

Position Description

Position title:	Childhood Trauma Consultant
Department:	Programs, Childhood Trauma Consultancy Service (TraCS)
Reports to:	Program Manager, Childhood Trauma Consultancy Service (TraCS)
Job type:	Part Time/Ongoing
Date:	October 2021

About the Alannah & Madeline Foundation

The Alannah & Madeline Foundation was set up in memory of Alannah and Madeline Mikac, aged six and three, who were tragically killed with their mother and 32 others at Port Arthur, Tasmania, on 28 April 1996. In memory of his daughters, Walter Mikac and a small group of volunteers set up the Foundation with the belief that all children should have a safe and happy childhood without being subjected to violence. The then Prime Minister launched the Foundation on 30 April 1997. The Foundation:

- identifies issues that adversely affect the wellbeing of children; we work to help them recover and protect them from bullying and violence.
- works across the spectrum of prevention and care to deliver state-of-the-art, evidence-based programs and products.
- works with the best minds to identify and reduce significant threats to children's safety through innovation and partnerships.
- speaks out on the need for systemic change to build a supportive and safe society.

The Foundation is committed to Child Safety. Our Child Safe Policy outlines our safe practices for children. Our values are Caring, Friendliness, Respect, Responsibility, Valuing Difference and Including Others.

Position in Context

Reporting to the Program Manager, the Childhood Trauma Consultant (TraCS Consultant) will work closely with the educators and other early childhood staff, working with children aged 0-5 years in kindergartens and early childhood services.

The role will work closely with Early Years Service's located in Melbourne's east and south east regions, delivering packages of services to those early years services. In addition to this, you will work closely with the Family Practitioner and at times be flexible in stepping into the Family Practitioner role as required. Travel will be regularly required across the region to deliver site-based support at each setting. Attendance at the Alannah & Madeline Foundation - Head Office in South Melbourne, may be required for key events and activities across the year.

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Freedom to Act

- The TraCS consultant works according to the policies and procedures of the Alannah & Madeline Foundation.

Major Job Responsibilities

- Support teachers and educators to understand and work with children whose lives have been affected by trauma.
- Support teachers and educators to provide safe and supportive learning environments for traumatised children which enhance their social and emotional readiness for school.
- Provide clinical support and advice to teachers, educators and families to promote trauma informed relationships
- Support strategies within the kindergarten which create connection and defuse conflict.
- Develop plans which support children in the development of pro-social skills including emotional and social regulation.
- Support teachers and educators to understand the impact of their own emotional regulation as vital to providing a safe and supportive learning environment
- Support referrals and links to relevant services to support children and families experiencing vulnerability
- Provide reflective practice and debriefing of early childhood staff where needed.
- Foster collaborative relationships with key stakeholders, including kindergartens, schools, family services, allied health professionals, local government, the Department of Education, & Department of Health & Human Services.
- Maintain accurate and up to date client management and statistical records.
- Participate in regular supervision and team meetings.
- Ensure skills and knowledge of research and clinical practice relating to children and violence, resilience and recovery are at cutting edge.
- Proactively contribute to program developments and improvements.
- Adherence to relevant Program Policies and Procedures, as well as with legislation relevant to working with children and families.
- Other tasks as directed by the Program Manager of TraCS, the Head of Trauma Consulting, CEO and Senior Leadership team.

Knowledge, Experience & Requirements

- An appropriate tertiary qualification in social welfare such as Social Work or Psychology, with eligibility for membership of professional organisation (i.e. AASW or APS) or other qualifications suitable for practice in the child and family welfare field.
- At least five years' experience in providing high quality, complex case management to children, youth and families in the context of violence or abuse and trauma.
- Proven ability to work autonomously, use initiative and take responsibility appropriately.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the best practice models and theories relating to children, families, trauma and violence or abuse.
- Experience working in programs with a focus on children in the early years (desirable).
- Demonstrated experience in translating relevant and emerging knowledge and theory into practice.

Position Description cont.

- Demonstrated ability to work in collaboration with other disciplines to support positive client outcomes.
- Capacity to work independently at an offsite location, but maintain important Foundation relationships
- Excellent organisational skills (time management, thoroughness, efficiency) and verbal/written communication skills.
- Proven ability in networking, service promotion and fostering collaborative relationships with relevant agencies.
- Hold a current drivers' license and willingness and ability to use own vehicle (appropriate reimbursement of expenses provided).
- Working With Children Check and Police Check.