



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Child Therapist
Reporting To	Wellbeing Services Manager

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION

The Child Therapist is responsible for providing therapeutic support services Aboriginal children and their families. Through the provision of counselling/therapy, mentoring and advocacy, the program aims to work with local primary schools to build resilience, empowerment and increase the overall wellbeing of Aboriginal children and their families.

The Child Therapist will work alongside a multi-disciplinary team to provide counselling, art therapy, family therapy and mediation to children and their families.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES

- Ensure counselling is aimed at enhancing the child's capacity for achieving and sustaining valued relationships
- Provide art therapy, play therapy and mediation to Aboriginal Children between the ages of 5-12 years' in targeted local primary schools
- Establish effective working relationships with targeted local primary schools and key personnel, targeted local communities and relevant organisations
- Advocate on behalf of Aboriginal children at school with their parents, carers and teachers including building good rapport and maintaining open communication to ensure the appropriate needs of participants are identified and supported. This may include assisting with family crisis situations relating to the young person where appropriate
- Undertake a variety of administrative duties including correspondence, database management and record keeping
- Participate in team, section and all of staff meetings and provide reports as and when required
- Participation in the development, implementation and maintenance of ongoing quality assurance activities
- Understanding of and capacity to implement EEO, WH&S, ethical practice and principles of a culturally diverse society
- Undertake relevant training as and when required
- Comply with all SCMSAC Policies and Procedures
- Other duties as reasonably directed by the CEO or delegate

KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Services are provided to a minimum of 50 individual clients each year
- Improved emotional wellbeing among program participants
- Improved school attendance and retention and overall reduction in school absenteeism
- Maintain appropriate clinical records as per organisational policies and procedures, legislative requirements
- Ensure compliance with all regulatory processes including SCMSAC evaluation, monitoring and quality assurance processes
- Demonstrate a commitment to supervision and professional development
- Adhere to SCMSAC values, code of conduct, policies and procedures and relevant government legislation and practice standards where relevant
- Completion of Employee Development Agreement and Review

KEY COMPETENCIES

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Tertiary qualifications in Education, Community Services, Social Work, Arts, Counselling or related fields
- Demonstrated experience in the delivery of child play/art therapy and counselling, including certified training
- Sound knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, relevant organisations and service providers in the Shoalhaven including the ability to work in collaboration with government and non-government agencies
- Computer proficiency and the ability to use basic computer programs, including the capacity to write reports, collect statistical data, develop presentations, social marketing and promotional materials
- High level conflict resolution and mediation skills including the ability to provide a range of counselling therapies including art therapy, play therapy or be willing to undertake this training
- Ability to develop professional working relationships and work effectively with young people with challenging behaviours and their families
- Clear Working with Children Check, Working with Vulnerable People Registration and National Police Check
- Current Driver's Licence

Desirable

- Aboriginality*

PERSONAL QUALITIES AND ATTRIBUTES

- High level of organisational ability and the ability to manage time effectively and efficiently, including establishing priorities and meeting deadlines
- High level of interpersonal skills, ability to communicate effectively and handle sensitive and confidential client information
- Personal drive and a strong community focus

RELATIONSHIPS

With	Purpose
SCMSAC CEO	The CEO may make day-to-day requests for support and information from the Child Therapist in relation to the Aboriginal Child Mentoring Program.
Executive Officer – Health and Wellbeing	The Child Therapist may receive guidance and direction from the Executive Officer – Health and Wellbeing.
Wellbeing Services Manager	The Wellbeing Services Manager is the first point of contact for the overall direction of work and will provide support to the Child Therapist.
Managers, Team Leaders and Employees	The Child Therapist will interact closely with Employees, Team Leaders and other Managers to develop and maintain effective working relationships, collaborate on matters, exchange information and provide advice and feedback.
Clients and External Stakeholders	The Child Therapist will develop and maintain strong links with external stakeholders, community organisations and other agencies in the local area including Aboriginal communities within the Shoalhaven area.

EMPLOYEE'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF POSITION DESCRIPTION

I have read and confirm my understanding of the above position description that will apply to my employment with South Coast Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation.

Employee signature

Date

Signed and approved on behalf of SCMSAC

Date

**Aboriginality - Aboriginality is a genuine occupational requirement and racial discrimination is a prohibition as outlined under Section 8(1) of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975.*