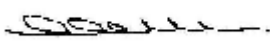




Mitchell Community Health Services Position Description

Position Title:	Family Violence Outreach Worker
Location:	<p>Mitchell Community Health Services conducts business from its Centres in Broadford, Seymour and Wallan and on an outreach basis.</p> <p>The Family Violence Outreach Worker is based in Broadford and operates from our three centres (Broadford, Seymour and Wallan) and by outreach across the picturesque Mitchell and Murrindindi Shires.</p>
Team/Program Area:	Counselling, Linkage, Advocacy and Support Services (CLASS)
Reports to:	Coordinator – CLASS
Supervisory Responsibilities:	Nil
Hours of Work:	38 hours per week
Classification/Award:	<p>Award: Health Professionals Award</p> <p>Classification: Welfare Worker</p> <p>Salary: \$43,784.00 pa + Salary Packaging and Superannuation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of MCHS pool vehicles for work related travel. • The position is provided with a mobile phone for professional use.
Performance Review:	A three (3) month probation will apply to this position (3 months from date of commencement). Performance reviews will then be held annually.
Version Number:	5.0 Date Written: January 2009
Version updates:	April 2003, May 2006, October 2007, August 2008
Approved by:	<p>Signature: </p> <p>Name: Chris McDonnell</p> <p>Position: CEO</p> <p>Date: 28/01/2009</p>

Organisational Context

Mitchell Community Health Services (MCHS) provides a diversity of services to residents within the Mitchell and Murrindindi Shires. We strive to develop innovative programs and services and actively encourage community members to be responsible for their own well-being. Our catchment encompasses one of the most rapidly growing populations in Victoria, which provides an exciting opportunity to work across urban and rural areas.

Our main office is in Broadford although service provision also occurs in our offices in Seymour and Wallan with a capacity for outreach to other locations including home visits. We are a short trip north of Melbourne (less than an hour) in a rural environment with ample free parking and in close to the Broadford train station.

Position Purpose and Scope

The Family Violence service operates from within a feminist framework using a client centred approach. There are two Family Violence Outreach positions (SAAP funded) and a part-time Children's Worker who works with the children of women being seen by the outreach worker. In addition to client based work, the service also aims to reduce the incidence of family violence through community education and awareness and is currently working with other stakeholders to further develop an integrated response to family violence for women, children and men.

Key Responsibilities

The Family Violence Outreach Worker provides support to women and their children who are living in or escaping an abusive and/or hurtful relationship. The role involves the provision of:

1. Fax Back response (Referral pathway between Victoria Police and Mitchell Community Health Services)
2. Crisis Support, risk assessment and safety planning for women and their accompanying children
3. Information and Referral regarding:
 - accommodation options
 - legal services
 - support services for families
 - income entitlements
 - services within the health and community sector
4. Court Support
5. Advocacy
6. Supportive counselling
7. Networking with other agencies
8. Secondary consultation to community members and other stakeholders
9. Maintenance of files and electronic databases



Selection Criteria

Qualifications/Experience

Mandatory:

- Knowledge of the family violence sector including:
 - The Integrated Family Violence System
 - The DV-VIC Code of Practice for specialist Family Violence Services for Women and Children
 - Family Violence Protection Act 2008
 - Comprehensive Risk Assessment for Family Violence Services
 - Victorian Police Protocols in responding to family violence
 - Magistrates Court protocols in responding to family violence
 - Privacy Legislation
- Practical experience with a theoretical understanding of case management frameworks from a client centred approach.
- Relevant tertiary qualification and/or experience (e.g. social work, psychology, paralegal or welfare)
- Current Working with Children’s check
- Direct service experience working with women and children who have experienced trauma.
- Ability to assess clients needs, design appropriate plans and implement the plans.
- Advocacy and negotiation skills
- A sensitive approach to working with individuals and a philosophy of empowerment.

Desirable:

- An understanding of
 - The Family Law Act
 - The Family Law Mediation and Parent Dispute Resolution
- Membership of relevant professional body
- An interest in and commitment to community development and health promotion.

Other relevant information

- New staff will be required to undergo a Police Records Check.
- Employees are required to advise Mitchell CHS of any changes that may affect the current Police Records check status, and advise Management immediately.
- A current Victorian Drivers Licence is required. Loss of licence or any licence infringement must be reported by the employee to the Mitchell CHS Management immediately.
- A completion of pre-existing injury or illness declaration will be required prior to appointment to the position.
- Professional Memberships should remain active.

I have read this position description and understand its contents.

Signed:.....Date:.....

Name in Print:.....

This position description accurately describes the essential functions assigned to this position.

Signed:.....Date:.....

Director Counselling and Community Care