



position description

Job Title:	Allied Health Professional – Counsellor
Position ID:	New
Location:	Quandamooka People Redland City
Division/Programme:	Client Services / Children & Families / RAYS Program
Immediate Manager:	Team Leader Child Mental Health Program

about us

yourtown is a trusted provider of services for young people, with a focus on mental health and wellbeing, long-term unemployment, prevention of youth suicide, child protection, as well as support for those experiencing domestic and family violence.

We exist to help young people realise they can tackle whatever life throws at them. To believe in their unique strengths, tenacity and self-determination, to identify and create the path they want for themselves.

Our goals are achieved through genuine collaboration with community, we depend on the support of donors, sponsors, governments and Art Union supporters to fund our vital services, to give children and young people the confidence to rise up and keep moving forward to achieve their potential.

yourtown has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and we believe that Safeguarding is a shared responsibility of all, for all.

purpose of the position

To provide evidence based, child-centred and family-focused psychological therapies for children aged 0 – 12 years with moderate to severe mental illness, to improve their health, resilience and wellbeing.

responsibilities

May include, but are not limited to:

- **Support children and their families by providing a single-entry point into mental health care and wrap-around supports and services.**
 - Provide intake, assessment, case planning and referrals within a client-centred and family-focused framework for children up to age 12 years and their families.
 - Engage parents/carers and children in a range of evidence-based screening questionnaires, including psychological, psychosocial assessments, and wellbeing and outcome measures.
 - Deliver evidence-based counselling and psychotherapeutic interventions tailored to the assessed needs of each child and family which may include:
 - Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT)
 - Trauma-focused CBT
 - Client-centred Creative Therapies
 - Narrative Therapy

- Activity based interventions to support home, school and social wellbeing.
- o Support children to improve their emotional wellbeing and mental health, social skills, emotional regulation, learning and attention, and to reduce aggressive and/or disruptive behaviours.
- o Work with families to improve parental understanding of child's needs and how to support their child, improve the parent-child relationship and increase access to psychological therapies and wrap-around supports.
- o Ensure that children and their families are linked and transitioned to appropriate support services in exit planning.
- **Work collaboratively with program staff and other agencies to achieve positive outcomes for children and their families.**
 - o Engage with and refer to complementary wrap around supports to ensure children and their families receive integrated services.
 - o Work closely with the child's referring General Practitioner/other referring agency to provide integrated support and provide referrals to internal support and/or external specialist assistance.
 - o Participate in activities with children and families with lived experience of mental ill-health to contribute to the ongoing co-design, planning, development and review of services.
 - o Participate in regular meetings with Primary Health Network (PHN) and other relevant networks.
 - o Develop and maintain appropriate networks within the community and assist families in accessing these as needed.
 - o Participate in case consultations with other internal and external stakeholders.
- **Develop and maintain client records, internal and external data collection and contribute to service evaluation.**
 - o Ensure data is recorded in relevant systems within required time frames.
 - o Provide reports for internal and external agencies as required.
 - o Comply with the yourtown Case Management Framework, Duty of Care Policy, and related policies and procedures.
- Demonstrate an understanding of and meet the requirements of the position and all performance expectations including:
 - o Maintaining currency of knowledge with regards to relevant legislation, professional practice and emerging trends to ensure advice is current and effective.
 - o Participating in other duties and cross-functional teams as may be required, in order to achieve efficient and effective **yourtown** services.
 - o Participating in and meeting the expectations as agreed pursuant to the Organisational Performance System processes.
 - o From time to time be required to assist in other locations and travel intrastate, or interstate, as required.
- Participate in and meet the requirements for Practice Supervision and Client Skills Training.

at **yourtown** our team members:

- Adopt a culture of individual and organisational accountability, shared mission, mutuality of respect and responsibility, growth mindset and continuous improvement.
- Invest in their own ongoing professional development and leadership capability through active learning, seeking and giving feedback, and participating in **yourtown** leadership impact opportunities.
- Solve team and organisational problems using a super team approach leveraging cross functional capabilities and skills with diverse thinking to create a future ready workforce.
- Engage respectfully and meaningfully with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, stakeholders, clients, and colleagues. Actively support initiatives identified in **yourtown's** Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan.

selection criteria

Essential knowledge, skills, abilities:

- University level qualifications in Psychology, Counselling, or Psychotherapy
- Eligibility for professional registration with a supervisory body/board i.e. Australian Counselling Association (ACA), Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA), or other relevant body
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience providing counselling and psychotherapy for children and their families.
- Demonstrated experience in the use of screening, assessment, and outcome tools.
- Demonstrated experience and commitment to evidenced-based therapies in line with the person's needs, as well as a strong foundation of underlying principles of a strengths based, client-centered, attachment and trauma informed framework.
- Demonstrated knowledge and skills in working with children experiencing mental health issues and the diverse range of issues impacting children and families.
- Demonstrated skills in biopsychosocial assessment, case formulation and planning, delivery of therapies, and capacity to provide culturally appropriate therapeutic responses to children and families.
- Demonstrated capacity to work effectively as a member of a multidisciplinary team, to work collaboratively, and establish and maintain professional relationships with all stakeholders.
- Knowledge and understanding of relevant professional and ethical standards and legislation, e.g. Child Protection and Mental Health.
- Demonstrated high level communication skills, including written skills and the ability to prepare and contribute to reports.

Desirable knowledge, skills, abilities:

- community and family environment i.e. outreach with the ability to be accountable, assess and manage risk and maintain professional boundaries.
- Demonstrated experience in participating with children, families and the community in the co-design and review of services.



requirements

The Allied Health Professional – Counsellor must always:

- Comply with the relevant state or territory requirements for working with children.
- Maintain satisfactory National Criminal History Check.
- Possess an unrestricted current Driver's Licence.
- Comply with **yourtown's** immunisation procedure.
- Maintain First Aid and CPR certification.
- Demonstrate conduct compliant with **yourtown's** Code of Conduct.
- Maintain confidentiality and discretion in all matters.
- Align to the mutuality of safety and wellbeing for self and others in all **yourtown** workplaces and work-related activities.
- Uphold the **yourtown** safeguarding commitment in every aspect of their role.

Review and Version Control				
Version	Authorised by	Approval Date	Effective Date	Comment
V1.0	Jodie McAloney			Specific to RAYS program