



Position Description Youth & Family Outreach Clinician (Cardinia)

Hours: Full time

Position Location: Pakenham – Based at My Place and involves travel in Cardinia Shire

Reports to: Executive Manager, Youth Services

Background – TaskForce & Cardinia Shire

TaskForce has been providing drug treatment services since 1973. Core services focus on addressing social issues of drug related problems, unemployment, mental health and risk taking behaviours and supporting young people, adults and families to transition back into “mainstream” services and supports. TaskForce provides specialist support for people who have experienced significant disadvantage or a crisis in their lives and as a result are prevented from reaching their potential - those who have long-term complex issues or a single issue with a high degree of severity. TaskForce delivers services via three connected streams: specialist AOD services to support people who use drugs and their families, youth retention and re-engagement with education, training and employment.

Cardinia Shire’s Youth Service supports young people aged 12-24 and our work is underpinned with the principles that young people are valued members of our community and they bring with them unique talents, skills, experience and ability. As such we actively encourage their participation in the design, delivery and evaluation of the services that are provided to them and their voices help shape our local planning.

Council plays an important role in contributing to life in the community by providing many of the services and facilities that residents of all ages access every day. Council provides traditional local government services like local roads, waste management, and planning, building and animal control. But beyond this we provide much more. We work with residents from new-born babies, to young people, families and our senior citizens.

Program Overview

The Cardina Youth Outreach Program is based in the Shire of Cardinia as part of a partnership between the Cardinia Shire Council and TaskForce Community Agency. This is a unique program that will provide outreach support to young people aged 10-21 years who have complex support needs that are impacting on their mental health and wellbeing - within a family context.

Position Overview

The Youth & Family Outreach Clinician will provide non-judgmental support and outreach to young people and their families in an environment that is accessible, non-threatening and safe. The client group are young people with complex support needs which may include; drug and alcohol use, ill mental health, school disengagement, criminal activity and family conflict. The Youth & Family Clinician will provide intensive therapeutic case work to young people, including family work. The principle of harm minimisation is fundamental to the approach of funded drug treatment services. Other responsibilities include working from multiple sites, membership of local youth networks, program development and implementation.

Position Objectives

- . The primary objectives of the role are as follows:
 - Work with minimum of 40 young people annually aged 10-21 years old, and their families where it is of benefit to the young person achieving their set goals;
 - Working with young people with mental health and wellbeing concerns.
 - Ensure continuity of care for clients through an appropriate case management process.
 - Provide family-centric service by assisting, where possible, with the family to access support as needed.
 - Operate under age, gender and culturally sensitive protocols in relation to client care.
 - Ability to assess risk and implement strategies that will keep self and young person safe and ensure duty of care obligations to young people and their families.

Key Duties

- Provide individual support to young people from the Cardinia Shire.
- Build rapport with young people, community groups, schools, and agencies to establish partnership (referral) opportunities and consider parents/carers in the services and interactions with young people.
- Provide assessment, support, and case management on an outreach basis to young people (and where appropriate their families) in their own environment.
- Work with young people to assess their individual needs, develop goals and support them to access relevant activities, programs or services.
- Prepare Care Plans with the young people. Participate in My Place secondary consultation meetings that are facilitated by EILMHS between generalist and specialist youth service providers to support integrated systems and referral pathways for young people.
- Undertake assessments, provide case management, crisis intervention, outreach, advocacy and supported referral to young people presenting with complex support needs
- Work within harm minimisation framework
- Maximise flexibility in treatment and support services so that, where possible and appropriate, young people can maintain their current environment with minimal disruption to themselves and others.

- Where services are offered to young people, the outreach Clinician should ensure that programs are tailored to their needs, are accessible, have flexible hours, work closely with young person's family group, and build strong links with other relevant agencies and government departments.
- Provide support and referrals to significant others to support the young person to achieve their goals
- Advocate on behalf of clients to ensure appropriate service delivery to meet their identified needs.
- Liaise and consult with relevant government bodies and community agencies and develop inter-service networks and linkages to ensure appropriate and coordinated ongoing case coordination and referral processes.

Networking

- Develop and maintain community support networks.
- Liaise with other relevant service providers, for referral, consultation, monitoring and review.

Administration

Maintain a high standard of documentation which complies with accountability structures according to professional, legislative, service contractual obligations and organisational standards. This includes:

- Data entry & relevant reporting is accurate and up to date within reporting time frames.
- Client files and electronic records are appropriate, accurate and up to date, with all relevant information included.
- Maintain statistics and data as required.
- Draft six-monthly reports to evaluate program outcomes.

Professional Development

- Develop an annual Performance Plan with your Manager. Identify one's own development needs and attend relevant training, as approved by manager.
- Participate in regular individual and group clinical supervision.
- Participate in case management practices with other professionals.
- Participate in regular team meetings as scheduled.
- Participate in My Place provider meetings including secondary consultation meetings facilitated by EILMHS.
- Attend local network meetings.

Qualifications

- Minimum Diploma qualification in youth work, social work, psychology, or relevant discipline *and/or* extensive experience in the youth field including for example:
 - Providing support to young people with complex needs
 - Counselling / case management services for young people
 - Extensive experience engaging and supporting families to meet the needs/goals of the young person (primary client)
- ASIST (suicide prevention training) is essential.
- Certificate IV in AOD or equivalent is highly regarded.

Skills and Experience (Key selection criteria)

1. Demonstrated experience in implementing a range of intervention strategies to meet the needs of young people (for example needs assessment, goal setting, referral, counselling, advocacy and support)
2. High level skill in liaising with stakeholders and service providers to form effective working relationships, develop networking opportunities and referral systems.
3. Understanding of current local youth issues, psychosocial issues affecting young people with problematic substance abuse and the impact on individuals/families/communities
4. Well-developed communication skills, both written and verbal, including the ability to participate in case plan meetings and the ability to work flexibly and cooperatively as part of a multi-disciplinary team.
5. Ability to collaborate effectively with clients, families, colleagues, stakeholders and other service providers.
6. Excellent administration skills including developing case plans, professional case noting, writing reports and effective time management skills.
7. An understanding of Child First and Child Protection services.
8. Capacity to work within an Outreach model of service delivery.
9. Ability to assess risk and implement strategies that will keep self and young person safe and ensure duty of care obligation to young people and family.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- The position is for a contract period ending 30 June 2021 with the opportunity to extend this, subject to the continued availability of funding.
- The position is subject to a six month probation period.
- The position is full time.
- The incumbent will be provided with a mobile phone and access to the use of a vehicle for business travel.



- Employment conditions are in accordance with the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010.
- As an organisation with public benevolent institution (P.B.I.) status, TaskForce offers all staff the opportunity to take up generous Salary Packaging.

To be employed in this position a person must:

- Be prepared to travel between the sites to meet the requirements of the job and to work out of various partnership locations.
- Undergo a Police Check and a Working with Children Check. Offers of employment are subject to the results of these checks.
- Holds a Current Driver's License and remains current in their First Aid and CPR knowledge.
- Familiarise themselves with, and observe all TaskForce business, community, therapeutic and human resources policies, procedures and practices.
- Follow TaskForces' codes of employee conduct, promote the interests and reputation of the agency and refrain from acting in way that would conflict with the best interests of TaskForce.

This position description is accepted by

Job Holder: _____

Date: ___/___/___