



headspace

National Youth Mental Health Foundation

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Position Description

National Advisor - Clinical

Location: headspace National Office

Department: headspace in Schools

Level: EO1

Employment Type: Maximum Term, Full time

Approved By: Julia Smith

Date Approved: August 2017

Agreed By: _____

Date Agreed: _____

1. HEADSPACE PURPOSE

To build the resilience of young people and the future potential of Australia by delivering effective youth mental health services in partnership with young people, their families and their local communities.

2. HEADSPACE VALUES

It is a requirement of all **headspace** positions that work will be undertaken in line with the **headspace** values as follows:

- Innovative – We have the courage to explore new ideas and take new approaches
- Collaborative – We bring the right people together to get the best result
- Inclusive – We respect and value diversity and believe everyone counts
- Achieve – We are responsive to community needs and deliver on expectations
- Passionate – We are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of young people and their families

3. POSITION SUMMARY

The National Advisor – Clinical is responsible for providing clinical leadership and guidance across the Mental Health in Education (MHE) Service. **headspace**, as the implementation partner, will work with *beyondblue* to deliver an interactive framework of evidenced-based information, professional advice and support to primary and secondary schools. The MHE Service through continuous professional development of educators will promote optimal social and emotional

health and wellness in schools. Drawing from the experience of **headspace** School Support Service, the MHE Service provides postvention support to schools following a suicide or attempted suicide, as well supporting the school community in implementing preventative strategies.

The incumbent will work to ensure that the clinical service provided by the MHE Service is of consistently high quality and underpinned by robust clinical governance across all States and Territories, including assisting in the development of clinical evaluation and reporting and appropriate management and escalation of risk. Adopting a continuous improvement approach, the National Advisor – Clinical will lead clinical aspects of national strategic planning and will contribute to the development and implementation of clinical resources and service documentation. Furthermore, this position will provide clinical support and supervision to State/Territory managers and drive employee wellbeing initiatives within the MHE Service.

4. POSITION CONTEXT

The National Advisor – Clinical will be a qualified and experienced mental health professional, possessing considerable knowledge in youth mental health and will facilitate evidence-based and integrated health care, with the goal of improving outcomes for young people and their families. This position calls for the ability to be able to engage, liaise and negotiate with a broad range of stakeholders across the national health and education sectors, whilst displaying excellent clinical skills.

Reporting to the National Schools Operations Manager, the National Advisor – Clinical will work closely and collaboratively within the MHE leadership team to oversee the delivery and performance of clinical services for the Service. The incumbent will have regular interaction with other departments within **headspace** National Office to support effective knowledge transfer processes.

5. KEY RESPONSIBILITIES/OUTCOMES

The National Advisor – Clinical is responsible for providing clinical leadership and overseeing the clinical delivery and performance for the Mental Health in Education Service provided to Australian primary and secondary schools. This will include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Provision of high level clinical governance for national response to suicide and implementation of the MHE model.
- Ensure clinical quality and management of clinical risk across the MHE Service.
- Contribute to and lead aspects of national strategic planning and continuous program development.
- Clinical supervision of State/Territory managers and identified other staff in states/ territories as required
- Contribute to the transition of the existing **headspace** School Support program into the **headspace** in Schools program, specifically the establishment of the new MHE Service in partnership with *beyondblue*.
- Ensure high quality and consistent clinical approaches across MHE state/territory teams assisting with knowledge transfer and good practice.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of the MHE Service documentation and resources in relation to clinical policies and processes.
- Contribute to the development of protocols for national clinical data collection and reporting ensuring information is managed appropriately.
- High level interpretation and analysis of national data identifying and managing potential risks or inhibitors of service delivery.
- Assist and guide clinical evaluation strategies.
- Key contributor to the MHE employee wellbeing initiatives to reduce vicarious trauma and broader wellbeing.
- Engagement with national health stakeholders.
- Leadership of internal working parties to strengthen the evidence, program and quality of the service including Complex Case Review Processes.

- Work with state and territory managers to balance the interface between education and health.
- Provide professional development to the teams as required.
- Assist in the preparation of reports for the **headspace** Executive, Board and *beyondblue* as per the contract requirements as requested.
- Other duties consistent with the position where required and/or requested by the National Schools Operations Manager.

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

The following criteria must be met for consideration for this position:

6.1 Essential

- Approved tertiary qualifications in a relevant allied health discipline including psychology (clinical, counselling, educational, community and 4+2 or 5+1 pathways), mental health nursing, occupational therapy, social work, or counselling.
- Eligibility for membership of an appropriate professional body:
 - Psychologists, mental health nurses, and occupational therapists are required to be fully registered with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
 - Social workers are required to be eligible for full membership with the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW)
- Proven clinical leadership and team management inclusive of high level clinical supervision, staff professional development and an understanding of risk frameworks.
- Demonstrated experience with the provision of mental health care and expert knowledge of mental health issues faced by young people, indicated treatments for high prevalence disorders and the literature underpinning such approaches.
- Working knowledge of the education system and broad mental health service systems nationally and within states and territories.
- Proven ability to contribute to high level strategic planning for a service to support young people.
- Ability to demonstrate leadership in the development of integrated clinical research and evaluation for a national program.
- Exceptional interpersonal, communication and organisational skills with the ability to operate effectively at a national level and build relationships and strategic partnerships with stakeholders including key government, non-government and community partners.
- Knowledge and understanding of relevant legislation and current health/mental health policy issues in Australia.

6.2 Desirable

- Understanding and experience in suicide prevention and awareness of the associated issues.
- Demonstrated experience and understanding providing services within a National program.
- Demonstrated contribution to the body of evidence in youth mental health e.g. publications, conference delivery, committee representation.

7. POLICIES AND WORKPLACE PRACTICES

All **headspace** employees are required to acquaint themselves with the organisation's policies and procedures and to abide by them at all times.

It is expected that at all times, employees will:

- be respectful towards the organisation, colleagues, clients and the general public
- be cognisant with and uphold the objectives and philosophy of **headspace**
- act collaboratively with all colleagues
- act in a safe and responsible manner at all times