

Position Description

Senior Pregnancy and Early Parenting Practitioner (Family Services)

SCHADS Level 6

Position Title	Senior Pregnancy and Early Parenting Practitioner
Team	Family Services
Employment Type	Maternity Leave cover
Hours	Full Time (38 hours per week)
Location	Essendon (with occasional work from Caroline Springs)
Reports to	Program Coordinator – Westen Melbourne

The Caroline Chisholm Society

The Caroline Chisholm Society (the Society) is an agency providing a range of support and assistance to pregnant women and parents with young children. It delivers services that respond to the needs of families and supports them to achieve and maintain a safe and nurturing environment.

Our services are characterised as having a child focus and being family centered, being flexible and responsive, acknowledging the expertise of family, providing positive pregnancy support, connecting families with communities and promoting safety.

More information about the organisation is available on our website <http://www.caroline.org.au>

Child Safety

We are committed to protecting children and young people from all forms of abuse, bullying, exploitation, and neglect. The Society is committed to creating environments in all our programs and services where children and young people are safe and feel safe.

We are committed to listening to children and young people, addressing any concerns they raise with us. The Society will treat all allegations of child abuse very seriously. We will report all allegations in compliance with incident reporting, mandatory reporting and reportable conduct requirements.

All staff, volunteers, students on placement, and board members of the Society are required to support this commitment to child safety, and to behave appropriately towards children and young people at all times.

Accountabilities of the Senior Pregnancy & Early Parenting Practitioner

The Senior Pregnancy and Early Parenting Practitioner at the Caroline Chisholm Society delivers support services to families including assessment, planning, single session & short-term casework, case management, referral, advocacy and participating in working groups.

This role is part of the Family Services Team and delivers a range of interventions through the Restoring Families stream including outreach and in-home support services to a specialised cohort of pregnant women and families with young children up to 5 years of age. This role requires staff to work alongside families to strengthen and enhance their parenting capability and works to prevent children and families from further system involvement.

Caroline Chisholm Society: Responding to the needs of families.

Working closely with all stakeholders, the Senior Pregnancy and Early Parenting Practitioner is accountable for:

- Upholding the values, mission and vision of the organisation
- Senior case management, with the ability to respond to Restoring Families Stream cases to work autonomously and to support colleagues with their case management, including experience with,
 - holding a more complex caseloads.
 - improving families' access and participation in antenatal and postnatal services through direct client services, active outreach to support services.
 - leading parent education groups focused on the early years and parenting.
 - collaborating with professionals as part of a care team and utilizing the wrap-around approach.
- Program development, following and proposing changes to policy, quality assurance processes, and evaluation of both program areas (transition support and family services),
- Networking and professional liaison on behalf of Caroline Chisholm Society
- Participate in Alliance working groups
- Supporting colleagues with secondary consultation and referrals, and
- Client related record keeping and data entry with limited oversight,
- Leading allocated areas of agency and administrative duties, and
- Continuous professional development.
- Ability to carry out groupwork or reflective practice leadership.
- Support students on placement (Practitioners who hold a Social Work degree to be able to provide field supervisory field education as required).
- Leading, communicating, and providing an example of good conduct in the workplace
- Developing as a professional
- Other duties: A line manager may within reason request other duties which are auxiliary and peripheral to normal duties

All caseworkers at the Caroline Chisholm Society work to create a supportive and welcoming environment to respond to the needs of pregnant women and young families. This may also include answering the telephone, responding to those who enter the building and working from an alternative office.

All tasks are to be completed within practice guidelines, standards, policies and procedures, considering any agreements with partner agencies and relevant legislation.

Key Selection Criteria

The successful candidate will have responded to each of the following criteria:

1. Understand and uphold the values and objectives of the Caroline Chisholm Society
2. Casework: Have extensive casework experience in complex and intensive family services.
3. Communication and partnership:
 - a. Demonstrated high level of interpersonal and communication skills,
 - b. Proven capacity to influence and negotiate, and to build and maintain effective relationships with government departments, key stakeholders and communities, and
 - c. Capacity to work effectively across sectors and help build a multi-disciplinary team.
4. Operations: Proven capacity to organise, plan and prioritise, ensuring client and program outcomes are met in a timely manner.

Caroline Chisholm Society: Responding to the needs of families.

5. Development: Understanding of program evaluation processes.
6. Desirable:
 - a. A qualification equivalent to a Masters or Bachelor's in Social Work, Psychology, Counselling or other Human Services related degree.
 - b. Experience working with family violence as well as knowledge of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) framework and the Best Interests Case Practice Model.
 - c. Experience in financial counselling and advocacy service to people in financial difficulty or crises.
 - d. Therapeutic Services – experience in providing therapeutic maternal and infant support.

Other Conditions of Employment

Higher Duties Term	24 August for 12 months * (Subject to the return of staff member on Maternity Leave)
Classification under the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award [MA000100]	Social and Community Services Employee Level 6 Pay Point 1
Other Conditions	Consistent with the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Award (SCHADS) 2010