

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

### Caseworker/Counsellor Speak Out Dual Diagnosis Program | Weave Youth & Community Services

<b>Position title</b>	Caseworker/Counsellor
<b>Reports to</b>	Speak Out Program Manager
<b>Program</b>	Speak Out Dual Diagnosis Program
<b>Responsible for</b>	Providing individual casework, counselling, and some group work to young people aged 12 to 28 years who are experiencing co-existing mental health and alcohol and other drug challenges
<b>Location</b>	The position is located at Weave Waterloo, located on Gadigal Land at Cnr Elizabeth and Allen Streets, Waterloo
<b>Hours</b>	Full time (5 days per week/35 hours per week) with the option of a 9 day (63 hour) fortnight if preferred
<b>Status</b>	12 month contract with the possibility of on going permanent at the end of the contract. All positions at Weave are dependant on continued funding and are subject to a 6 month probation period
<b>Award</b>	Social Community Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010 (SCHADS)
<b>Remuneration</b>	SCHADS SACS Level 4 Paypoint 1-4 depending on qualifications and experience. Weave hourly rates are above the SCHADS rates. The current Weave hourly rates for Level 4 Paypoint 1- 4 are \$48.41-\$52.09 exclusive of superannuation and annual leave loading
<b>Benefits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generous salary sacrifice</li> <li>• Above Award hourly rates based on a 35 hour week</li> <li>• Bonus paid leave days over Christmas and New Year</li> </ul>

## About Weave Youth & Community Services

[Weave Youth & Community Services](#) is a place-based community organisation located on unceded Gadigal and Bidjigal Land in Sydney, that has been delivering a range of programs, supports and services developed with and for the community for 49 years.

Weave's purpose is to empower people to change their lives, and healing and connection is at the centre of our work. Weave supports children, young people, women and families who are impacted by systemic disadvantage and intergenerational trauma. Around 70% of all those we support across Weave are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. As a non-Aboriginal controlled organisation, Weave is strongly committed to walking alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in their ongoing fight for justice and self-determination.

Our work at every level is guided by our [Aboriginal Healing Framework](#).

## Summary of the Position

The [Speak Out](#) Dual Diagnosis Program Caseworker/Counsellor provides intensive wrap-around casework, counselling, practical assistance, information and referral, education advice and support services to young people aged 12 to 28 years experiencing challenges with their mental health and AOD use. Work in a dynamic and diverse team that includes caseworkers, counsellors and a project worker. Some group work may be required and this role offers many opportunities to be involved in Weave's youth-led projects, events, groups and advocacy campaigns.

## Key Responsibilities

- Provide individual counselling and case management support to young people with complex trauma histories and complex needs, including co-existing mental health and AOD challenges.
- Support marginalised and underserved young people including: young people who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, culturally and linguistically diverse, of diverse gender and sexuality, clients and families with children, young people in contact with the criminal justice system and/or experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Ensuring the casework and counselling support you provide is done in line with "Weave's How We Do What We Do" practice framework.
- Provide referral, advocacy, information, and support services to Speak Out Program clients.
- Work from a proactive, responsive, trauma informed, strengths based, healing centred and culturally safe perspective.
- Engage in outreach service provision where required, including accompanying clients to appointments.
- Work collaboratively under a "shared care" model alongside other Weave staff and external health professionals and service providers.
- Contribute to strategic planning for the Speak Out Program and Weave in general.

- In consultation with the Speak Out Program Manager, develop Work Plans in alignment with Weave's Strategic Plan, identify your professional training and development needs in alignment with your Work Plan, and participate in training and performance appraisal as required.
- Attend regular clinical supervision as agreed upon by your Program Manager.
- Develop Care Plans with your clients and ensure these inform the work done
- Liaise with relevant networks, agencies, community members and government departments as required.
- Assist the team with supervision of student placements and volunteers when appropriate and required.
- Assist with and encourage client participation in Weave events and projects.
- Maintain up-to-date administrative and clerical records as required within the course of your work, including upkeep of client files, data base, daily client statistics, organising logistics for groups, writing reports and support letters. This includes collection and recording of Client Outcome Measure surveys and/or other data that may be required by our funding bodies.
- Provide assistance to Speak Out Project Worker for groups and events as required.
- You may be required to perform other duties as directed from time to time to suit organisational requirements and which are broadly consistent with your role.
- Additional general responsibilities and expectations of all Weave staff are outlined in the Weave Code of Conduct.

### **Selection Criteria**

1. Relevant tertiary qualification/s in Social Work, Youth Work, Social Sciences or similar.
2. Tertiary counselling qualifications demonstrating well developed counselling skills and the ability to draw upon a range of therapeutic models including Narrative Therapy; Or a professional interest in counselling and therapeutic models including Narrative Therapy and willingness to participate in counselling training.
3. Minimum two years experience in a caseworker/counselling role providing support to young people with complex trauma histories and support needs, in particular co-existing mental health and AOD issues.
4. Knowledge and understanding of relevant referral pathways to health, education, employment, recreational, cultural, housing, mental health, legal, drug and alcohol and other support services.
5. Awareness of, and sensitivity to the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples impacted by the ongoing oppressive legacies of colonisation.
6. Understanding of the importance of cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

7. Understanding and demonstrated experience of working within a trauma informed and healing centred, strength based, person centred, culturally appropriate framework.
8. Common sense and an excellent sense of humour.
9. NSW Working with Children Clearance and National Police Check.
10. NSW full unrestricted Driver's Licence.

**Desirable criteria**

1. Knowledge of service networks in the City of Sydney, Inner West, Bayside and Randwick council areas.
2. Current First Aid certificate or willingness to obtain within two months of employment.