



BOORNDAWAN WILLAM  
ABORIGINAL HEALING SERVICE

## Position Description

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	Children's Counsellor		
<b>REPORTS TO:</b>	Manager Family Violence	<b>WORK AREA UNIT:</b>	Family Violence Therapeutic Programs
<b>FULL TIME OR PART TIME:</b>	Full Time	<b>PRIMARY LOCATION:</b>	Croydon
<b>DIRECT REPORTS:</b>	Nil	<b>JOB CLASSIFICATION:</b>	SCHCADS 5

### ABOUT THE ROLE:

Boorndawan Willam Aboriginal Healing Services (BWAHS) in partnership with the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF) continues to provide a holistic approach to working with Aboriginal parents, carers and children through provision of therapeutic programs. The project consists of parenting groups co-facilitated by ACF and BWAHS, therapeutic groups & individual counselling offered by BWAHS. This is funded through the Family Safety Victoria, Family Violence Therapeutic Programs.

The role will provide direct counselling to children, young people and their carers, support families and care teams with the development and implementation of appropriate therapeutic support for children and young people.

Collaboratively supporting clients to attend to groups and counselling programs, the FVP therapeutic children's counsellor will offer support to facilitators of group programs with Aboriginal women, adolescents and children who are impacted by or have experienced family violence and transgenerational trauma.

### KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

- Undertake intake and assessment
- Engage with clients through in-service, online and outreach appointments as appropriate.
- Children's counselling / Play Therapy
- Liaison with other family support or agency workers
- Ensure the safety and wellbeing of clients who are attending for counselling through the provision of high-quality clinical practices and risk management
- Ensure that child safe practices are maintained when working with children and young people
- Providing specialist individual, and parent/child therapeutic support to children within the program to promote their healing and recovery from the effects of their or experiences of family violence or abuse



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- Enhance parent/carer confidence to assist them to talk about the impact of trauma and family violence on the child, provide ongoing support to parents/carers and the care team to
- consistently meet the needs of the child
- Supporting the development of and facilitation of structured group and/or family sessions where appropriate for children and families/carers
- Coordination of therapeutic services for children in the program including liaising with existing support services and regular discussion of individual plans with the child and the parent/carers/care team.
- Participate in regular clinical supervision as negotiated with the Manager Practice and Development
- Undertake training as required.
- Participate in BWAHS overall development and strategic direction as required.
- Contribute to a positive and culturally safe workspace.
- Maintain records including notes, reports, plans and data within required timelines
- Ensure that client records are in accordance with BWAHS quality/audit requirements.

#### KEY SELECTION CRITERIA:

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1. An understanding of contemporary Aboriginal culture and the history of intergenerational trauma.
2. A tertiary qualification in social work, psychology, family therapy, Play therapy or a related discipline along with demonstrated experience.
3. Theoretical understanding of the the issues underpinning family violence, and therapeutic interventions in a Aboriginal cultural context.
4. Experience in provision of trauma informed, culturally safe therapeutic approaches to support safety and healing from family violence to children or young people and their Aboriginal families..
5. Ability to engage families of varying ages, stages and compositions who have multiple and complex needs.
6. Knowledge of services in the EMR and/or a willingness to learn.
7. Understanding of State and Regional Aboriginal Family violence strategies and frameworks.
8. Demonstrated commitment to working collaboratively and the capacity to negotiate and liaise with volunteers, including carers, DHHS, other agencies and the community.
9. Basic computer skills including: Outlook, Word and data reporting applications (such as IRIS/SHIP).
10. Ability to work independently as part of a small team.
11. Willingness to embrace opportunities for professional development where appropriate.

#### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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- Current Victorian Driver's Licence
- Willingness to obtain a Police Check and a Working with Children's Check
- Current basic first aid qualification or the willingness to obtain the qualification



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## KEY ATTRIBUTES FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

- **Commitment to BWAHS Vision, Mission, Values and Principles** – All employees must demonstrate commitment to the organisation's Vision, Mission, Values and Principles throughout employment activities and ensure individual development plans.
- **Self- Assessment and Reflection** – the capacity to recognise own feelings and those of others, for motivating ourselves and managing emotions well in ourselves and our relationships. To be resilient, capable of self-awareness, self-management, self-development, social awareness and relationship management, in order to contribute to a more effective and supportive organisational culture.
- **Ethical** – Reflects expected standards of behaviour and/ or Codes of Ethics.
- **Culturally Aware** – values social inclusiveness as a strength and positively utilises diversity.
- **Communication and collaboration** – Works with others to achieve common goals and disseminates information using appropriate media/ language to the right people at the right time.
- **Accountability** – Individual responsibility to deliver services with the relevant legislative and regulatory framework and in accordance with sound professional practice and business/ service management practice.
- **Consumer/ Client focussed** – Prioritises the needs of clients and the aims for the best outcomes for clients.
- **Work Health and Safety**- All employees will perform their duties in accordance with BWAHS Work, Health & Safety policy.
- **Privacy and Confidentiality** - All employees will perform their duties in accordance with BWAHS *Privacy and Confidentiality policy*.