# 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, Client focus, Making a difference, Integrity.*

## Position Information

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| **Purpose** | The Community Mental Health - Peer Practitioner utilises their lived experience of mental ill health and recovery to provide clients 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. They ensure support provided is aligned with the clients with My Better Life Plan.<br><br>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. |
| **Position reports to** | Team Leader |
| **Mind classification level** | SCHADS Level 4 |
| **Stream** | Sub-Acute, South Australia |
| **About the service** | The National Psycho Social Program (NPSP) is delivered by Mind as part of a consortium with Neami National (lead agency), Life Without Barriers, Mind Australia, Mission Australia, and Skylight Mental Health. The program supports individuals with mental health issues within a framework of recovery that is focussed on strengths and capabilities, including supporting clients to:<br>- Identify, develop, and maintain a sustainable and purposeful lifestyle that has meaning and value to them.<br>- Actively participate in community life, manage day-to-day activities, and reduce social isolation.<br>- Enhance their independent living skills and establishing or maintaining a positive connection with employment services, family supports, housing, social activities and other essential support networks based on individual need. |

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.

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| **Position description effective date** | October 2021 |
| **Responsibilities** | |
| **Peer work** | • Utilise your own lived experience of mental ill health and recovery to inform your work and the work of the team.<br>• Disclose your lived experience in an appropriate and purposeful manner to support, empower, bring hope and support the recovery of clients.<br>• Draw on the broader lived experience knowledgebase to inform your practice.<br>• Support the team to understand and deliver services that are consistent with recovery oriented practice.<br>• Undertake projects and adopt portfolios as required.<br>• 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 clients** | • Work with clients through a staged approach to recovery:<br>- Welcoming and engagement.<br>- Strengths identification and individual My Better Life Plan development.<br>- Skill and capacity development.<br>- Engagement and maintenance of natural supports.<br>- Service exit and on-going self-management support.<br>• Support clients in a range of areas including:<br>- Understanding and managing client's own mental health.<br>- Case management and linking with appropriate ongoing supports.<br>- Developing daily living skills and capacity for self-care.<br>- Crisis and incident management.<br>- Addressing stigma and managing issues arising from trauma.<br>- Managing physical health.<br>- Support the management of drug and alcohol issues.<br>- Support to maintain or create meaningful activity through participating in community life, including education and employment and utilising public transport.<br>• Purposefully engage with clients using techniques including:<br>- Brief intervention.<br>- Motivational interviewing and coaching.<br>- Family inclusive practice.<br>- Trauma informed practice.<br>- Conflict resolution. |

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| | - Behaviour support for dual diagnosis. |
| **Provide support to families and carers** | • Support family and carer roles through understanding their concerns and the provision of information, education and referrals.<br>• Facilitate, as appropriate, the re-engagement and maintenance of family and carer relationships. |
| **Work with local Service providers** | • Engage with clients 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.<br>• Make linkages and build relationships and referral pathways to maintain or create a range of local supports for clients that facilitate them living the life of their choosing in their own community. |
| **Work with clinical partners** | • Work in collaboration with any clinical services providing supports to clients.<br>• Organising and facilitating regular reviews of supports between client, other providers and yourself. |
| **Professional development** | • Undertake relevant training and professional development, including regular supervision, appropriate to the primary work of the service and Mind.<br>• Participate in reflective practice. |
| **Accountability** | • Conduct yourself in accordance with the Mind Code of Conduct and Mind policies and procedures which may change from time to time.<br>• 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** | • Contribute actively to the maintenance of a safe workplace.<br>• Ensure all safety issues are reported and addressed as they arise. |
| **Lived experience** | • Contribute to a workplace that values lived experience and the inclusion of consumers, carers and families in the work we do. |
| **Cultural safety** | • 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 | |
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| **Qualifications required** | • Tertiary qualifications (minimum Certificate IV) in Mental Health, Peer Work, Psychology, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, or other health related field as designated by Mind. |
| **Knowledge, skills and experience required** | • 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 is required.<br>• Experience working directly with people with mental health issues, complex needs, and with their families and carers.<br>• Ability to co-facilitate groups and education support.<br>• Demonstrated ability to plan and prioritise service delivery requirements.<br>• Demonstrated experience in documenting client notes, reporting and working with a variety of electronic systems.<br>• Demonstrated understanding of available community services networks and supports.<br>• Awareness and understanding of the NDIS is desirable. |
| **Other** | • Right to work in Australia.<br>• Current valid driver's licence.<br>• Current NDIS Worker Screening Check Clearance.<br>• Working with Children Check or equivalent (Blue Card - QLD).<br>• Able to obtain and provide evidence of vaccinations against COVID-19. |