuing care pathways. AV provides FPR through short-term intensive support services and long-term transitional support services, based on the needs of the children and their families.

Position Specifications

The below outlines some specifics about the position:

Service Stream/Function:	Family Services
Program:	Functional Family Therapy – Child Welfare (FFT-CW)
Reports To:	Program Manager
Direct Reports:	Practitioner
Internal Stakeholders:	Regional Director All relevant stakeholders to enable continual improvement to the design and implementation of our service delivery model
External Stakeholders:	FFT-CW Consultant Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Department of Education and Training
Classification:	SCHADS Level 7

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Approver: Director of Operations



About You (Key Selection Criteria)

Qualifications

Required:

- A relevant tertiary qualification in Social Work, Psychology and/or related behavioural sciences at degree level with relevant experience, or diploma level with substantial experience.
- Qualifications obtained overseas are required to be assessed by the identified industry professional entities for industry relevance and alignment to the Australian Qualifications Framework.

Desirable:

N/A

Knowledge and skills

- Demonstrated experience of working with marginalised, minority and hard to reach children, young people and their families in their homes and communities.
- Demonstrated experience and/or understanding in planning and delivering evidence-based interventions (e.g., cognitive behavioural theory, motivational interviewing) with individuals or families experiencing multiple and complex challenges.
- Experience in collaborating with children, young people and families to develop intervention goals and plans focused on building protective factors and reducing identified risks.
- Demonstrated understanding of the child welfare services which enables an ability to collaborate
 with the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, in relation to addressing concerns for
 children, young people and families.
- Demonstrated experience in the supervision of multi-disciplinary staff including motivating, coaching, providing feedback and leading reflective practice discussions.
- Demonstrated experience and/or understanding of key child development issues, including an understanding of age and stages of development for children and adolescents.
- Knowledge of cultural sensitivities and ability to effectively engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and families.
- Knowledge and understanding of cultural sensitivities and demonstrated ability to engage and effectively work with culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) children, young people and families.

Personal Qualities

- Leadership: the ability to role-model self-development behaviours and foster the development of
 others; lead through example; promote civic-mindedness; and champion continuous improvement
 and initiative strategies.
- **Initiative and accountability:** be proactive and self-starting, seize opportunities and act upon them, take responsibility for own actions.
- **Drive and commitment:** ability to lead with best practice and set a high standard; motivated and positive approach to new challenges.
- **Teamwork and collaboration:** ability to support and promote a positive team culture of collaboration and respect.
- **Resilience:** the ability to maintain best practice while working under challenging circumstances such as working with those exposed to significant trauma.

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Your Contribution (responsibilities)

The key contributions in the role are outlined below:

Role specific

- Lead a team in providing an intensive assertive outreach service for children, young people and
 families to identify and engage key participants, build on protective factors and address risks, and to
 develop an analysis of the referral behaviours through adherence to the FFT-CW model.
- Support practitioners to undertake systemic assessments and develop interventions plans in partnership with children, young people and families, using excellent written and oral communication skills, which address referral behaviours and safety risks.
- Delivery of group and individual supervision of EBM Practitioner FFT-CW team to ensure the provision of specialist evidence-based therapeutic and behavioural interventions to families.
- Work with relevant stakeholders (internal and external) to continuously improve the implementation
 of our service delivery model and AV's commitment to improving the lives of children, young people
 and their families.
- Monitor program performance and outcomes through the collection and analysis of service data and implement changes to the operation of the program. Identify performance trends, best practices, and opportunities for improvement.
- Developed ability to undertake clinical judgement and provide specialised, advice, supervision, reporting and services to practitioners, relevant stakeholders and clients.
- To work in conjunction with the Program Manager and EBM Practice & Implementation. Lead to plan and implement responses in relation to program, sector and service developments.
- Carry a caseload of families as and when is required to demonstrate competency in the model.
- Lead Practitioners will be required in Phase 1 & 2 to complete the clinical model with families to demonstrate model fidelity and dissemination.

