



(November 2024)

Role Description

Youth and Family Counsellor (Alcohol/Other Drugs & Mental health)

Join award-winning youth specialist organisation which has a dynamic team, professional development opportunities, flexibility, work-life balance, paid clinical supervision & salary packaging.

2Connect Youth & Community is a growing, dynamic non-profit organisation creating positive social change for young people, families, communities for 33yrs. 2Connect has been awarded NSW Youth Service of the Year 2019, NSW Outstanding Youth Participation Award 2020 & NSW Outstanding Diversity Work 2021 (highly commendable) at the NSW youth sector awards! 2Connect was also awarded as Finalist in the St George Local Business Awards 2023!

About the Role

We seek an experienced & qualified professional to deliver counselling, case management, group work & other empowering supports for young people and their families (focussing on alcohol/other drugs, mental health, school disengagement and related needs).

The role is to work as a member of the 2Connect Youth & Community team to achieve these key outcomes:

- *Improving the wellbeing, health & safety of young people, strengthen healthy relationships and family functioning, and reduce harms of alcohol & other drug use*
- *Improve the engagement of young people with family, education, work, and the community*

Position will provide outreach work in schools and locations in the target region. and is based in Brighton-le-sands which has a vibrant beachside and café-culture.

Employment Status: 35hrs pw. *Position is dependent upon funding and satisfactory performance*

Responsible to: *The position is responsible to the Client Services Team Lead (and ultimately to the CEO/Board)*

This role description forms part of the contract with the employee, in conjunction with the service Policies & Procedures, employee job contract & other relevant guidelines, including funding guidelines such as NSW Health guidelines & requirements, Operational Requirements and Performance Indicators. Employment is dependent upon satisfactory performance and KPIs.

Key Responsibilities and Duties

1) Direct Client Support

1.1 Plan and deliver direct client work to improve mental health & wellbeing outcomes for young people (focussed on the areas of Bayside, Georges River, Sutherland, Canterbury). Provide direct support for young people aged 10-25

and parents/family members, for concerns such as alcohol & other drugs, mental health and other concerns eg. family conflict, educational disengagement, healthy relationships.

1.2 Provide counselling, case management, family support & other empowering supports for young people aged 10 - 25 years old (and their families) to improve their mental health and wellbeing, and to reduce their risk of experiencing, harm from alcohol and other drug use or related issues. This includes intake, assessment, therapeutic and practical support, developing life skills & goals, information, mediation, mentoring, advocacy, appropriate referrals and follow-up.

1.3 Undertake assessment, information, negotiating and following up case plans, therapeutic and practical support, mentoring, developing life skills and goals, advocacy, family support, referrals, leaving care plans, and other appropriate support as required.

1.4 Work in collaboration with schools and other services to provide holistic support for clients

1.5 Organise and/or facilitate group work programs, such as skills development, psychoeducational groups, and other support groups for at-risk young people and/or parents / family members, according to local community needs

1.6 Support diverse identifies and cultures, including young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds/refugee backgrounds, First Nation's young people, LGBTIQ+ young people and young people with disabilities

1.7 Support clients by providing outreach model of support at various locations in the region such as in local schools (accessible support). This includes the areas of Bayside, Georges River, Sutherland & surrounds.

2) Community development and health promotions

2.1 Promote projects to (& maintain sustainable links/ networks with) schools, services & communities. including points of referral and access for clients..

2.2 Other community capacity building activities, including advocacy & representation of the issues/needs of the target group, & participation in collaborative capacity building projects with other services & team members, and acting as a source of current information on mental health and alcohol/ other drugs, and associated issues, for other services, workers and the local community

3) Project Administration

3.1 Maintain accurate records including:

- Confidential and appropriate client case notes
- Client statistics and outcomes for research and evaluation purposes
- Administrative requirements as per Administration policies and systems such as travel expenses, timesheets, leave forms, financial transactions etc.

3.2 Participate in service meetings such as staff team meetings, Supervision/case review meetings

3.3 Participate as a team member with the client service team, and also with other 2Connect team members, including with planning/ evaluation processes

3.4 Provide Project Reports to the Management and funding body

3.5 Meet outcomes and KPIs as required

3.6 Participate in and comply with Work Health & Safety, Quality assurance system and all other policies and procedures

3.7 Attend training and professional development courses as required

3.8 Undertake other relevant duties as directed by the Management

Selection Criteria

ESSENTIAL criteria:

- Minimum 4years paid experience in counselling/case management practice (using evidence-based interventions), including experience with intervention to alcohol/other drugs and mental health concerns
- Skills/experience in direct support to young people at risk aged 10 -25 & their families, including working with young people who are culturally and linguistically diverse, First Nation's young people, young people with disabilities and LGBTIQ+ youth

- Skills/experience in designing & implementing psychoeducational group work, including ability to address specific needs for youth at risk such as drug harm prevention, mental health, and related needs
- Relevant tertiary qualification in social/human services (degree level), with clinical & other subjects relevant to the position
- Strong ability & commitment to teamwork, including ability to build strong engagement with internal and external stakeholders, an ability to work independently (whilst maintaining accountability)
- Excellent organisational, administrative and communication skills, including IT literacy
- Commitment to social justice principles
- NSW drivers licence & own comprehensively insured car able to be used for work

Salary & Conditions

- **Excellent Salary package includes base salary and Salary packaging option, plus super**
- Conditions of employment covered by the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010 (Federal modern award) Level 5.
- Salary package includes base salary including \$18,549pa of salary able to be salary packaged (provided tax-free).
- 2Connect promotes a strong work/life balance, has a collaborative team environment, has an Employee Assistance Program, and is a flexible and understanding workplace.
- Clinical paid external supervision is offered for this role
- All applicants must submit their Resume & statement addressing each essential & desirable criteria (using the 'How to Apply' guide in the information package).

2Connect is committed to child safety and wellbeing, and to the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. This is a Child-Related position and it is a legal requirement that the successful applicant must hold a current Working with Children Check clearance prior to commencement of employment, under the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012. Information on the 'Working with Children Check' may be obtained from the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian web-site at www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au A National Criminal Record police check will also be required, as well as Covid vaccination (or approved medical exemption)