



Services for the trans
and gender diverse community

JOB DESCRIPTION

COUNSELLOR

POSITION:	Counsellor
AWARD TITLE:	Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010 Services Employees (State) Award
CLASSIFICATION:	SACS Grade 5 pay point 1
SALARY:	Up-To \$83.326 + super
HOURS:	70 hours/ fortnight, with preparedness to work some flexible hours
ACCOUNTABLE TO:	The Executive Director & Senior Counsellor
FOUNDED BY:	The Ministry of Health

POSITION BRIEF:

Critical to this role will be your demonstrated counselling experience using a person-centred approach together with other evidence-based therapeutic modalities. You will require knowledge in gender dysphoria, domestic violence best practice and suicide protocol and other risk identification tools and skills

You will be responsible for the provision of empathic person-centred counselling services to meet the needs of our clients. The focus of the service is to improve the mental health and wellbeing of clients who may experience gender dysphoria, stress, depression and drug & alcohol issues, the role also includes, group work and strength-based, solution-focused case management.

The counsellor provides counselling and therapeutic services to all members of the transgender, gender diverse and gender questioning community, their partners, family members and allies in NSW.

The counsellor liaises with a broad network of individuals and organisations who participate in or impact on this community.

The counsellor also arranges and/or participates in community events, programs, and initiatives in which The Gender Centre is involved.

The counsellor is one of the key staff members for access by relevant clients of The Gender Centre for specialised counselling services.

Where appropriate the Counsellor is expected to refer both to other specialist staff within the Gender Centre and/or to specialised external professional services.

The counsellor should have extensive knowledge or be willing to learn the broad range of community organisations, NGOs and government departments that work with our community.

The Counsellor is expected to have a firm knowledge of the processes needed for advocacy and community development.

The counsellor will work closely with other staff members to fulfil the duties listed below.

The Gender Centre is an Equal Opportunity employer.

STATEMENT OF DUTIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN:

To provide clinical services to transgender, gender diverse and gender questioning people and significant others around issues of gender.

Provide counselling to clients on other presenting issues such as sexual assault, D&A, STI/HIV/BBV and in particular suicide.

Refer clients appropriately to other staff within the agency and/or other external services when required.

Attend supervision and staff meetings on a regular basis and participate in debriefing processes with other staff members.

Maintain awareness of current developments in the fields relevant to HIV/AIDS, harm reduction, legal developments, and contemporary transgender issues.

Access training relevant to the position,

Provide monthly and annual reports to the Manager on all aspects of the counsellor's role, particularly in relation to this job description. The reporting should include the application of the centres wellbeing measurement tool (K10) as part of the counsellor's duties.

Comply with Gender Centre requirements regarding client data collection.

Provide supervision and guidance to counselling students on placements at the centre.

Be prepared to participate in interagency meetings and functions in order to ensure that transgender clients are represented as a proportion of clients of other agencies or for the purpose of positive networking.

Be prepared to present on issues relevant to the transgender and gender questioning community at relevant conferences and functions.

Participate in maintaining a positive regard for clients, visitors, staff and members of the association in all aspects of working with clients and other staff members.

General office duties, answering phones, attending staff meetings and paperwork.

Work within a team atmosphere

Current Australian drivers licence

Undertake professional supervision as part of this position.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential Criteria

1. Relevant tertiary or University qualifications in counselling, psychology, social sciences with at least 3 years' experience post qualifications
2. Registration with the following associations: minimum level 2 membership with the Australian Counselling Association (ACA) Clinical membership of the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation (PACFA).
3. Experience in the delivery of evidence-based face to face and telephone clinical support services using primarily person centered and cognitive behaviour therapy, solution focused therapy, complex grief and loss counselling and other therapeutic approaches
4. Experience in promoting the safety and wellbeing of carers and their families which includes knowledge of child protection, mental health and domestic violence, evidenced by effective and relevant counselling practices
5. Experience and expertise in the provision of evidence based short term personal counselling with a population who present with a broad range of varying complexity including gender dysphoria, STI/HIV/BBV, sexual assault, suicide and AOD.
6. Preparedness to undertake flexible work hours in the provision of group work within a counselling context
7. Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the issues pertaining to the transgender, gender diverse and gender questioning community
8. Ability to liaise and work with a range of people from diverse and marginalised communities.
9. Ability to work within a small multidisciplinary team
10. Ability to respond appropriately to clients in crisis

Desirable Criteria:

1. Experience in working in a community-based organisation
2. Experience in working with diverse groups
3. Experience in facilitating or co-facilitating psycho-educational groups
4. Experience in supervising counselling students on university placements
5. Current Drivers licence
6. Understanding of issues and needs of culturally and linguistically diverse groups and emerging communities

Other Conditions:

Please provide 2 referees of the past two most recent employed positions held relevant to this job description

The successful applicant will be placed on an initial 3 month probation period

Must have a current Working with Children clearance and Criminal Record Check