

## Position Description

<b>Position Title</b>	First Nations Case Manager
<b>Reporting To</b>	Service Manager and Team Leader
<b>Employment Status</b>	Full time Permanent
<b>Classification</b>	SCHADS Level 4
<b>Team/Service</b>	STEP B Mascot
<b>Direct Reports</b>	N/A
<b>Date</b>	April 2026

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Supported Transition and Engagement Program (STEP) is for people either sleeping rough or with a history of homelessness to secure long-term housing and access wrap around support to remained housed. STEP B works with Social Housing provided by Homes NSW for housing pathways for clients referred to our program. The program offers post crisis support focusing on helping people access and maintain long-term housing through housing first approach. The program works in partnership with external community services, Homes NSW, and health services to address the needs of people with complex individual needs and long histories of sleeping rough or unstable housing.

The program covers the Homes NSW housing districts of Sydney, South Eastern Sydney, and Northern Sydney. The program works with people aged 18 or older for a period of up to 12 months to assist in the development of skills, knowledge, linkage to appropriate services, and resources that will allow a person to sustain their tenancy on their own moving forward into the future. STEP B is a closed referral program and can only accept referrals from the Homelessness Outreach Support Team (HOST) within Homes NSW.

### POSITION OVERVIEW

First Nations Case Manager staff (FNCMs) provide culturally safe & individually tailored case management services, psychosocial support, and wrap-around service linkage to Indigenous Australian consumers. FNCMs refer and facilitate access to integrated services that focus on consumers progressing towards consumer identified needs, and improved health and wellbeing outcomes alongside specialised services.

Support includes coordinating care with consumers, families and external stakeholders to navigate systems, services, and connection with supports available to them. FNCMs work is grounded in Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB), which is a multidimensional, holistic model of health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. They will build and maintain professional relationships with stakeholders and community partners to facilitate this holistic care.

FNCMs are required to use judgement to formulate responses to consumer needs over the long term, short term and in times of crisis.

The position works with all consumers accessing the program and provide culturally appropriate and competent support to consumers who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

## **THE POSITION**

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### ***Key position Responsibilities, Duties and Accountabilities***

#### **Service Delivery**

- Provide support to consumers and work in alignment to Neami’s Collaborative Relational Practice (CRP) Framework and Safety and Opportunity Philosophy.
- Using your Lived Experience as a First Nations person, provide culturally safe support to consumers.
- Ensure that trauma-informed care is provided to the consumer.
- Work with the consumer and relevant parties (e.g. medical professionals, government services, community service providers), to evaluate the consumer’s needs, wants, and goals in a holistic manner to formulate an individually tailored case plan. This could include considerations of mental health, AOD, legal, family, and physical health issues.
- Recognise and coordinate the specific needs of consumers and the complexities in the context of their support, such as those impacted by challenges with their mental health and wellbeing, substance use, experiences of family and domestic violence, behaviours that impact safety and socio-economic vulnerability.
- Provide case management and care coordination including working with other community partner organisations to deliver best possible comprehensive service to consumers.
- Identify and regularly review the consumer’s development towards identified needs.
- Assess and respond to safety concerns in collaboration with the consumer, colleagues, and managers, including engaging additional services/supports or emergency response where required.
- Support consumers to co-create safety plans and shared understandings of wellbeing, risk, and recovery goals, in alignment with Neami’s Co-Creating Safety approach.
- Connect consumers with relevant supports and services to assist with addressing unmet needs, and barriers to improving their health and wellbeing.
- Apply de-escalation and emotional regulation skills to support consumer and own/colleagues’ safety and/or escalate to relevant services where appropriate.

- Collaborate closely with team members and relevant stakeholders to ensure continuity of care and the provision of a comprehensive service to consumers, using the team approach that supports case management.
- Advocate for appropriate care to be provided to consumers by other services.
- In collaboration with service & senior management, engage with local and sector-relevant Indigenous specific services and community-led groups to support the development of culturally safe & responsive inter-agency partnerships
- Attend local cultural and community events as per the needs of the consumer.
- Understand local service provision guidelines including eligibility criteria to support referral pathways.
- Provide appropriate support to consumers of diverse backgrounds.
- Ensure all administrative requirements including case notes, assessments, collaborative care and safety plans, and incident reports are completed within the required timeframes.
- Facilitate collaborative care inter-agency meetings where required.
- Seek to learn about the the consumer’s interests and relationships with family and friends, collaborating with them to strengthen their ability to engage with their community.
- Provide SEWB support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers.
- Use outreach skills to engage consumers into the program upon receiving referrals.
- Support consumers to gain independent living skills to maintain housing and as well as refer them with appropriate supports e.g. Community Mental Health, AOD supports, NDIS.
- Provide information, guidance and support to consumers sourcing new housing upon exiting the program.
- Assess what it means to be ‘housing ready’ and develop a housing pathway plan in collaboration with the consumer to achieve this outcome.
- Meet individuals in a time of crisis and support them with care plans and linking them with community and other organisations where appropriate.
- When engaging with consumers, continuously evaluate the safety of the consumer and workers present, disengage when workers’ safety is compromised and/or contact appropriate crisis response services where applicable.
- Advocate for consumers in their interactions with health providers. This may include attending health appointments, mental health facility visits, hospital visits, and facilitating case conferences.
- Assist consumers to develop interpersonal skills to enable meaningful community linkage, such as recreational activities and participation in cultural life of the community.
- Work closely with community agencies, cultural, recreation, and education services to create opportunities for consumers to meaningfully participate and engage with community.
- Complete housing assessment planning with consumers within inpatient settings and support the social work team in identifying housing needs and discharge planning specific to housing.
- Provide advocacy for consumers navigating legal proceedings or incarceration.
- Facilitate interactions between government agencies and consumers.
- Assist in training new Case Managers that join the service team.

