



Navigator Mental Health Outreach Practitioner. Position Description

Position Title	Navigator Mental Health Outreach Practitioner
Program	Navigator
Employment type	Full-time fixed term
Location	Cranbourne, South East Region
Reports to	Executive Manager Education and Transitional Services

This position description describes the scope and skills required of the position at TaskForce. The position description may be subject to periodical reviews.

About TaskForce

Taskforce provides a number of Drug and Alcohol services and Youth Support Services in the areas of Education and Employment Pathways and a range of community support programs across the Southern Metropolitan region of Melbourne. These are funded by Federal and State Governments and a number of philanthropic trusts along with several fee for service programs.

Program Overview.

The Navigator program in the south east is a partnership between Taskforce, South East Local Learning and Employment Network, Centre for Multicultural Youth, and South East Community Links.

The Navigator program will support disengaged learners, aged 12-17 years, to re-engage with an education or training pathway. Navigator services will seek out disengaged learners and actively work with them and their support networks, providing the support required for a successful return to education. The Navigator program in the South East region is a partnership between four organisations which have worked together for 10 years on programs in the South East region. Consortium leader SELLEN assists in providing many pathways to education, further training and employment through its existing relationships and programs in the Region.

Taskforce, Centre for Multicultural Youth and Southeast Community Links are specialist provider of case management and wraparound services for young people with substance abuse and mental illness problems as well as support programs for parents.

Position Overview

The Mental Health Outreach Practitioner will provide assertive outreach support to young people and their families. The client group are young people with complex needs which may include; Substance misuse, mental illness, involvement in the Justice systems and experiencing multiple barriers to school attendance.

The Mental Health Outreach Practitioner will provide intensive therapeutic case management alongside the Navigator team, working collaboratively to address the Young Person's needs.

Key Duties

- Provide individual assertive outreach support to young people in the areas of City of Greater Dandenong, City of Casey, and Shire of Cardinia.
- Provide short-term evidence-based psychological interventions to young people with mild to moderate mental health issues.
- 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.
- Undertake assessments, provide dual case management in conjunction with the Navigator team, crisis intervention, outreach, advocacy and supported referral to young people presenting with complex support needs.
- 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.
- Provide support and referrals to significant others to support the young person to achieve their goals.
- Advocate on behalf of young people 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.

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.

Personal Development

- Minimum of 3 years' experience in the delivery of clinical interventions (CBT, Motivational Interviewing, Motivational Enhancement Therapy, etc) with individuals experiencing complex alcohol and other drugs use.
- Demonstrated advanced knowledge of the physiology of addiction and the developing brain.
- Advanced group facilitation skills.
- Proven ability to effectively work with young people and families experiencing problematic alcohol and other drugs use in a respectful, compassionate and positive manner.
- Excellent administration skills including developing case plans, professional case noting, writing reports and effective time management skills.
- An understanding of Child First and Child Protection services.
- Capacity to work within an Outreach model of service delivery.

Terms and Conditions

- 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 supervision
- Participate in regular team meetings as scheduled.
- Attend local network meetings.

Qualifications

- Approved tertiary qualification in an allied health discipline, including psychology, social work, mental health nursing and occupational therapy.

Desirable Registrations and memberships:

- Current registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority (AHPRA) OR
- Current full membership or eligibility for membership with the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW).

Skills and Experience (Key Selection Criteria)

1. Demonstrated experience of four years or more in implementing evidence-based psychological interventions to young people to meet the needs of young people with psychological issues. (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 services within the South East Melbourne area, as well as current local youth issues and psychosocial issues affecting young people and the barriers to education.
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 across a consortium.
5. Extensive experience engaging and supporting families to meet the needs/goals of the young person (primary client)
6. Proven ability to collaborate effectively with clients, families, colleagues, stakeholders and other service providers.

7. Excellent administration skills including developing case plans, professional case noting, report writing and effective time management skills.
8. An understanding of Child First and Child Protection services.
9. Demonstrated capacity to work within an Outreach model of service delivery.
10. Demonstrated 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.

Conditions of Employment

- Conditions as per the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Award.
- This is a full-time contract until 31 December 2022 with the opportunity to extend, subject to the continued availability of funding.
- Generous Salary packaging is available.
- Staff will be provided with a laptop and mobile phone.
- A car is available for use for all work related travel.
- All agencies are smoke-free workplaces and Equal Employment Opportunity employers.
- A six-month probationary period applies.
- Location: The position will be based at the Cranbourne office, with outreach offices located across the South East Region. Travel to schools and other locations is an essential part of the position.
- The employee is required to abide by the organisation's undertakings re: confidentiality policy and give permission for a Criminal Records Check and working with children check.

Our values



Client centred

We strive to support our clients and their extended networks to change their circumstances. We will collaborate so that our full range of services and supports are wrapped around them enabling each to reach their full potential.

Innovation and best practice

We will be cutting edge in all that we do leading to evidence-based best practice within the sector. Our people will be passionate and motivated to make a difference.



Thought leadership

We are committed to addressing the tough moral challenges faced and sensitivities that abound in our sector, leading consequent debate and adapting as broader positions held by society evolve.



Honesty and integrity

We do our utmost to communicate openly, honestly and respectfully. We collaborate and share accountability with colleagues and clients alike. We acknowledge that as we learn, mistakes may be made but that this learning will make us stronger.



Trust, respect and self care

We collaborate to create a work environment built on trust and respect where our people and consortium partners are supported and challenged to lead best practice. We recognise that responsibility for self-care is also a foundation to achieve excellence in the services we deliver.

This position description is accepted by:

Job Holder Date

HR Manager Date