

Position Description

Program or Department Name	Restoring Families
Position Title	Restoring Families Multisystemic Therapy- Child Abuse and Neglect Mental Health Nurse
Award Classification	Non-Award
Program Location	<i>Goulburn</i>
Employment Status	Part Time (0.2 FTE – 7.6 hours per week-hours flexible across 5 days)
Reports To:	Restoring Families Multisystemic Therapy- Child Abuse and Neglect Program Supervisor

OzChild

Founded in 1851, OzChild supports vulnerable children and young people by providing healing, preventing abuse and neglect, and strengthening families. We work in partnership with children, families, communities and government to reduce harm and create sustainable change.

Our goal is for all children and young people to be safe, respected, nurtured, and supported to reach their full potential.

Child Safety

OzChild is committed to protecting children and young people from all forms of abuse, bullying, exploitation and neglect. We create environments across all programs and services where children are safe and feel safe.

All OzChild People are required to:

- Prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- Comply with mandatory reporting and reportable conduct obligations
- Adhere to OzChild’s Safeguarding Children Policy and Code of Conduct at all times

Role and Purpose

The **Restoring Families Multisystemic Therapy- Child Abuse and Neglect (MST-CAN®) Mental Health Nurse** provides specialist mental health support as part of the MST-CAN® team. The MST-CAN mental health nurse practitioner works with the MST-CAN treatment team, both in the home of families and in the community, to bring specialist psychiatric services, and provide input into thorough assessment, case planning and provision of evidence-based treatment interventions in coordination with other clinical stakeholders, where children are at imminent risk of removal. As specified by the requirements set out in the MST License this support will be

provided under the supervision of the MST-CAN® Supervisor and MST-CAN® Consultant, and as part of the Restoring Families intervention stream.

MST-CAN® is an internationally recognized program for families who have come to the recent attention of child protection services due to physical abuse and/or neglect.

MST-CAN® is designed to treat 0-17 year-olds and their families and is proven to keep them together, ensure children and young people are safe, prevent abuse and neglect, reduce mental health difficulties experienced by adults and children and increase natural social supports.

Major objectives:

- To reduce the numbers of children and young people aged 0-17 years old in statutory out of home care
- To deliver MST-CAN® interventions to families for up to 9 months.
- To ensure that program fidelity is maintained at all times
- To promote and sustain key relationships with community partners.

The OzChild Way

In undertaking this role, the **Restoring Families MST-CAN® Mental Health Nurse** supports and demonstrates the OzChild Way behaviours and accountabilities as follows:

We deliver evidence-based services: Deliver strengths based, evidence informed practice that is guided by OzChild’s National Practice Framework, legislative requirements, and relevant practice models. Apply structured assessment, planning, and intervention approaches to support child safety, address risk, and strengthen family functioning.

Our customers determine our success: Work in partnership with children, young people, and families to ensure services are responsive, respectful, and tailored to their needs, strengths, and circumstances. Support family voice, choice, and participation in goal setting and -decision making, while maintaining- a clear focus on child safety and wellbeing.

We deliver innovative solutions: Use flexible, creative, and responsive approaches to engage families experiencing complexity and multiple stressors. Identify and respond to barriers to engagement and progress, drawing on professional judgement and collaboration to support sustainable change.

We set each other up for success: Work collaboratively with colleagues, Team Leaders, Community Connectors, and partner services to support coordinated, whole of- -family responses. Participate actively in supervision, reflective practice, and shared learning to enhance practice quality, consistency, and outcomes.

I learn, adapt, grow, and embrace my cultural competence: Demonstrate commitment to ongoing learning, reflective practice, and professional development. Practice with cultural humility and responsiveness, recognising and respecting the diverse identities, experiences, and strengths of families, and supporting culturally safe engagement, particularly with Aboriginal children and families.