General

- Ensure familiarity and compliance with all governance, policies, and procedures.
- Adhere to all legislation, program requirements and relevant procedures relating to service provision.
- Undertake mandatory training within the required timelines. Participate in other training and development opportunities to ensure all necessary qualifications, skills, certificates, and clearances are obtained to meet the position requirements.
- Maintain appropriate and accurate case notes, records, reports and data-input, in line with the service area and function/position requirements.
- Attend client meetings, team meetings, workshops, and conferences, as required.
- Ensure privacy and confidentiality is always upheld.
- Professionally represent AV and our services at forums, meetings, and training with external agencies.
- Contribute to the development of continuous improvement and initiative strategies.
- Embrace and utilise new ways of working to enhance collaboration, effectiveness and outcomes.
- Individuals may be required to undertake reasonable travel, as part of their position or duties.

It is an inherent requirement of the position to have (and commit to providing) **some** flexibility to perform work outside of standard office hours to service the needs of the client. By accepting this position, you commit to working within the parameters of such flexible hours.

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Our Commitment to Health, Safety & Wellbeing

AV is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its employees and any other individuals present in our workplaces.

All AV Managers are required to:

- take reasonable care for themselves and others who may be affected by their acts or omissions.
- contribute to, and be involved in, the organisation's ongoing management of health and safety activities including consultation.
- follow all workplace health and safety policies and procedures ensure they are implemented and followed.
- ensure compliance with all health and safety legislative requirements, compliance codes and relevant Australian Standards.
- provide appropriate and necessary information, training, and supervision for employees to enable them to perform their tasks safely.
- foster employee health, safety, and wellbeing by creating a mentally healthy, inclusive, and safe workplace.

Our Commitment to Inclusion

AV strives to be an inclusive, safe and responsive organisation that promotes diversity and actively supports inclusion for people and communities identifying as, but not limited to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, LGBTIQA+, people with disabilities, people from diverse cultural, racial and linguistic backgrounds, people of all ages, people with caring responsibilities, and people with diverse religious beliefs or affiliations and people with lived/living experience of services similar to those delivered by AV.

All AV employees, contractors and volunteers are required to:

- take reasonable care to respect differences, to foster a workplace that is safe, healthy, positive, supportive and free from all forms of harassment, bullying and discrimination,
- undertake all interactions with clients, families and co-workers in a culturally sensitive manner and take appropriate account of cultural, racial and linguistic diversity,
- address any unacceptable behaviour witnessed or experienced within the workplace directly with the individual/s responsible, if safe to do so or report to a relevant Supervisor or Manager,
- participate in and contribute to training, events and learning opportunities to celebrate differences, increase awareness and understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion and
- raise concerns and/or complaints in a constructive manner, including identifying possible solutions.

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In addition, the responsibilities of Managers are to:

- develop strategies to mitigate bias through employment life cycles, including ensuring diverse, interview panels. Seek out advice from individuals and clients with lived experience when developing new practices, policies, and procedures,
- identify and appropriately respond to any unacceptable behaviour reported, to ensure the creation of a safe workplace for all,
- seek out support around key issues and evolving practices relating to Diversity & Inclusion, through supervision, resources or consulting with our Cultural Advisors, PRIDE Group, RAP Committee etc.
- participate in the development and implementation of inclusion events and strategies.

Our Commitment to Child Safety

AV is committed to protecting children and young people from all forms of harm and abuse.

As a manager you are required to report any concerns raised by, or on behalf of, children and young people in accordance with mandatory reporting, reportable conduct, and incident management procedures. Everyone at AV has a role to play in keeping children and young people safe.

Employment Screening and Required Certificates

Anglicare Victoria conducts safety screening practices for all preferred applicants. Safety screening must be satisfied prior to formal offers of employment being made and must be kept current to ensure ongoing employment. These include but are not limited to:

- an Australian Criminal History Check
- an International Criminal History Check for those who have lived outside of Australia for longer than 12 months in the last ten years
- a Current Employee Working with Children Check.

The responsibilities listed within this document have been identified as the primary functions of the position. Additional responsibilities not listed may be required; these may change from time to time to reflect the needs of our clients and the service but will remain at the same level of responsibility aligned to this position.

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Date: May 2024

TOMORROWS