



WESTERN REGION HEALTH CENTRE LTD

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position:	Project Worker, 'Building Consumers In' Project
Location:	215 Nicholson St, Footscray and PARC, 54 Burnside St, Deer Park. <i>(However the position may be required to work from any of the Centre's sites).</i>
Job Status:	3 month contract position at 0.8EFT (30.4 hours per week)
Conditions of employment:	SACS Award
Authority re Appointment:	General Manager, Community Services and Integration
Reports To:	Program Manager, Community Mental Health Program and Steering Committee

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Western Region Health Centre (WRHC) has significant mental health services funded under the Victorian State Psychiatric Disability Rehabilitation Support Services (PDRSS) and Commonwealth Government Initiatives.

These services are provided by WRHC to the Cities of Maribyrnong, Hobson Bay, Wyndham, Brimbank, Melton and Hume. A holistic approach to service delivery underpins WRHC mental health services. This encompasses all aspects of health including physical health and well being, oral health, access to safe secure housing, education and employment. Community mental health services at WRHC work with people who have experienced mental health issues and require support to restore their sense of identity, life roles, life goals and supportive relationships. The people we support may be homeless or in insecure accommodation, socially isolated, and at various stages in their recovery.

Our community mental health program provides a comprehensive and integrated range of mental health services across the western metropolitan region which comprises home-based outreach, day programs, youth residential rehabilitation, prevention & recovery care, and personal helpers and mentors provided in a framework of consumer participation, rehabilitation and recovery.

WRHC encourages and supports consumer and community involvement at all levels within the Centre. A key mechanism is through our *Consumer Participation Advisory Committee* that includes our CEO and consumer consultants. In addition the Centre employs consumer consultants and consumer mental health workers who are actively supported and mentored in their roles. Our consumer mental health workers have professional qualifications and/or are completing these and work as part of teams in the delivery of integrated mental health service provision.

POSITION OBJECTIVE

Over the past two years the Community Mental Health Services at Western Region Health Centre have grown significantly. These services now span ten sites and utilise the following service models:

- Outreach
- Structured Group Programs (Day Programs, Day to Day Living)
- Youth Residential Rehabilitation,
- Prevention & Recovery Care

WRHC has a proud history of encouraging and supporting consumer involvement at all levels within the Centre. A key mechanism is through our *Consumer Participation Advisory Committee* that includes our CEO and consumer consultants. In addition the Centre employs client liaison workers and consumer mental health workers who are actively supported and mentored in their roles.

Following the recent growth in mental health services, WRHC would like to evaluate its current mechanisms for ensuring consumer participation processes are built into our mental health services.

The 'Building Consumers In' Project Worker will take a key role in this evaluation. The Project Worker will work with a project steering committee comprised of: Program Manager, Community Mental Health (Southwest); Client Liaison Officer; Consumer Research Consultant and the WRHC Research consultant. The project workers role will be in designing the evaluation (in collaboration with the committee), conducting the evaluation including survey and focus groups and writing up the project report.

POSITION REPORTING:

The Project Worker reports to the Program Manager, Community Health Southwest and to the Building Consumers In Project Steering Group.

KEY SELECTION REQUIREMENTS (Mandatory):

Skills/Competencies:

- Relevant qualification
- Commitment and passion to develop the consumer perspective within mental health services and to ensuring the consumer voice is heard and recognised.
- Understanding of the Recovery model and principles of social inclusion, which underpin WRHC community mental health service.
- Understanding of the necessity to involve and consult with consumers and colleagues in the development and implementation of programs and services.
- Experience in designing evaluation and research projects.
- Experience in working with a range of stakeholders to complete a project.
- Experience in conducting focus groups
- Excellent writing skills
- High level of time-management skill and ability to work to a deadline.
- Presentation skills (incl. powerpoint)

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

General Organisational Requirements

- Promote and represent the Centre as a caring, professional, and client-focused organisation, and its range of primary health and social support services.
- Adhere to Workplace Health Safety and Well Being standards within the organisation.

- Participate in the identification of risks to the program and organisation.
- Adhere to all Centre policies and procedures.

Commitment to the philosophy of Western Region Health Centre

- Commitment to the philosophy expressed in the centre’s vision, goals and values statements.
- Commitment to work within a community focused whole of population health approach, recognising the importance of providing a medical model within a holistic health response.
- Commitment to working within a service that includes prioritising of marginalised communities.
- Commitment to providing services in a manner that is sensitive to the cultural background of clients.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

- **Employer:** WRHC is an equal opportunity employer.
- **Wages and conditions:** SACS Award
- **Salary Packaging:** Attractive salary packaging is available in accordance with organisation policy.
- **Hours of Work:** 30.4 hours per week (0.8EFT)
- **Pre-Existing Condition Declaration:** Prior to any person being appointed to this position it will be required that they disclose full details of any pre-existing injuries or disease that might be affected by employment in this position.
- **Proof of Right to Work in Australia:** Documentation that proves the right to work in Australia will be required prior to appointment.
- **Police Check:** A pre-employment police check is mandatory for all new employees.
- **Working with Children Check:** Appointment to the position will be subject to a satisfactory Working with Children Check.
- **Probation:** Probation period of three (3) months.
- **Voluntary Departure Package (VDP):** Recipients of Voluntary Departure Package (VDP) are ineligible to apply.
- **Immunisation:** Employees are requested to comply with the Centre’s policy on staff immunisation.
- **Further information:** Contact Muriel Cummins, Program Manager, Community Mental Health on phone 8390 3400 on phone or email: murielc@wrhc.com.au

Employee signature: _____

Employee name: _____ Date: _____

Manager signature: _____

Manager name: _____ Date: _____