

Position Description: NDIS Specialist Support Coordinator

Position Details

Position Title:	NDIS Specialist Support Coordinator
Classification:	SCHCADS Level 5
Location:	Mentis Assist Mornington (or other locations as directed)
Time Fraction:	Full time
Contract Detail:	12 months contract

Organisation Overview

Mentis Assist is a not-for-profit mental health service and National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provider that supports people with severe and enduring mental illness and psychiatric disabilities. Mentis assists people to recognise their values, strengths and goals, with an emphasis on improving health and wellbeing, independence, social participation and enhancing meaningful relationships with significant others.

Mentis was established in 1987 and has evolved significantly to become a leader in the areas of delivering flexible support packages tailored to the individual using strengths-based, recovery-orientated practice, quality and evidenced based service provision.

Mentis strives to provide opportunity for people living with mental illness to enjoy a meaningful life by strengthening self-identity, personal responsibility and hope. Our vision is for optimum personal recovery and wellbeing. We believe that recovery-orientated practice is a partnership where the person with the lived experience is the expert in their recovery. Our staff bring their understanding and expertise to support this journey.

Conditions of Employment

- In accordance with the conditions specified in the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services (SCHCADS) Award 2010 and the Mentis Assist Enterprise Agreement (2018) |
- Generous Salary Packaging tax exempt benefits in accordance with Mentis Assist policies and ATO guidelines
- Satisfactory pre-employment screening checks including National Police Check, Safety Screening Statutory Declaration, International Police Check/Statutory Declaration (if required), Working with Children Check, Qualification Check, Disability Worker Exclusion Scheme Consent and Acknowledgement and Employment History and Referee Check.
- Mentis encourages people with a disability to apply and encourages full disclosure of illness or disability.
- Mentis Assist is a smoke free workplace
- Right to work in Australia

Qualifications and Requirements

- Relevant tertiary qualification i.e. Bachelor of Social Work, Psychology, Occupational Therapy or other allied health (such as Developmental Educator, Social or Health Science degree) and either AASW or AHPRA registration.
- Minimum of 2 years' experience working with clients with dual diagnosis/forensic history &/ or Homelessness
- AND extensive (5+ years) relevant work experience in Mental Health and/or Community Health sectors
- Current Victorian Driver's License and ability to undertake travel as required
- Current First Aid and CPR credential
- Current Police and Working With Children Checks
- Mentis Assist has a strong commitment to participation of people with lived experience of mental illness in our workforce. We invite qualified people with lived experience of mental health issues to apply. We also welcome diversity in the workplace and invite people from other communities to apply. Suitably qualified Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants will be highly regarded

Position Overview

To assure that no conflict of interest will arise, the Support Coordinator is a distinct position, sitting separately from other Mentis Assist service supports. The Support Coordinator will assist clients with complex needs to build personal capacity to make decisions and choices about the implementation of all supports in their NDIS plan, including mainstream, informal, community and funded supports. The Support Coordinator connects people with an NDIS Plan to access a range of supports which align with their NDIS Plan, across one or more providers.

Line Manager

Reports to the Team Leader

Key Accountabilities and Duties

Self and Workplace

- Contribute to a healthy and safe workplace
- Take care of your own health and safety and understand the responsibilities and accountabilities to yourself and others in accordance with WH&S legislation, internal policies and promote a working environment that is congruent with those guidelines
- Acknowledge, appreciate and encourage differences, valuing people for their skills, competencies, and contribution to Mentis Assist's continuing success
- Understand responsibilities and accountabilities to yourself and others in accordance with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic.)
- Abide by Mentis Assist Privacy policy and guidelines
- Ensure all organisational and administrative reporting and accountabilities are completed accurately and in a timely manner.