Position Specific Responsibilities

In order to achieve the expectations as outlined above, the following key areas of responsibility have been identified:

- Undertake specialist mental health/psychiatric evaluations of child and adult family members to develop and implement treatment plans, as indicated.
- Collaborate with the MST-CAN treatment team concerning psychiatric and medical diagnosis for child and adult family members.
- Acts as a community liaison with outside physicians/psychiatrists concerning medical or psychiatric care of child and adult family members.
- Provides the team with emergency psychiatric evaluations of child and adult family members as needed in the office or community.
- Coordinates hospitalisation of child and adult family members as needed.
- Has a close on-going collaboration with inpatient physicians and clinical team when MST-CAN child or adult family members are admitted to a psychiatric hospital. Works to develop and maintain a collaborative relationship with the physicians and staff of local psychiatric inpatient unit(s) and other residential treatment facilities as needed.
- Coordinates all psychopharmacological interventions with family members.
- Record and maintain comprehensive case file notes on the required platforms including MST-CAN Mental Health Nurse Consultation Worksheet so these can be included in the client's chart.
- Works with the MST-CAN supervisor to modify and implement safety protocols and documentation.
- Attends MST-CAN group supervision weekly and/or as required.
- Works with the MST-CAN supervisor and expert to develop and implement evidence-based mental health/psychiatric and psychopharmacologic treatment protocols.
- Work in partnership with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and Aboriginal services to support culturally safe practice and better outcomes.

Key Relationships

Internal

- Restoring Families MST-CAN® Program Supervisor, Therapists, Clinical Caseworker, & Psychiatrist
- Program Manager
- Practice and Implementation team
- National Support teams
- OzChild staff, students, and volunteers

External

- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)
- MST Services
- Community service, health, housing, education, and legal providers
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations

Qualifications

Essential

- Full registration as a Mental Health Practitioner/Psychiatric Nurse.

- Two-year accredited Masters Degree (Nurse Practitioner) which includes pharmacological and prescribing qualifications
- Registrations with nursing and midwifery board of Australia (NSW)
- Experience working with child and adult mental health. Experience could be in the child and family sector (Child Protection, Out of Home Care, Family Services and/or other services working with vulnerable families and children)

Desirable

- Knowledge and demonstrated experience using evidence based clinical practices and their application to treat families.

Skills and Experience

- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in child, adolescent, and adult psychiatry, mental health assessments and treatment interventions, including crisis responses
- Mental health nursing experience
- Experience with families in the child welfare system
- Experience with child protection and court systems
- Ability to work as a team member
- Management of suicidal or homicidal threats and family safety risks
- Family systems therapy
- Knowledge of Child development
- Demonstrated ability to engage families using strengths based and culturally responsive approaches.
- A working understanding of the culture and strengths of families within the MST-CAN population
- A thorough understanding of Mandatory Reporting legislation
- Experience working with First Nations families
- Experience working with families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Capacity to work flexibly to meet service and family needs.
- Strong communication, engagement, and relationship building skills.
- Well-developed written, organisational and time management skills.
- Proficient computer skills and experience in electronic client management systems.

Screening and Licences

- National and International Police Check
- Working with Children Check (relevant State/Territory)
- Current driver's licence and access to reliable transport

Mandatory Training

All OzChild employees must complete mandatory and program specific training on commencement and refresher training as required.

Your Organisational Responsibilities

All OzChild People are required to:

- Comply with OzChild policies, procedures and codes of conduct
- Uphold child safety, cultural safety, diversity, equity and inclusion
- Maintain privacy, confidentiality and information sharing- obligations
- Represent OzChild positively in all professional and public settings

Your Safety and Wellbeing Responsibilities

- Take reasonable care for own health and safety and that of others
- Comply with workplace health and safety requirements
- Report hazards, incidents, injuries or near misses
- Participate in safety and wellbeing initiatives and consultations
- Support return to- work processes where -required

Employee Acknowledgement

This Position Description reflects the primary responsibilities of the role but is not exhaustive and may also be adjusted in line with program and organisational needs without changing the level of responsibility.

I confirm that I have read and understand this Position Description.

Name	Signature	Date