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| **POSITION DESCRIPTION** |
| **Position Title:** | Practitioner - Supported Community Accommodation |
| **Service/Facility/Department:**  | Children & Families |
| **Direct Reports:**  | Nil |
| **Key Relationships:**  | **Internal:** Anglicare managers and team members, CAF teams |
| **External:** Department of Child  |

**Position Statement / Overall Purpose**

The overall purpose of the Practitioner - Supported Community Accommodation, is to provide case management to young people residing in the Supported Community Accommodation Services (SCA) which provides support to young people aged primarily 14 – 17 years.

The role will assist to develop participation in positive age appropriate activities, attendance at services relevant to general physical and emotional well-being, engagement in employment or training, positive connection with family and other significant adults, and life skills to support independent living and stability of accommodation.

The Practitioner - Supported Community Accommodation will work in accordance with the values of Anglicare Southern Queensland (Anglicare) and support core business by providing service, guidance and advice within this position’s specialty area.

**Position Specific Credentials, Qualifications and Other Requirements**

* Current Blue Card (Working with Children)
* Current Licenced Care Service (LCS)
* Current Queensland Driver Licence
* Degree in Behavioural Sciences, Human Services, Social Work, Psychology or a related field
* Ability and willingness to work outside of standard business hours and provide on-call support as required

**Key Selection Criteria**

* Knowledge and understanding of youth justice and child protection frameworks, including the Youth Justice Act and Child Protection Act (1999) and other relevant legislation
* Understanding of child and adolescent development including the impacts of trauma, attachment disorder, grief and loss
* Experience in assessing complex to extreme needs of young people; contributing to the development of individual care plans identifying strengths and skills, and targeting development areas
* Ability to respond effectively and appropriately in crisis situations, including highly developed problem solving, decision making and negotiation skills
* Able to work independently and within a team; collaboration with stakeholders
* Excellent communication and organsiational skills; meeting planning and reporting

**Key Accountabilities and Responsibilities**

1. **Accountability: Case management**

***Facilitate a care environment for young people within the SCA services***

**Responsibilities:**

* Collaborate with the care team (internal and external stakeholders) to assess risks and needs of young people
* Develop and implement individual care plans which consider the strengths and skills of young people, and target areas for development
* Assist to develop individual crisis management and safety plans as required
* Work with Youth Justice to ensure weekly programming for young people is completed; provide support to young people
* Work in partnership with all relevant internal and external services; assist young people to engage in age appropriate activities, including connection to family and peers (safety assessed)
* In partnership with Youth Justice:
* Assess potential clients from referrals; attend detention centre or watch house to meet potential clients
* Attend stakeholder meetings to assist with case plan development
* Develop programs to assist clients to fulfil their Youth Justice requirements including transition plans
1. **Accountability: Facilitate transition for young people**

***Support young people to transition into SCA and from SCA into the community***

**Responsibilities:**

* Engage young people and other significant support people to ensure entry to service is supportive of immediate needs, including safety, physical and emotional wellbeing
* Assist young people to develop skills necessary for transitioning from the service (e.g. living skills, budgeting, connections within the community)
* Assist young person with obtaining accommodation as required
* Work with the young person’s family/friends to look at what is required for successful transition
* Acquire knowledge of funding opportunities available to young people transitioning from the SCA as required
1. **Accountability: Communication, networking and administration**

***Participate in community engagement, communicate effectively and maintain administrative requirements***

**Responsibilities:**

* Communicate effectively and appropriately with individuals and groups, internal and external
* Develop an understanding of issues facing Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and methods of communication with children and their families; work alongside specific services to ensure relevant cultural pathways for young people
* Participate in relevant alternative care and community networks
* Maintain comprehensive, accurate and relevant records, reports and audits as required
1. **Accountability: Team contribution and continuous improvement**

***Contribute to a positive team environment and continuous improvement culture***

**Responsibilities:**

* Develop and maintain positive relationships within the team
* Participate in staff meetings; share information to improve work environment and outcomes
* Provide proactive and positive peer support to team members, where required
* Contribute to ideas for improved ways of working and assist with the implementation of change
* Undertake professional development and regular training opportunities to ensure skills meet the requirements of the role

**Other Duties and Requirements**

* Maintain confidentiality, including but not limited to information relating to residents, clients and employees of Anglicare and do not disclose information during or after employment
* Act in accordance with Anglicare’s Code of Conduct and the organisation’s policies and procedures.
* Ensure that credentials and qualifications set out in this Position Description are current at all times
* Undertake those tasks outlined on a duties list, or any other tasks delegated to you by your manager or supervisor, provided these requirements are safe, efficient, relevant, legal and within your abilities
* Undertake work practices in a safe manner and comply with work health and safety instructions, within relevant policies and procedures
* Undergo relevant evaluations and assessments, as requested by Anglicare, to ensure that the physical and functional requirements of the role can be met

**Delegation of Authority:**

* In accordance with the Anglicare Delegations of Authority Policy.