

POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE	Youth Worker		
POSITION OVERVIEW	As part of the Primary Health for Young People therapeutic team, the Youth Worker contributes to the provision of primary health care through outreach for young people aged 12 – 25 years of age, specifically, those with mental health challenges and co-occurring alcohol and other drug use (AOD). The Youth Worker will provide practical and emotional support, assisting young people to connect to appropriate supports and networks.		
CLASSIFICATION	SCHADS Level 5/ WCS Level 6	SERVICE AREA	Mental Health and Community Access
EMPLOYMENT STATUS	<input type="checkbox"/> Full time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part time <input type="checkbox"/> Casual		HOURS PER WEEK 30
LOCATION	Bowes Pl, Woden, Woden Youth Centre, Directions Health ACT and various outreach locations		
IMMEDIATE MANAGER	Youth Mental Health Clinician Supported by the Youth Engagement Team Leader		
INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT	Woden Community Service Inc - Caring for Our People, Building Our Capability to Serve, Enterprise Agreement 2021-2023.		
REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS			
NO OF DIRECT REPORTS	Nil	NO OF INDIRECT REPORTS	Nil
KEY RELATIONSHIPS			
INTERNAL	Youth Services Team, Mental Health Youth Clinician, Manager Children, Youth and Family Services, Mental Health Teams, Service Development and Operations Manager, Mental Health,		
EXTERNAL	Directions Health ACT, Meridian, Anglicare, Young people, Schools, relevant Government and Non-Government agencies		
KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Actively engage in the lives of young people who are vulnerable, addressing those issues that are placing them at risk; specifically, those with mental health challenges and co-occurring alcohol and other drug use. ▪ Develop supportive relationships with young people through a range of different avenues including outreach, events and youth centre drop in. This could require a flexible response at times that suit young people including after hours and weekend work. ▪ Strengthen young people's connections through utilising WCS's, Direction ACT's and Meridians program pathways for longer term support. ▪ Work as part of a team, including a mental health clinician, peer worker, and nurse to provide primary health support to young people 12-25 years. ▪ Provide flexible and responsive case work support based on the needs of young people, advocacy, role modelling, assistance with understanding and completing documentation and any other activities which will assist young people towards developing productive life skills and making positive choices. ▪ Encourage young people to be involved in all aspects of their support including planning, organising, promoting and achieving their goals. ▪ Work in partnership with the Primary Health for Young People therapeutic team across Directions Health ACT, Meridian and WCS. ▪ Develop and maintain service and community networks with services across the Child, Youth and Family Service System and any other organisations linked with disadvantaged and vulnerable people. 			

- Maintain up to date knowledge of issues faced by young people, information, resources and relevant services.
- Ensure that young people have access to, and are given, any relevant information they may require to assist them to navigate options and supports available to them within the community.
- Make appropriate referrals to alternate services where requested and provide support, through introductions and attending other services with them as required. This will include transition into adult services
- Contribute as an effective team member by sharing information, supporting and assisting colleagues in a proactive manner to meet goals and timeframes.
- Completion of regular reporting including case notes, monthly reports, budget variance reports, board reports and case studies, along with other reporting requirements as required.
- Participate in media interviews and articles to promote the service.
- Participate in the ongoing improvement of quality service delivery.
- Engage in the ongoing improvement of own knowledge and skills through attending agreed training programs and reflective practice.
- Ensure your safety, the safety of the community, service users and your colleagues by following the WCS Work Health and Safety Policy and Procedures at all times.
- Foster a culture where everyone is valued, respected and recognised by applying workplace diversity and equity principles.
- Apply National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, as applicable for the role.

EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS

Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate IV in mental health, Alcohol and Drug Work or a Diploma of Community Services. • At least two years' experience working with young people experiencing mental illness and/or alcohol and other drug issues. • Extensive skills, knowledge of and experience in planning events and activities aimed at young people. • Extensive skills, knowledge and experience in working with young people through case management, case work, outreach, open access activities and event planning. • Demonstrated high level of interpersonal skills and highly developed written and oral communication skills, including computer skills and experience in writing reports, client records and use of a database. • Demonstrated understanding of professional boundaries, privacy and confidentiality. • Current Drivers Licence. • Current First Aid certificate.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tertiary qualification in social work, psychology, social sciences or equivalent.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work outside normal business hours if required. • Demonstrate at all times commitment to WCS' Purpose and Values, and follow the WCS Code of Conduct. • Ongoing employment is subject to a satisfactory Police check and maintaining a current ACT Working with Vulnerable People registration.

Document History	Original: August 2024	Revised:	Version: V1
Employee's name		Signature	DATE