Support Coordination

- Contact the client within 2 days of handover from the NDIS planner, and meet with the client within 5 days
- Support clients and carers to understand their NDIS plan, goals and objectives
- Deliver coordination of supports to individuals with an NDIS plan:
 - Research, coordinate and manage complex and intersecting supports to suit individual needs across multiple providers, ensuring client choice and control
 - Work with mainstream service providers including negotiating services and prices to ensure maximum value for money is achieved and service obligations are met
- Support clients to build their capacity, resilience and networks with the aim of greater choice and control and independence in managing their personal choices
- Work with clients to access and navigate the My Place portal to establish service bookings and service agreements
- Arrange any assessments needed as per the NDIS plan.
- Determine the budget available for each support type and advise any relevant plan manager of the breakdown of funds
- Liaise with plan managers to establish the appropriate claim categories and attribute funds accordingly
- Assist clients to prepare for plan reviews by helping them assess whether they achieved their goals and achieved value for money for their plan, identify barriers and solutions to problems experienced in implementing the plan, and identify new goals
- Assist clients to communicate with the NDIA when required to support their own plan requirements
- Resolve any crisis situations, ensuring that the client's best interests and resilience are supported for best outcomes
- Provide time limited specialist support coordination to address high level risk and assist the participant to connect with supports and build capacity
- Develop implementation plans for implementation by relevant specialist providers.
- Advocate for participants as requested or required.

Operational

- Ensure the completion of NDIS Participant Service Agreements and other appropriate documentation within the initial assessment as required
- Ensure PRODA Service Bookings are completed for each client
- Maintain documentation to demonstrate that service procedures are followed
- Monitor and report client outcomes to the NDIA through progress reports
- Actively participate in the development, implementation, monitoring, regular review and reporting of client programs with providers including determining risk and preparing assessments, review client records and understand individual needs, review client goals and measure individual progress and document outcomes
- Promote Mentis Assist as an NDIS Support Coordination provider to participants and other stakeholders

Underpinning Knowledge

- Sound knowledge of mental health diagnoses and symptoms, treatments, medications ,interventions, regional mental health and allied health providers
- Sound understanding of the causes of stigma and barriers faced by those with mental ill health
- Working knowledge of the service support providers including mainstream, community based, and specialist
- Desired: Sound knowledge and understanding of dual diagnoses, including alcohol and other drugs, ABI, physical and intellectual disability

Finance and Performance

- Ensure all service expenditure has approval in line with Mentis Assist's Delegation Schedule policy and guidelines
- Ensure that the Support Coordination component in client's NDIS plans are implemented in line with NDIA frameworks
- Ensuring that NDIS Plans are tracked and reviewed 3 months prior to the end of the Plan
- Continually monitor billable hours associated with Support Coordination service delivery

Professional Development

- Participate in fortnightly supervision with the Program Manager
- Undertake annual performance appraisals with the Program Manager and develop and implement own professional development plans
- Actively take part in training and skill building opportunities.

Other Duties conduct other duties as directed.

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Key Selection Criteria

1. Qualifications and experience as noted above
2. Good practical and theoretical knowledge of working with people with severe and enduring mental health issues along with complex and multiple care needs, including the ability to undertake risk assessments and provide plans to mitigate risk.
3. Demonstrated skills and knowledge in the area of planning, implementing, reviewing and evaluating effective service plans
4. Demonstrated ability to work with a client focussed environment to build client capacity and provide choice and control to manage their service plans
5. Demonstrated ability to case manage several complex cases concurrently, with an emphasis on client life goals
6. Possession of good knowledge of local service providers, both specialist and mainstream, and the ability to search and source services to meet participant goals
7. Demonstrated ability to work as an effective and collaborative team member, including demonstration of a high level of professional and ethical behaviour within an organisational setting.
8. Demonstrated ability to work autonomously and with flexibility including managing competing priorities, using initiative to problem solve and manage own workload.
9. Proven ability to adapt and respond to change.
10. Ability to manage people exhibiting challenging and complex behaviours
11. Demonstrated ability to identify, measure and report on outcomes
12. Understanding of the NDIS Price Guide and flexibility within budgets

Acknowledgment for Receipt of Position Description

I have received a copy of the Position Description and have read and understand its contents. I understand that this Position Description is an indication of the duties and responsibilities that I may be required to undertake. From time to time, I may be required to undertake other duties within my skills and experience.

Name: *(please print)* _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____