- Provide guidance and support to students who are completing their placement within the organisation.
- Provide a range of interventions to consumers including crisis to medium term support, advocacy, and referrals.
- Provide intensive support to tenants for a set period by ensuring the tenant is able and equipped with the skills and knowledge to sustain their tenancy long-term.
- Work in collaboration with colleagues, partner organisations and other services to support consumers in fulfilling their tenancy obligations.
- Provide direct outreach support to consumers within transitional, community and home-based settings.
- Collaborate with housing provider and other service providers to develop a supportive exit plan from the program for consumers.
- Undertake intake and eligibility assessment for consumers when required.
- Manage tenancies in conjunction with relevant housing provider.
- Work with consumers to access program specific brokerage, as required.
- Provide support and advocacy for consumers navigating Civil and Administrative Tribunals to assist in mitigating risk to their tenancy.
- Using an understanding of the impacts of trans-generational trauma, understand trauma related behaviours and utilise strengths-based interventions to improve consumer wellbeing.
- Work in partnership with health services, housing providers, and other community services to help find stable housing as well as referring onto homelessness specialist services where required.
- Work closely with child protection service where there are identified safety and neglect concerns as required.
- Contribute to sector knowledge and development as required.

### **Participate fully as a team member**

- Complete documentation in a timely manner.
- Contribute and participate with management and colleagues in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the program.
- Actively participate in reflective practice through team meetings, decision-making processes, service planning sessions, supervision and staff development activities.
- Engage with your supervisor in completion of a probation assessment, an annual performance review, regular supervision and a corresponding training and development plan.

### **Records Management**

- Ensure records management obligations are met, in accordance with Neami National policies and procedures. This includes the retention of hardcopy and/or electronic records and ensuring files are accurate and kept up to date.
- Commitment to understand service consumer data requirements and to collaborate with consumers to gather relevant data.

- Consideration of individual and aggregated consumer data to inform practice and continuous service improvement.

## **ORGANISATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITIES**

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- Act at all times in accordance with the Neami National Code of Ethics.
- Work in accordance with Neami National policies and procedures, including adhering to policies on Privacy and Confidentiality and Records Management.
- Follow safe work practices for self and others and comply with Neami National Occupational Health and Safety management processes.
- Ensure risks are identified, reported, documented and appropriately managed in accordance with Neami Group policies to ensure safe and effective services.
- Proactively work towards achieving individual and team goals, whilst demonstrating Neami National core competencies and values.
- Actively engage in Professional Development opportunities and embrace learning opportunities.
- Take an active role in promoting and generating quality improvements processes within your area of responsibility and more generally across the organisation.
- Have a commitment to promoting a diverse and inclusive environment for all staff, consumers and carers.
- Have a commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.
- Work in line with Neami Credentialling and Scopes of Practice Policy and related procedures, including working within your individual scope of practice.
- In addition to the position description accountabilities, all staff are expected to undertake any reasonable tasks as directed.

## **THE PERSON**

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### **Experience, Knowledge, Qualifications, Skills and Attributes**

#### ***Essential***

- Identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Established knowledge of Aboriginal culture, kinship networks and social and emotional wellbeing-
- Experience working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities or organisations.
- Formal tertiary qualification in a related field and/or equivalent experience working in a relevant setting.
- Strong emotional resilience, including the ability to sit with discomfort and distress in complex situations.
- Shows genuine interest in and understanding of others, building strong connections with people at all levels while recognising the effects of trauma, mental distress, and the social determinants on health and wellbeing
- Ability to establish professional relationships that have clear boundaries with consumers, staff and partner organisations.

- Proven ability to work autonomously with minimal supervision and to prioritise multiple tasks to meet conflicting deadlines.
- Proven ability to maintain confidentiality and build trust to deal with sensitive and difficult situations.
- Be empathetic and have the ability to adapt communication style to meet the needs of a diverse range of people.
- Understanding the systemic social determinants causing homelessness and using this understanding to provide appropriate care to consumers from diverse backgrounds
- Ability to self-reflect, translate feedback into practice and engage in personal and professional development.
- Demonstrates emotional intelligence and resilience.
- Strong computer literacy and written communication skills
- A valid Working with Children Check.
- A Valid Drivers Licence

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF POSITION DESCRIPTION**

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This position description is current at date of approval. It may change from time to time to reflect operational needs and changes to organisational reporting relationships.

By signing your employment agreement, you acknowledge that you have read, understood and accept the responsibilities and accountabilities as outlined above in this position description.