

Community Mental Health Practitioner – Peer Practitioner

Our vision: *People and communities have strong mental health and wellbeing.*

Our purpose: *Partnering with clients and carers to deliver mental health and wellbeing services that enhance quality of life.*

Our values: *Hope, Creativity and innovation, Consumer focus, Making a difference, Integrity.*

Position Information

Purpose	<p>The Community Mental Health - Peer Practitioner utilises their lived experience of mental ill health and recovery to provide consumers support to live independently in their place of residence. The Peer Practitioner is expected to be a champion of co-design and co-production in all aspects of the service. The Peer Practitioner works with consumers to define their own outcomes whilst providing individual and shared support within a residential setting. They ensure support provided is aligned with the consumers NDIS plan, Supported Independent Living goals and My Better Life Plan.</p> <p>Peer support is an important part of Mind's approach to recovery. The Community Mental Health - Peer Practitioner works as part of a multidisciplinary team, with lived experience of mental ill health and recovery being the unique specialist lens that they bring.</p>
Position reports to	Service Manager
Mind classification level	SCHADS Level 3
Stream	Sub-Acute, Victoria
About the service	<p>The Adult Prevention and Recovery Care service (APARC) is a ten bed residential service providing services to clients aged between 16 - 65 years. The service works within a recovery focused and clinical treatment framework, using the partnership expertise of both Mind Australia and the Health Service.</p> <p>The service is designed as a 'step up, step down' program for people with mental illness who require individualised treatment and support entering either directly from the community or as a transition from acute inpatient care.</p>

Mind values the experience and contribution of people from all cultures, genders, sexualities, bodies, abilities, ages, spiritualities and backgrounds. We encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people with a lived experience of mental ill-health and recovery, people living with disability, those who identify as LGBTIQ and applicants from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.



Position description effective date	July 2021
Responsibilities	
Peer Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise your own lived experience of mental ill health and recovery to inform your work and the work of the team. • Disclose your lived experience in an appropriate and purposeful manner to support, empower, bring hope and support the recovery of customers. • Draw on the broader lived experience knowledgebase to inform your practice. • Support the team to understand and deliver services that are consistent with recovery oriented practice. • Undertake projects and adopt portfolios as required. • Spearhead co-design and coproduction in all aspects of the service including program evaluation, planning, decision making and service design.
Provide direct support to individual customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with customers to return to a place of residence and a meaningful life supporting them through a staged approach to recovery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Welcoming and engagement. – Strengths identification and individual recovery plan development. – Skill and capacity development. – Engagement and maintenance of natural supports. – Service exit and on-going self-management support. • Support customers in a range of areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Understanding and managing customer's own mental health. – Developing daily living skills and capacity for self-care. – Crisis and incident management. – Addressing stigma and managing issues arising from trauma. – Managing physical health. – Support the management of drug and alcohol issues. – Support to maintain or create meaningful activity through participating in community life, including education and employment and utilising public transport. • Purposefully engage with customers using techniques including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Brief intervention. – Motivational interviewing and coaching. – Family inclusive practice. – Trauma informed practice. – Conflict resolution.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Behaviour support for dual diagnosis.
Work with clinical partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work within a multidisciplinary team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Supporting recovery oriented practice. – Supporting clinical interventions. – Actively participating in team, case and handover meetings. – Enhancing collaboration between team members.
Provide support to families and carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support family and carer roles through understanding their concerns and the provision of information, education and referrals. • Facilitate, as appropriate, the re-engagement and maintenance of family and carer relationships. • Work with families and carers at the time of transition back to community.
Undertake group work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and develop group work programs that will assist customers to build their skills, focus on their recovery and work towards transitioning back to their natural community. • Deliver group work programs as the lead/co-facilitator based on peer values and principles. • Engage and support clients to co-produce and co-facilitate groups/events. • Evaluate and review group work programs.
Work with local Service providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with customers to fully understand their need for assistance from local service providers with clinical services, physical health, education and employment, eligible entitlements and benefits, housing, transport, recreation and social connections. • Make linkages and build relationships and referral pathways to maintain or create a range of local supports for customers that facilitate them living the life of their choosing in their own community.
Housekeeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the day to day operations of the residential service through undertaking a range of housekeeping duties including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Preparing rooms for new residents, washing linen, food shopping and meal preparation and maintaining office spaces in a clean and hygienic state. – Ensuring all communal areas are home-like and welcoming at all times. – Support residents with developing a routine with daily living skills through role modelling.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively participate, contributing to your team and wider organisational initiatives. • Contributing to service delivery improvements. • Other duties as delegated.



Professional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake relevant training and professional development, including regular supervision, appropriate to the primary work of the service and Mind. • Participate in reflective practice.
Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct yourself in accordance with the Mind Code of Conduct and Mind policies and procedures which may change from time to time; • Proactively support Mind's vision of supporting people facing mental health challenges to live well and be socially included, in accordance with the Mind values.
Workplace health, safety and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute actively to the maintenance of a safe workplace. • Ensure all safety issues are reported and addressed as they arise.
Lived experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to a workplace that values lived experience and the inclusion of consumers, carers and families in the work we do.
Cultural safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to a culturally safe workforce and service environment for staff, consumers, carers and volunteers from all cultures, genders, sexualities, bodies, abilities, spiritualities, ages and backgrounds.



Position Requirements	
Qualifications required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tertiary qualifications (minimum Certificate IV) in Mental Health, Psychology, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Community Welfare or other health related field as designated by Mind.
Knowledge, skills and experience required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lived experience of mental ill health and recovery and the ability and willingness to use this to inform your work and the work of the team. • Experience and expertise working directly with people with mental health issues, complex needs, and with their families and carers. • Ability to co-design, co-produce and co-facilitate groups and education support. • Demonstrated ability to plan and prioritise to meet customer service delivery requirements. • Demonstrated experience in documenting client notes, reporting and working with a variety of electronic systems. • Demonstrated understanding of available community services, networks and supports. • Awareness and understanding of the NDIS is desirable.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to work in Australia. • Current valid driver's licence. • Current NDIS Worker Screening Check Clearance. • Working with Children Check or equivalent (Blue Card - QLD).

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You can also watch our Great Minds series of videos by visiting www.youtube.com/mindaustralia

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