

Counsellor and Group Worker

Western Metro Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect

About Jesuit Social Services

Jesuit Social Services is a social change organisation working to build a just society where all people can live to their full potential. We do and we influence. We accompany people and communities to foster and regenerate the web of relationships that sustain us all – across people, place and planet; and we work to change policies, practices, ideas and values that perpetuate inequality, prejudice and exclusion.

Our Vision

Building a Just Society

Our Mission

Standing in solidarity with those in need, expressing a faith that promotes justice.

Our Values

- Welcoming – forming strong, faithful relationships
- Discerning – being reflective and strategic in all we do
- Courageous – standing up boldly to effect change

Our Purpose

We work to build a just society where all people can live to their full potential – by partnering with community to support those most in need and working to change policies, practices, ideas and values that perpetuate inequality, prejudice and exclusion.

Position details

POSITION TITLE:	Counsellor and Group worker
PROGRAM:	Western Metro Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect
LOCATION:	Sunshine, on-site
REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:	This position reports to the Coordinator, Counselling and Group work
EFFECTIVE DATE:	January 2024

Position Purpose

- To deliver high quality, counselling and group work services that meet the needs of families, carers and supporters of people who are experiencing psychological distress and/or substance use issues.

Program Purpose

The Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System (2021) highlighted the important role played by families, carers and supporters in contributing to the wellbeing of people who are experiencing mental health challenges, psychological distress, mental illness, or substance use issues. To better recognise and support families, carers and supporters, Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect Centres have been established in each Victorian region.

The Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect Centres are led by the experiences of people who have lived/living experience of supporting someone with mental health challenges and/or substance use challenges. The Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect Centres provide a warm and welcoming space available to family, carers, kin and supporters of all ages and backgrounds, with no need for a referral. They provide opportunities to connect with peers along with tailored information, resources, advocacy, support (individually and group work), and access to brokerage funds through Tandem's Carer Support Fund.

Jesuit Social Services has been funded to deliver the Western Metro Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect Centre (the 'Centre'). In establishing this exciting initiative, Jesuit Social Services is committed to engaging with and employing people with a lived/living experience of support or caring for people who have a mental health and/or substance related issues.

Jesuit Social Services' Western Metro Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect Centre is contracted to deliver services two evenings a week and on Saturdays.

Duties of the position

- Deliver high quality, strengths based, trauma informed, short-medium term counselling to families and carers who access the Centre. This is offered face-to-face at the Centre, through outreach in the community, and via telehealth.
- Develop and facilitate group programs and activities across Western Melbourne that meet the wellbeing needs of carers that visit the Centre
- Deliver services after hours (the Centre is open two evenings a week until 9pm, and from 10am – 4pm on Saturdays).
- Work with the Coordinator Counselling and Group work and broader team to deliver a Centre that is welcoming, driven by the voices of carers and relevant to their needs.
- This role is based on-site in Sunshine

Key Selection Criteria

1. Relevant tertiary qualification/s and valid Victorian Drivers License (probationary minimum)
2. Experience delivering high-quality, short-term counselling and group work programs.
1. Experience working with a diverse range of participants, including individuals, families, children and carers in community and outreach environments
3. Capacity to fulfil reporting and administrative requirements associated with the position
4. Lived or living experience as a family member, carer or supporter of someone with mental health challenges, or substance use challenges is highly desirable

Key Performance Indicators

- Counselling sessions delivered
- Group programs delivered and attendance
- All data and reporting requirements met (internal and external)
- Participant feedback

Key responsibilities of Jesuit Social Services Employees

Service delivery/ Practice Framework

5. Engage and build positive and constructive relationships with internal and external stakeholders and program participants
6. Deliver services consistent with program guidelines, relevant legislation and funding agreements
7. Ability to clearly communicate with others
8. The ability to manage competing priorities in a high-volume work environment
9. Fulfil the reporting and administrative requirements associated with the position
10. Other duties as required

Team work and supervision

11. Work effectively as part of a team, contributing to group outputs and reflective practice
12. Actively participate in regular supervision with the line manager, staff meetings, reflective practice and professional development opportunities

Continuous Improvement and Professional Standards

13. A growth mindset with a commitment to own learning and development
14. Commitment to risk management and continuous quality improvement processes
15. Compliance with relevant legislation, Code of Conduct, policies and procedures of Jesuit Social Services

Diversity, inclusion and culture

16. Demonstrate respect and acceptance of diversity at all times and provide culturally appropriate support
17. Interact with staff, participants and other stakeholders in a manner that is inclusive, respectful and non-discriminatory
18. Understanding and a demonstrated capacity to provide leadership in the identity and ethos of Jesuit Social Services

Mandatory Position Requirements

19. Current National and International (where required) Police Check
20. Current Employee Working with Children Check
21. Valid and current Australian Driver's License
22. Proof of eligibility to work in Australia

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Jesuit Social Services takes child protection seriously, and you are required to meet the behavior standard outlined in our Code of Conduct.

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment are in accordance with the current Jesuit Social Services Collective Agreement and Jesuit Social Services Policy & Procedures, including the Code of Conduct.

Employee Acknowledgement

I, _____ (please print name) acknowledge that I have read and understood the contents of this position description.

Employee Signature:

Date: _____

Position Description Approved by:

**Leanne Acreman, GM Housing and
Complex Needs**

Position Description Review Date:

2 years from effective date

