



Location:	Various
Classification:	SCHADS Level 3
Reports To:	Team Leader, Senior AOD Clinician: Counselling & Assessment, Site Counselling or Clinical Coordinators
Direct Reports:	N/A

The Organisation

Odyssey House Victoria (OHV) is a place of hope and positive change for individuals working towards breaking their pattern of addiction. At OHV we believe that every person should have the opportunity to change and grow. Our diverse teams work with individuals, families and communities to reduce drug use, improve mental health and reconnect people to their family and the community. OHV provides community services for those whose lives have been affected by alcohol and other drugs and is partnering with Uniting Care ReGen to deliver integrated, person-centred and evidence-based treatment services as the N&W Metro AOD Service, part of the Victorian AOD sector reforms.

Position Objective

The AOD Clinician: Counselling & Assessment is responsible for conducting comprehensive assessments and providing a range of counselling interventions to assist clients and their family members to change harmful behaviours resulting from problematic alcohol and other drug use. The key purpose of the position is to reduce harms and increase a client's capacity to effectively manage the difficulties they are experiencing.

Role Responsibilities:

Working under general direction with scope to exercise initiative in the application of established procedures and methods, as well as contributing to the interpretation of matters which may have no clearly established practices, the role undertakes responsibility for the following varied activities:

Provision of treatment services

- Providing high quality engagement, assessment, treatment and support services to individuals and their families, through evidence-based, therapeutic counselling and group work.
- Conducting comprehensive assessments including:
 - Ascertaining information on substance abuse, history, mental health and risk;

- Determining if a client requires a standard or complex treatment response;
- Utilising the mandated AOD assessment tool;
- Arranging further assessments and secondary consults if required; and
- Presenting assessments at clinical review and making recommendations.
- Contributing effectively to clinical review.
- Developing treatment plans and providing effective counselling interventions and assertive referrals to meet the individual needs of clients and their families, including those with complex needs.
- Provide information, education and practical assistance to clients to help them to reduce the harms of their substance use.
- Providing clients with exit and post treatment support plans to offer them appropriate support to maintain treatment gains.
- Facilitating interim support for clients awaiting the commencement of counselling services.
- Considering the needs of and identifying any risks to vulnerable children, working with families to develop safety plans and facilitating referrals to partner Child First and Family service agents when indicated.
- Actively promoting and adhering to the OHV Child Safety policy and procedures to assist OHV to maintain a Child Safe Organisation and supporting colleagues to engage in child safe practices.
- Providing back up support to the Triage function when required.
- Preparing CISP reports

Professional liaison and consultation

- Co-ordinating with Care and Recovery and Clinical Review processes to support seamless transitions between service types and a consistent approach to supporting the achievement of clients' recovery goals.
- Consulting with other services to develop and support the provision of recovery and harm reduction orientated treatment.
- Developing and maintaining collaborative and productive working relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

Supervision and professional development

- Actively participating in ongoing professional development, individual and group supervision and relevant training as required.
- Supporting the student placement program and supervising students as requested.

Administration

- Maintaining up-to-date progress notes, case files and data entry in a confidential and professional manner.
- Contributing to the achievement of continuous quality improvement.
- Adhering to and keeping informed of relevant legislative compliance requirements, and reporting any perceived breaches, risks, hazards, incidents where relevant.
- Undertaking other duties as directed by the Supervisor and Catchment Manager.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Relevant Health, Social or Welfare related tertiary qualification and/or experience.
2. Experience in the provision of assessment and counselling services preferably with AOD or dual diagnosis clients.
3. Experience with therapeutic approaches such as: Motivational Enhancement Therapy, Cognitive Behavioural Coping Skills Training, Family Inclusive Practice, self-help groups, Community Reinforcement Approaches.
4. Demonstrated understanding of community-based interventions for reducing alcohol and drug related harm.
5. Ability to collaborate effectively with clients, families, colleagues, stakeholders and other service providers.
6. Proven ability to work with a range of people and organisations (including specific client groups such as Aboriginal, CALD and Forensic clients) in a non-judgmental and respectful manner.
7. A demonstrated commitment to teamwork and the ability to take appropriate individual and team responsibility for the welfare of clients.

Essential Requirements

- Certificate IV in AOD or have completed the required competencies (or able to complete within the first 12 months of employment).
- Competencies in dual diagnosis (or able to complete within the first 12 months of employment).
**Note: refer to Appendix A for details on competencies*
- Satisfactory outcome of a confidential Police Check and Working with Children Check. OHV is committed to child safety and is a child safe organisation
- Eligibility to work in Australia
- Empathy for those whose lives have been affected by problematic alcohol and other drug use/ and or mental health disorders
- Possession of a current Victorian Driver's License
- Information technology skills, including proficiency in Microsoft Office suite.

Desirable Requirements

- First Aid Certificate.
- Current knowledge of OH&S practices.

***Appendix A**

AOD Competencies

OHV requires people in clinical positions to have the following competencies (or their equivalent). Where people do not already have these competencies OHV will invest in the person's professional development by providing them through its RTO. The timeframe for completion of the minimum competencies is to be agreed between the manager and employee.

The competencies required are:

- **CHCAOD001** - Work in an alcohol and other drugs context
- **CHCAOD004** - Assess needs of clients with alcohol and other drugs issues
- **CHCAOD006** - Provide interventions for people with alcohol and other drugs issues
- **CHCAOD009** - Develop and review individual alcohol and other drugs treatment plans