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| **POSITION DESCRIPTION**  |
| **Role:**  | **Inner East Orange Door Aboriginal Practitioner**   |
| **Reports to:**  | **Orange Door Aboriginal Team Leader**  |
| **Direct Reports:**  | **Nil**  |
| **Status:**  | **Full time, Ongoing**  |
| **Location:**   | **Box Hill**  |

**BACKGROUND**

The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) is the largest organization of its kind in Australia. VACCA is an Aboriginal community-controlled organization that supports and advocates for the Aboriginal community. Our strength lies with our people. Our team is committed to the organisation’s vision and values; advocates for our children and other vulnerable community members; and shows respect for, observance and compliance with Aboriginal cultural protocols, practice and ceremony. Our Aboriginality is what distinguishes us from mainstream services and what enables us to deliver the positive outcomes we achieve for our people.

VACCA employs over 800 staff and delivers more than 70 programs across the state. VACCA’s experience and expertise in the delivery of therapeutic interventions are underpinned by culture, connection, and healing. VACCA designs, develops and delivers programs with self-determination and an understanding that the intergenerational trauma experienced by our community requires intergenerational and community healing.

Central to VACCA’s work is the importance of connection to family, community and culture as essential to Aboriginal children’s safety, stability and ensuring that they have an ongoing sense of belonging. As Victoria’s largest Aboriginal child welfare agency, VACCA will play a key role in the process of transitioning the care and case management of Aboriginal children from government and non- Aboriginal organisations to Aboriginal community-controlled organisations following the recent decision of the Victorian Government.

VACCA is implementing cultural therapeutic ways which is an agency wide framework that underpins our work with the community, our clients and staff

**OUR VISION**

Aboriginal self-determination - Live, Experience and Be.

**OUR PURPOSE**

Supporting culturally strong, safe and thriving Aboriginal communities.

# PROGRAM AREA

This role is part of the Victorian Government’s Multi-Agency response to the Royal Commission into Family Violence aimed at strengthening supports for children and families experiencing or have experienced family violence.

VACCA is a party in this multi-Agency response working with Aboriginal children and families seeking supports from Orange Door Hub. The VACCA team works with families to assist with family violence and promote wellbeing, participation in the broader community and access to relevant services in the region. The team also provides families with a range of options that are culturally responsive to support them in times of need, with a focus on positive parenting and family interaction to promote children’s development.

# POSITION SUMMARY

This is a newly funded role to VACCA within the Eastern Orange Door Hub; however, this role is well established within other Orange Door Hubs across the state. The Practitioner will be based at the Orange Door office in Box Hill and report to Aboriginal Team Leader who is based at the Orange Door Box Office and leads a team of multidisciplinary practitioners to deliver high quality, safe and effective responses to Victorian women, children, men and families seeking support and safety through the Hub and keep the perpetrator in view. This role will work with Aboriginal children, adults and families seeking supports from the Orange Door.

The Practitioner will work within the family and domestic violence service model, including client screening, triaging, risk assessment, crisis response, service planning and targeted intervention response.

# KEY RELATIONSHIPS

*Internal*: All VACCA services, programs and services based within the Hub

*External:* Partnering agencies within the Hub, Child Protection, Family Safety Victoria, ACCOs and other government and community services.

# KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

* Demonstrated understanding of, and commitment to, the values that underpin VACCA’ vision and purpose and the capacity to take a leadership role in championing these internally and externally
* Demonstrated awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal societies and cultures, and commitment to continually build knowledge of such, along with a high level of awareness of the key issues which impact upon Aboriginal communities
* Demonstrated understanding and application of Family and Domestic Violence models and child wellbeing approaches, theories and practice when dealing with clients.
* Demonstrated knowledge of general models of intervention in social work, particularly around complex risk assessment and risk management.
* Demonstrated experience to deliver therapeutic support and manage a caseload of clients experiencing family or domestic violence.
* Demonstrated experience of intake and referral processes within the family and domestic violence service system.
* Demonstrated appropriate interpersonal skills, self-awareness, self-management and community/cultural awareness in communications, problem solving and conflict resolution.
* Demonstrated ability to create and manage culturally respectful working environment which support effective working relationships within and across teams.

## REQUIREMENTS

* Tertiary qualifications in social work, social sciences or related field or work experience and expertise in the sector.
* Experience, knowledge and competency in case management practice.
* You must have and continue to hold a full Victorian Driver’s Licence and a current employment working with children check card.
* Current COVID-19 vaccination, including booster dose as applicable.

# POSITION ACCOUNTABILITIES

* Leading and supporting culturally safe and responsive practice in the Hub with Aboriginal children, women and men.
* To undertake assessments of Aboriginal people and families referred through the Hub intake system.
* To support, inform and assist Aboriginal people and families referred through the Hub and throughout involvement.
* Building on the cultural safety of the Hub and supporting choice and self-determination of Aboriginal people.
* Liaising with and providing to organisations and services within the Hub network in order to discuss direct service issues for Aboriginal people accessing services through the Hub. –
* Working collaboratively with the Aboriginal Practice Leader to build and maintain effective partnerships with Aboriginal and Mainstream services to support choice for Aboriginal people.
* Keep accurate and complete records of your work activities in accordance with legislative requirements and the Victoria Government’s, information security and privacy policies and requirements
* Take reasonable care for your own health and safety and for that of others in the workplace by working in accordance with legislative requirements and occupational health and safety (OHS) policies and procedure
* Identify and mitigate issues that may adversely affect client outcomes and monitor delivery navigation support.
* Align work with the Hub interim integrated practice framework, interim operational and procedural guidelines and service specifications.
* Ensure that all client information is recorded on the CRM system so that it is readily available and documented.
* Work collaboratively with Victorian Police, Child Protection and other community organisations and stakeholders.
* Represent VACCA on various external networks and forums when required.

# HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING

* Ensure compliance with the OH&S Act and VACCA policies.
* Contribute positively and proactively to team and organisation wide OH&S activities.

# QUALITY & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

* Ensure compliance with legislation, contract and policy requirements in your day to day work in order to meet the organisation’s audit, contract and registration obligations.
* Proactively apply your specialist knowledge in the review and maintenance of policies, systems and processes.
* Continue the development of a culturally strong and positive working environment using a continuous improvement approach.

# OTHER

* Participate proactively in team project initiatives
* Support other team members in periods of high demand and during periods of absence.
* Participate in project groups and attend events
* Undertake other duties as directed

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are committed to Aboriginal self-determination and supporting strong, safe, thriving Aboriginal communities and aim to ensure every individual is treated with dignity, honouring all cultural backgrounds, abilities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities and spiritual beliefs.

VACCA is a child-safe organisation and is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and young people with zero tolerance for child abuse. All successful applicants will be required to undertake a National Police Record Check and Working with Children Check prior to commencement of employment and periodically following commencement.

VACCA is an equal opportunity employer and has a smoke-free workplace policy.

This position is designated under the Multiagency Risk Assessment and Management framework (MARAM) Comprehensive (Tier 1) level which requires mandated MARAM Family Violence Comprehensive Risk Assessment training and responsibilities.