



Position:	Case Worker (PN933)
Division:	Public Health
Section:	Head to Health Kids
Salary Level	ALL 2
Position Reports to:	Manager – Head to Health Kids
Location:	Alice Springs (site as directed)
Last Review:	October 2024

Role Description

The Case Worker will support the Head to Health Kids (H2HK) to ensure that children and their families referred for assessment and/or treatment receive comprehensive and responsive services, by providing comprehensive case management including collection of background information about clients, liaising with key internal and external stakeholders and advocacy for the child and family. The position works in partnership with an Aboriginal Family Support Worker (AFSW) under a bi-cultural pair model.

The service aims to support children under 12 with suspected or emerging mental illness or behavioural disorders including early assessment, therapy, management and family support to limit the severity and progression of mental health challenges.

The role will work in town and across remote communities. This program will ensure all Aboriginal children aged 0-12 and their families in Central Australia have access to evidence informed assessment and therapeutic services within a continuous quality systems enhancement framework.

Team Description

The H2HK service aims to reduce the impact of mental health and behavioural issues for Aboriginal children in Alice Springs and remote Central Australian communities through early assessment, treatment and management. The multidisciplinary team includes a Senior Manager, Managers, Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Pathologists, Case Workers and AFSWs, as well as consultant Psychiatrists and Paediatricians. The team works in partnership with medical specialists from Alice Springs Hospital as well as allied health professionals from Congress and government community health services. The team links in with external providers to accept referrals and develop networks.

Congress provides a comprehensive primary health care service to Aboriginal people in Alice Springs and nearby remote communities. Further information is available at www.caac.org.au.

Responsibilities

<p>MAIN DUTIES</p> <p><i>(This is not a comprehensive list of all duties required of the position)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparedness to apply discipline specific strategies, intensive support and advice to families, the MDT and other stakeholders as required • Working together with the AFSW, provide one on one support to children and their families, including counselling, case management and family support. • Complete child and family screeners and assessments of strengths and function, and develop case plans including establishing mutual goals. • Locate clinically relevant background information via Communicare or external stakeholders (e.g. Education, Health, Territory Families), about children referred for assessment/treatment
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule assessment times, case conferences and feedback sessions working alongside the AFSW to ensure family engagement and support • Provide input and regular reviews of each child’s care plan, including maintaining client records • Work with families, AFSW and the MDT on intervention/management plans and connection to other external support services as needed • Provide outreach and centre-based support work to assist families dealing with their child’s health and development needs • Undertake other duties (and training) that are safe, legal, logical and responsible while being within the limits of employee’s skill, competence and training, consistent with the position classification.
<p>WORK ORGANISATION</p> <p><i>(Planning and coordination)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the H2HK Manager but work autonomously with a very high level of organisational and interpersonal skill. • Attend all meetings relevant to the team as required; • Conduct all activities in compliance with relevant legislation and Organisational policies/procedures, reporting identified risks and opportunities in a timely manner to the Manager; • Be an active team member and support a service-based work culture showing commitment to the organisation’s strategy, mission, vision and values outlined by the board; and take all reasonable steps to support the employment, professional development and promotion of Aboriginal people across all parts of Congress.
<p>WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in accordance with Congress’ WHS policy, the WHS Act, Regulations and Code of Practices. • Ensure WHS non-conformances or incidents/injuries are notified.
<p>VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct all work in line with Congress values which are: Cultural Integrity, Equity and Social Justice, Respect and Empathy, Recognition, Resourcefulness, Responsibility, Relationships. • Apply the cultural framework and adhere to community specific protocols in all aspects of work with Congress. • Apply strict confidentiality practices and guidelines to all patient, client, personal and commercially sensitive information.

Person Requirements (*Qualifications & Attributes*)

ESSENTIAL

1. Willingness, ability and appropriate levels of health and fitness to travel to and work from remote locations when required
2. Degree in Social Work and eligible membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers, or degree, or post graduate qualifications in Psychology or other related field.
3. Knowledge and understanding of child development, mental health as well as neurodevelopmental disorders including FASD, ADGD, ASD and Global Development Disorders
4. Demonstrated experience and skills in providing clinical case management support to vulnerable families with complex issues, that is child focussed, family centred and trauma-informed
5. Awareness of and sensitivity to Aboriginal culture, and history and knowledge of factors influencing the health and lives of Aboriginal children and families in Central Australia

6. Experience in developing and maintaining effective networks, alliances, and relationships with families, individuals, communities, and health sector organisations.
7. Current NT Drivers Licence, or ability to obtain.

DESIRABLE

1. Is of Aboriginal descent; identifies as an Aboriginal person; and is accepted as an Aboriginal person by the Aboriginal community
2. Post-graduate qualifications in a related field to child health and development
3. Experience in working with Aboriginal families
4. Experience working in an Aboriginal community controlled primary health care service

Appointment Conditions

- Employment with Congress is conditional on the employee providing NT Working with Children Check (Ochre Card), Satisfactory Criminal History Check.
- Employee interaction with residents within communities will be taken into account as part of the final performance assessment during the probation period.
- Persons being considered for a position with Congress may be required to undergo a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen to determine fitness to perform nominated duties.

Dr John Boffa

Position Description Authorised by: Chief Medical Officer – Public Health October 2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have received a copy of the Position Description and have read and understand its contents.

Employee Name	Signature	Date
Supervisor Name	Signature	Date