

Position Description

Position:	Award Level:	SCHCADS Level 2
Strong and Social Support Group Peer Leader – Under 35s Families		
Program: Support Groups	Location:	Hornsby – North Shore
Supported by:	Support Groups Coordinator	
Special Conditions:	This position relies on the ongoing availability of funds generated to support the project	

One Door Mental Health (ODMH) is a leading for-purpose service provider for people living with mental illness, their families, and carers.

About the Program

The Strong and Social Program is a network of community-based support groups which encourages mutual support, social engagement, wellbeing and recovery for people who have a lived experience of mental health distress. Strong and Social groups operate ‘in the community’ so they do not provide mental health therapy or treatments.

We see the Paid Peer Leader project as creating a pathway for people with a lived experience of mental illness, who are trained as peer leaders or community workers, to use their training in a work environment and provide an opportunity to gain experience and to add to their community sector work resume.

About the Position

The Strong and Social Peer Leader organises and facilitates the Strong and Social Under 35s Families support group activities in cooperation with the other group members, and with the One Door Support Groups Coordinator.

All Peer Leaders in this project work approximately 10 hours per month, which usually covers organising and participating in two groups per month, depending on the needs of the group.

- Help organise and facilitate the meetings and activities of the Strong and Social Under 35s Families Group in the Hornsby – North Shore area.
- Focus on encouraging and supporting the participation of the under 35s people in the group.
- Work with group members to create social activities specifically designed to interest the under 35s members of the group.

- Use your lived experience as a resource to guide your work to facilitate the group and support the participants

There are currently 3 other paid Peer Leaders in the Support Groups program working on the Strong and Social project. Staying connected to the other Peer Leaders is important.

Working in your One Door team.

ODMH operates locally as self-organised teams – called Recovery 2gether teams. Team members are collectively responsible and accountable for:

- working with the people we support (e.g. clients, consumers, family, and carers) and
- team tasks.

As a team member, you will work collaboratively with other team members to facilitate the effective operation of the team.

Additional hours will be paid to meet One Door requirements for training, meetings and supervision.

What we ask of you

- Ask for help from One Door staff for any group participant for whom they are worried about their health and/or safety.
- Keep any necessary records such as the meeting attendance and contact details and emergency contact information as required by One Door Mental Health and agreed by the participants
- Consult with other team members, the Support Groups Coordinator, Coach and the Support Hub Practice Lead regarding complex support or crisis issues.
- Follow recovery principles.
- Actively promote and demonstrate [ODMH values](#)
- Undertake or review risk assessments prior to contact with the people we support to ensure supports are delivered safely and, in the manner agreed with the people we support.
- Adhere to and achieve the Program's Key Performance Indicators.
- Demonstrate commitment to the care, safety and wellbeing of self and others in work environment
- Contribute to effective team processes and joint decision-making within a team self-organising framework for the benefit of people we support and of other team members. Adhere to and achieve the team functions.
- Work within ODMH [policies and protocol](#)

Your key skills and experience

- This position requires someone who can relate well to people who are under 35, so young people are encouraged to apply
- Ability to work with group members in the Strong and Social meetings and activities
- Ability to communicate effectively in interactions with participants and stakeholders
- Ability to make referrals to services if group members ask for assistance
- Ability to ask for assistance from One Door staff as needed
- Certificate IV in a relevant discipline (e.g. mental health, peer work, disability) or equivalent experience or be willing to undertake such a qualification
- An understanding of the recovery- based approach to assisting people with severe and persistent mental illness
- Lived experience of mental illness and the ability to use the experience to support other
- Knowledge of the NSW mental health system and local services
- Demonstrated computer literacy to use Microsoft programs and the capability to learn other applications.