



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Position Title</b>	Therapeutic Practitioner
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### PURPOSE OF THE POSITION

The Therapeutic Practitioner is responsible for the provision of specialised clinical knowledge and skills in regards to children and young people and families with complex presentations referred to the Permanency Support Program, for assessment and treatment, such as one-on-one or group support for children, young people, family and carers. Service delivery will be consistent with Trauma Informed Care, Recovery and Strengths based principals.

The Therapeutic Practitioner will also provide consultation, intervention and training to SCMSAC's Permanency Support Program.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES

- Design, evaluate and assist with the implementation of evidence based Social Work intervention strategies
- Develop Behaviour Support Plans (BSP) for Children and Young People in consultation with Caseworkers, Children and Young People, their carers and other practitioners, ensuring compliance with legislative requirements
- Provide information, advocacy, social support, practical help and mentoring to , children and young people in out of home care including their families and carers
- Develop successful working relationships with service users and their families in the local area
- Work collaboratively with individuals, their families and their carers to assess their needs, help them to set goals, work out strategies to achieve those goals and help people to develop the skills towards independence
- Support individuals and their families to build new networks and access support services in their community
- Build and maintain strong links with public, private, non-government and volunteer services in the local area
- Ensure assessments and reports are written in a timely manner
- Participate in monthly, documented support and supervision with the PSP Manager
- Undertake ongoing training and professional development
- Actively participate in sector development and network meetings as requested including the provision of training and attending network meeting as requested
- Conduct relevant research to assist in the improvement and evaluation of services in consultation with management
- Take all necessary steps to ensure children and young people in the foster care program are protected supported and safe from abuse
- Comply with all SCMSAC Policies and Procedures
- Other duties as reasonably directed by the CEO or Delegate

## KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Therapeutic Intervention
- Records Management
- Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration
- Continuous Quality Improvement, Risk Management and WHS

## KEY COMPETENCIES

### Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

#### Essential

- Bachelor's Degree in Psychology or recognised Degree in Social Work and eligibility for membership with AASW
- Knowledge and understanding of the Children and Young Person (Care and Protection) Act 1998 and the ability to develop an understanding of the NSW Children's Guardian OOH Standards
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the issues affecting Aboriginal communities, families and children specifically in relation to the placement of Aboriginal children and young people in care
- Experience working in child protection or child trauma, and the ability to provide psychosocial assessments, group programs and training, counselling, behaviour support plans and social work interventions
- Knowledge on the impact of abuse and trauma on development or willingness to undergo training in trauma in order to meet clients' needs in a developmental, individualised way
- Capacity to work effectively both independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team, demonstrate accountability and willingness to take direction
- Proficiency in report writing and demonstrated ability to develop, organise and maintain records in a timely manner
- Proficient computer skills including the use of Client Management Databases
- Clear Working with Children Check, Working with Vulnerable People Registration and National Police Check
- Current Drivers Licence

#### Desirable

- \*Aboriginality
- Direct experience in delivering Social Work or related services in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities
- Proven clinical leadership skills with expertise in client centred consultancy, with the ability to implement changes, develop direction using evidence based research

## PERSONAL QUALITIES AND ATTRIBUTES

- Highly developed organisational skills and capacity to prioritise competing demands
- Effective time management skills and the ability to work to strict deadlines
- Highly developed interpersonal communication including both written and oral skills with the ability to effectively communicate with people at all levels.
- Effective conflict resolution skills, negotiation, mediation and decision making skills

## RELATIONSHIPS

With	Purpose
CEO	The CEO may make day to day requests for support and information from the Therapeutic Practitioner.
PSP Executive Officer and Manager	The Therapeutic Practitioner may receive guidance and direction from the Executive Officer and Manager
PSP Team Leader – Family Preservation	The PSP Team Leader – Family Preservation is the first point of contact for the overall direction of work and will provide support to the Therapeutic Practitioner.
Managers, Team Leaders and Employees	The Therapeutic Practitioner will interact closely with employees, Team Leaders and Managers to develop and maintain effective working relationships, collaborate on matters, exchange information and provide advice and feedback.
Clients	The Therapeutic Practitioner will maintain professional relationships and rapport with clients and their families as well as maintaining boundaries.
External Stakeholders	The Therapeutic Practitioner will develop and maintain strong connections with external stakeholders such as DCJ other agencies and organisations.

## 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.

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Employee signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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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.*