

Position Description

Position Title:	Family Connections Counselling Practitioner
Position Classification:	Level 5. Pay point dependent on qualifications and experience.
Award and employment conditions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Social, Community Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010;○ Salary sacrifice up to 30% of gross salary is available.○ Leave loading of 17.5% applies○ Portable Long Service Leave contributions
Position details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 30.4 hours per week○ Fixed term contract until 30 June 2022 (unless extended by funder)○ Position funded by Bushfire Recovery Victoria and the Department of Health
Primary work location:	School based position (car available for travel from Wangaratta)
Accountability:	Youth & Family Services Manager
Date:	June 2021

Our vision:

Strengthening generations to create sustainable communities

NESAY's Child Safe Standard Statement:

NESAY is committed to promoting and enabling all children and young people to feel safe, have their voices heard, be empowered and have their diversity valued and respected.

At NESAY we do not tolerate any form of child abuse and take all allegations of child abuse seriously and we will respond to any concerns of abuse in an informed manner.

Strategic goals and objectives:

Our 10 year vision is:

"To be the best provider of transitional services for young people in Australia and Internationally"

Our strategic plan goals (2021-2024) are:

- Be bold: We wont just think it – we will do it! We will take action to create opportunities for young people to be heard and thrive
- Be inclusive: We will support our communities to be able to respond and show their care for young people

- Be leaders: We will be active and courageous leader. We will step to the front and create pathways for young people and their families

Our Values

- Inclusion
- Respect
- Integrity
- Innovation
- Accountability

Practice Philosophy

NESAY provides a safe and welcoming place for young people and their families to engage with the support they need. Our team uses a strength based and trauma informed approach that is person centred and underpinned by the principles of social justice.

NESAY as an organisation:

- We are an incorporated association primarily funded through agreements with Victorian and Commonwealth Departments and their agents
- We are governed by a community elected Board of Governance.
- NESAY is an independent organisation. We have no structural links with churches, institutions, or governments.
- We provide a range of services for young people and their families across the Ovens Murray region that are aimed at supporting young people experiencing homelessness, family breakdown/violence, mental health and wellbeing, and those needing support to engage at school, develop independent living skills.
- NESAY's home is in Wangaratta. We provide regular service delivery to other communities in our region
- We have a service model that enables flexible workplace arrangements to meet the needs of the people accessing services, the community, and our team
- All NESAY team members are required to be committed to continuous improvement activities, comply with legislative requirements, and adhere to our code of conduct

Position purpose:

The Family Connections Program is an early intervention program for mental health and wellbeing for young people and their families. It is anticipated that through the therapeutic intervention with the family, that longer term outcomes will be achieved and increase stability for young people in housing, education, and employment.

The specific outcomes sought through this program include:

- Reduction in youth homelessness and family breakdown
- Increase in capacity and strengthening of family systems for sustainable outcomes/change

General responsibilities of position:

- Provide family therapy interventions with young people and their families.
- Work collaboratively with other key stakeholders supporting the young person and their families to assist in addressing the presenting issues.
- To provide appropriate referrals to internal NESAY programs, external welfare agencies and health organisations for young people and their families.
- Provide relevant data and reporting as required to NESAY and funding body.
- To participate in case review with support from the team Manager, including relevant NESAY practitioners/members of staff, and other agencies currently working with the young person and/or their family
- To develop and build positive relationships/networks with stakeholders and service providers.
- Maintaining accurate records of attendance, appropriate case notes and necessary documents;
- Ensuring that service delivery complies with the appropriate policies and procedures as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual

Team responsibilities:

- To work as part of a multi-disciplinary team, liaising with and referring to other team members and NESAY programs as required.
- To actively participate in staff, team meetings and other agency activities as required.
- To participate in policy development and quality assurance activities as required.
- To represent NESAY in local and regional service network meetings.
- And any other duties appropriate to the program as directed by the Youth & Family Services Manager.

External Liaison

- Bushfire Recovery Victoria
- Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing.
- Federal State and Local Government as relevant
- Local Youth and Family support providers.
- Key stakeholder agencies.
- Education & Training Institutions.
- Local Government agencies.
- Other relevant agencies and community/health service providers.

Key Selection Criteria

- Hold an appropriate tertiary qualification in welfare, social work, or related social science.
- Previous experience in counselling and trauma informed practice.
- Clinical experience working with families/adolescents strongly preferred.
- Demonstrated ability to engage and connect with people in therapeutic intervention
- Highly developed conceptual, analytical, verbal, and written communication skills.
- Highly developed skills including ability to maintain positive working relationships across a diverse range of programs, settings, and networks.
- High level of computer literacy.
- Current Victorian Driver's license

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate undergoing a satisfactory National Police check clearance/s and holding a valid Victorian Working with Children's Check. Please note, it is the responsibility of the individual to organise an International Police Check, if they have resided overseas for twelve months or more in the last ten years.

Acceptance

I acknowledge receipt of, and accept the responsibilities outlined in the School Counsellor – Sacred Heart College Yarrowonga Position Description.

Family Connections Counselling Practitioner
Signed:

Date: ___ / ___ / ___

Youth & Family Services Manager:

Signed:

Date: ___ / ___ / ___