

## Job Description:

<b>Job Title:</b>	Family Violence Therapeutic Practitioner		
<b>Job Type:</b>	Part time (.8 EFT)	<b>Location:</b>	Ovens Murray
<b>Reports to:</b>	Program Manager Family Violence and Early Intervention	<b>Direct Reports:</b>	None

### 1. Job Purpose:

VACCA is delivering Family Violence Therapeutic programs across multiple locations which will deliver culturally safe and trauma informed one on one counselling and group based work with Aboriginal women, children, adolescents and families who are impacted by family violence.

Culture, Connection and Healing are central to the design and delivery of Family Violence Therapeutic programs to Aboriginal families. The program model is family focused and where possible, all family members will be involved and supported, individually and as a family. Staff will work within VACCA's Aboriginal therapeutic framework.

There is a strong component of action research throughout the program in order to build an evidence base of best practice for working with Aboriginal families. Collaborative working and proactive sharing of the evidence base and lessons learned is essential to this role.

The Family Violence Therapists' positions have been created to provide 1:1 trauma-informed assessment and counselling and small group programs to Aboriginal women, children and their families who are impacted and/or have experienced family violence. The therapist will:

- Deliver 1:1 therapeutic Counselling Program
- Undertake intake and assessment
- Develop a family violence healing plan – identifying risks and strategies
- Support the client with regular review touchpoints
- Engage with clients in-service, home-based visits
- Support individual Aboriginal women, children, adolescents and their family through their individual healing journeys by creating or rebuilding strong positive connections between participants and their culture, land, family and community
- Deliver Culturally therapeutic Family Violence Group Programs including Mums and Bubs Therapeutic group and Children's Therapeutic group
- Develop group programs that are provided in a culturally safe place allowing individuals to build trust, yarn up, open up in their own time and heal through the use of therapeutic interventions.

The position will contribute to the delivery of quality, culturally safe approaches to individuals and whole of family as appropriate through applying VACCA's therapeutic framework and program guide. Healing through Culture will underpin all aspects of the work.

This position can also be shared with the Aboriginal Family Violence Group Facilitated positions.

## 2. Position Accountabilities

### PRACTICE AND PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- Deliver culturally safe and high standards of service delivery to Aboriginal children and families impacted by family violence
- Provide culturally appropriate group programs to Aboriginal women, men, children and families using the program's evidence based framework
- Perform in a client led adaptable manner which aims to utilise any time, space or environment to establish or build or the therapeutic relationship i.e. whilst transporting a client, in a home visit, going for a walk
- Actively transport clients to and from programs
- Preparation of materials required for therapeutic groups such as food preparation
- Conduct intake, risk assessments and safety planning
- Provide current and accurate information, resources and supported referral to clients
- Participate in program evaluation through collection of evaluation data (in particular client outcomes data) and contribute to discussions regarding program improvement
- Maintain positive, collaborative working relationships with all professionals and with other therapeutic services
- Actively participate in fortnightly therapeutic supervision sessions
- Contribute to a centralised body of best practice for family violence programs across VACCA.

### PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- Implement customised program resources such as program manuals, practice and data collection tools to support quality program delivery

## 3. Key Selection Criteria

- a. Demonstrated understanding and knowledge of Aboriginal culture and values and the importance of identity, and cultural connections in the healing process for Aboriginal children and families
- b. A tertiary qualification in social work, psychology, family therapy or a related discipline along with demonstrated experience
- c. A comprehensive understanding of the dynamics and impact of family violence in Aboriginal families
- d. A demonstrated ability to work therapeutically and sensitively in a range of healing interventions with Aboriginal women, children, adolescents and families who are impacted and/or have experienced family violence
- e. Substantial and relevant experience working across Family Violence, Child and Family Welfare Services and the Aboriginal sector.

<b>Key internal relationships:</b>	Executive Manager (Regions), Senior Project Manager Family Violence Initiative, Family Violence Practice Lead, Family Violence Therapeutic Workers and Aboriginal Therapeutic Group Facilitator, Family Violence Team Leader, Research and Evaluation Team, all other internal programs within Ovens Murray	<b>Key external relationships:</b>	Community Service Organisations, local program partners
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**ABOUT THE ORGANISATION:**

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 designs, develops and delivers programs with self-determination and an understanding that the intergenerational trauma experienced by our community requires intergenerational and community healing. Through Cultural Therapeutic Ways VACCA is implementing a whole of agency approach to guide VACCA’s practices of healing for Aboriginal children, young people, families, community members and carers who come into contact with our services, as well as creating a safe and supportive workplace for staff.

**Our principles & Values**

Best Interest of the Child	Aboriginal Cultural Observance	Respect
Self- Determination	Healing and empowerment	Excellence

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..

Please visit **[www.vacca.org](http://www.vacca.org)** to know more about us.