

POSITION DESCRIPTION

INDIGENOUS MENTAL HEALTH (YUDHILIDIN) PEER NAVIGATOR

The Yudhilidin Program is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are experiencing severe and complex mental illness, who are being managed in the primary care setting and would benefit from support and assistance from a Mental Health Peer Navigator, working alongside a mental health clinician. The Program is provided across the Hunter region and aims to reduce barriers and improve access to mental health care and other community services; provide support to affected families and carers; and promote integrated, culturally appropriate mental health services to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

PURPOSE OF POSITION

The Peer Navigator will:

- Ensure the people they work with have their clinical mental health needs met through HPC Clinical Care Coordinators, GP's, Aboriginal Medical Services and/or public community mental health services. They will also ensure the person has their physical health needs met through engagement with a regular GP and by accessing a range of appropriate Medical Benefits Scheme (MBS) services
- Ensure the carer, family or other community supports are involved in supporting, and where appropriate, negotiating the person's care needs
- Provide up to twelve months, episodes of care in order to connect to services and ensure ongoing management via a GP and other supports
- Ensure proactive engagement with individuals, their families and wider community supports including outreach. The role may involve engagement of individuals prior to release from prison and connection to Aftercare/Postvention services
- Maintain a high level of cultural awareness and respect including learning and development to ensure the maximum benefit is achieved for clients

REPORTS TO

- Program Manager – Clinical Care Coordination & Indigenous Mental Health

DIRECT REPORTS

- Nil

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

SERVICE DELIVERY

- Work in an integrated team based approach with the Clinical Care Coordinator
- Provide recovery oriented navigation of supports to ensure the clients have their social and emotional wellbeing needs met and their families/supports are appropriately involved in accordance with their care plan
- Assist participants to connect with a coordinated range of services e.g. GP, health, clinical and community-based support service as required.
- Build rapport with and provide information and options to clients and their families/carers to enable them to be involved in negotiating the care needs and make informed choices.
- Work collaboratively with the client/family/supports to develop individually tailored self management strategies and to support the client's safety plan in times of crisis
- Reduce service barriers by providing culturally appropriate guidance and mentoring to clients
- Provide practical support including arrangements for the person to attend appointments
- Assist with application to the NDIS where a need is identified
- Participate in case conferencing as required to ensure coordinated and integrated care contributes to recovery goals
- Develop strong partnerships and relationships with service providers that results in good knowledge of available services, effective interactions and appropriate referrals into and out of the program.
- Create and update individualised records on the electronic Client Management System in accordance with HPC/Yudhilidin procedures
- Record all information in the client record within agreed timeframes and standards
- Contribute to service development by identifying improvement areas and being actively involved in implementation of any agreed changes
- Work towards achievement of the program objectives and deliverables according to program guidelines.
- Behave in a manner that is consistent with HPC Values, Code of Conduct, policies and procedures at all times
- Other duties within the service as directed by the line manager

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Yudhilidin and Clinical Care Coordination Team
- Mental Health Care Coordination team
- HPC Mental Health Services
- Chronic Disease Care Coordination
- Other program areas within HPC
- General Practitioners and practice staff
- Carers/family and community members
- Support service providers
- Mental Health services staff in HNE Local Health District and Aboriginal Medical Services
- Allied health professionals
- Aboriginal Managed Organisations and indigenous specific local and regional positions

- Other formal and informal supports

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Maintain and develop professional skills and knowledge through involvement in ongoing professional development activities and activity planning
- Maintain contemporary knowledge of best practice disability support services
- Actively participate in performance feedback and reviews
- Participate in team and organisational meetings and activities to gain and maintain a sound understanding of HPC strategic and operational directions

ORGANISATION

- Follow all appropriate policies and procedures of Hunter Primary Care.
- Communicate service improvements, initiatives and challenges to the Program Manager
- Take reasonable care of own health and safety and take reasonable care that own acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Take reasonable care of own health and safety and take reasonable care that own acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons
- Comply so far as is reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction by management and comply with HPC policies and procedures relating to health and safety

POSITION CLASSIFICATION

This position is classified as a Health and Wellbeing Services Level 2 position in accordance with the Hunter Primary Care Agreement 2021.

SELECTION CRITERIA

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- Demonstrated experience in working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in a culturally competent manner and successfully partnering with Indigenous organisations
- A tertiary qualification such as a certificate or degree in mental health, social work, or other relevant field
- Demonstrated skills and ability engaging and providing professional assistance to people with a mental illness using sound assessment and coordination skills
- Demonstrated understanding of recovery oriented practice
- Knowledge of the role of primary health care providers including General Practice, Medicare Benefits Scheme and Closing the Gap
- Experience collaborating with external service providers especially primary care and other community-based health services
- Demonstrated ability to work within time pressures, manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines
- Demonstrated ability to be flexible to changing conditions and eager to learn
- Extensive experience in all Microsoft Office programs including Word, Excel, Outlook, data base navigation and data entry
- Positive attitude
- Customer-focused
- Proactive
- Solutions oriented

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

- Identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Contemporary knowledge and interest in the issues affecting the health outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- Regular travel is required to and from client visits and regular meetings throughout the day
- National Police Check

ACCEPTANCE OF POSITION

I hereby accept the position as outlined in the above points and agree to abide by the HPC values, policies and procedures.

I understand this Position Description is designed to provide a guide to the responsibilities and activities to be undertaken in this position. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list and is not exclusive of additional responsibilities that may arise from time to time.

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Signature

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Print Name

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Date

Position Approved by: Katrina Delamothe, Mental Health Executive September 2021