

POSITION	Clinician: Psychologist or Mental Health Social Worker	STATUS	Full time or Part Time
REPORTS TO	Regional Services Manager	INITIAL LOCATION	Various

VISION AND STRATEGIC GOALS

Better Place Australia has a vision of “An Australia where all people experience positive relationships, truly value each and live safer, more confident lives”. As a community focused not-for-profit organisation with an ever-growing range of psychological and community support services, Better Place Australia is taking a leadership role in the provision of high-quality, effective services for a wide range of community groups across 25 locations in Victoria.

WORK PERFORMED

Direct Client Service

- Determine client eligibility for service delivery
- Provide psychological evidence-based assessment (including risk assessment), clinical intervention, and psycho-education / relapse prevention within a recovery framework
- Provide psychological services to clients affected and impacted by mental illness including:
 - *Development of Psychological Treatment Plans (PTPs)*
 - *Provision of treatment by way of individual, group and/or family sessions;*
 - *Reviewing progress of PTPs and the outcomes of sessions, supports and strategies*
 - *Referral of clients to alternative support services as and where required.*
- Liaise with referring agencies and/or health professionals (e.g. Medical Practitioner/GPs) regarding treatment plans and progress
- Create referral pathways between Better Place Australia and referring agencies
- Adherence to Australian Psychological Society (APS) and Psychology Registration Board of Australia membership and registration requirements

Community Liaison and Networking

- Establish and maintain contact with relevant community service organisations, departments, and individuals as appropriate
- Respond ethically, efficiently, creatively, and in a timely fashion to developments in the delivery of therapeutic services
- Work in a consultative manner with Indigenous and Migrant / Multicultural Information Services as required to ensure that service provision is implemented in a culturally sensitive manner
- Participate in promotional activities and the community education component of the Program

Program Responsibilities

- Promote teamwork through the sharing of skills and knowledge
- Participate in staff activities including but not limited to staff meetings, staff development, on-going training activities and case review
- Participate regularly in, and be committed to a process of clinical supervision and performance development

- Be willing to engage in reflective practice, particularly focused on work within the organisation and demonstrate integrity and honesty in giving / receiving feedback to maintain quality professional practice
- Maintain consistent performance in client record-keeping (including case notes and administrative processes)
- Participate in the annual staff appraisal process
- Maintain knowledge of, and adherence to, the policies and procedures governing practices within the organisation

Quality & Compliance

- Ensure any quality risks are identified and reported promptly and that prevention strategies are implemented to ensure the safety of all clients and staff
- Maintain a good working knowledge and understanding of the QIC Health and Community Standards
- Pursue opportunities for quality improvement, and actively contribute to the accreditation of the service being delivered
- Participate in regular audit processes to ensure compliance with applicable regulatory bodies is maintained
- Contribute to the development and implementation of service manuals in accordance with contract and program requirements
- Ensure Better Place Australia's services are in compliance with applicable funding contracts, including reporting requirements

Other:

- Other duties as assigned and which are consistent with the position
- Ensure compliance with Better Place Australia's code of conduct and related organisational policy material
- Contribute to a culture of health and safety
- Identify potential hazards and implement appropriate risk mitigation responses in so far as is reasonably practicable

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- Tertiary Qualification in Psychology and either general (or provisional) registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulatory Agency (AHPRA) or registered as an Accredited Mental Health Social Worker with the AASW
- Demonstrated commitment to Child Safety Principles and evidence of active participation in activities and initiatives to ensure child safety and wellbeing
- Comprehensive experience and interest working with clients with mental illness across the following areas:
 - *People experiencing homelessness*
 - *People at risk of suicide*
 - *Culturally and linguistically diverse people*
 - *People diagnosed with peri-natal depression*
 - *People with substance use disorders*
 - *People who have experienced family violence*
- Willingness to build a client base from local referral agents and to represent our service at local networking opportunities

Experience in delivering services to the following groups would be a *distinct advantage*:

- Children
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

- People living in residential aged care facilities.

PERSONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- The ability to think creatively and develop innovative and ethical responses to situations as they arise
- Highly developed interpersonal skills
- The ability to rapidly develop rapport with clients
- Realistic reflective self- assessment / appraisal skills (including self-identification of areas of development) are essential
- Demonstrated experience in working collaboratively with a multi-disciplinary team
- Competent computer skills particularly in Microsoft Office

OTHER

- Active provider number with Medicare (or able to be registered to claim Medicare) [*desirable*]
- Current Victorian driver's license and access to own transport
- Current satisfactory National Police check
- Working with Children Check
- COVID-19 Vaccination (per the Acting Chief Health Officer's mandatory direction No 5)

KEY RELATIONSHIPS / INTERACTIONS

Internal

- Regional Services Manager/s
- Administration Coordinators and operational Staff

External

- Clients and their family members
- Community and Government Representatives and Service Providers

GENERAL INFORMATION

Better Place Australia is a not for profit organisation and we provide services for all members of the community regardless of religion, age, gender, sexuality, lifestyle choice, cultural background or economic circumstances. We offer a workplace culture reflective of a vibrant, learning organisation where our people are highly engaged in their work and committed to making a difference. Our organisation is committed to child safety and our process requires police record, working with children and reference checks to ensure that we are recruiting the right people.