



**Australian
National
University**

Position Description

College/Division:	ANU College of Health and Medicine
Faculty/School/Centre:	Research School of Population Health
Department/Unit:	Centre for Mental Health Research
Position Title:	Research Officer
Classification:	ANU Officer 5/6 (Research)
Position No:	TBA
Responsible to:	Academic Level A/B
Number of positions that report to this role:	0
Delegation(s) Assigned:	Nil

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

The Centre for Mental Health Research (CMHR) aims to improve the mental health of Australians through research and development, training, policy and dissemination of health information. Within CMHR, the Lived Experience Research Unit was established to provide leadership in mental health and suicide prevention research that focuses on lived experience expertise. Staff and students within the Unit are experts by virtue of their lived experience of mental health issues and/or suicidal thoughts and behaviours, and undertake research in partnership with others with lived experience in the community.

This position is part of an innovative project that aims to evaluate the effectiveness of safe spaces for people experiencing emotional distress or suicidal crisis. The Research Officer will work with a large team of researchers, collaborating organisations and people with lived experience to co-design and implement an evaluation of safe space models across multiple jurisdictions.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITY AREAS:

Position Dimension & Relationships:

The Research Officer will be based at CMHR and report to the academic on the project. The Research Officer will assist with the day-to-day management of research activities associated with the “Co-creating safe spaces” project. This will include assisting with both qualitative and quantitative research, extensive stakeholder partnership and contributing to outputs. The position would suit someone with an interest in co-production, participatory action research, implementation science or similar.

Role Statement:

- Assist with the co-design of lived experience qualitative and quantitative studies
- Establish procedures for project implementation
- Manage internal and external project communications
- Conduct independent literature reviews and document analysis
- Assist with data collection
- Assist with analyses of qualitative and quantitative results
- Assist in preparation of scientific papers and reports
- Comply with all ANU policies and procedures, and in particular those relating to work health and safety and equal opportunity
- Other duties as required, consistent with the classification level of the position.
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SELECTION CRITERIA:

- An Honours degree in a relevant discipline, or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.
- Lived experience of suicidal thoughts and/or behaviour, or of mental health issues, either personally or as a carer/family member/friend, and a willingness to use this expertise to lead lived experience research.
- Experience in undertaking research projects in the field of mental health, suicide prevention, or a related field.
- Demonstrated high level organisational, analytical and writing skills with experience in undertaking literature searches, and the capacity to prepare reports.
- Highly developed computer skills particularly with Microsoft Office applications. Experience with data management and statistical analysis through the use of statistical packages such as SPSS or similar is desirable.
- Highly developed oral communications skills and demonstrated ability to use initiative and to work as part of a team with minimal supervision.
- Ability to build and maintain effective relationships and act with diplomacy and discretion when dealing with sensitive and confidential issues.
- A demonstrated understanding of equal opportunity principles and policies and a commitment to their application in a university context.

ANU Officer Levels 5 and 6 are broadbanded in this stream. It is expected that at the higher levels within the broadband occupants will have a deeper understanding, and a more independent application, of the research theory and techniques.

The ANU conducts background checks on potential employees, and employment in this position is conditional on satisfactory results in accordance with the Background Checking Procedure which sets out the types of checks required by each type of position.

Supervisor/Delegate Name:

A/Professor Michelle Banfield

Date:

21/07/2021

References:

[General Staff Classification Descriptors](#)

[Academic Minimum Standards](#)