

# VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICE

Position Title: Location: Employment Status: Reports To:

Psychologist Preston 12-month contract Family Counselling Manager

# About the Organisation

The Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) was established in 1973 to address the specific medical needs of Victorian Aboriginal communities. The organisation has expanded steadily over past 40 years to provide a comprehensive range of medical, dental and social services for our community.

As well as providing a variety of medical services, VAHS is committed to supporting the well-being of the community through contributions to community events and activities. VAHS is also committed to assisting research into the ongoing needs of the community.

VAHS is a child safe organization.

## **About the Opportunity**

The role of the Psychologist is to provide culturally-sensitive assessment and comprehensive psychological therapy and interventions to referred Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander adult clients experiencing a range of issues including psychological issues, relationship challenges, alcohol and/or drug use issues, and/or disruptions to their social emotional wellbeing.

### **Key Selection Criteria**

To be considered for this role you must have the following;

#### Knowledge

- Demonstrated appreciation and understanding of, and sensitivity to Aboriginal cultural values and approaches to mental health and community conceptualisations of social, emotional and psychological well-being.
- Demonstrated understanding of a holistic approach to mental health.

#### Experience

- A minimum of three years' experience working as a registered psychologist.
- A broad range of experience working in clinical settings as a mental health clinician with adults. Including experience in assessing and treating adults with complex mental health issues, comorbid AOD use issues and trauma histories.
- A high-level of competence and experience in assessing and responding to risk issues i.e. suicidality, self-harm and harm to others.
- Experience in providing supervisory support to mental health staff (desirable).

#### Skills

- Strong skills and ability to work with people who have experienced trauma, particularly complex trauma issues.
- Well-developed skills in the theory and application of a range of counselling and treatment orientations.
- High level of interpersonal skills and demonstrated ability to successfully engage with clients, their carers, extended family members, members of the general community and other involved professionals.
- Ability to work in close collaboration in multidisciplinary team which includes Aboriginal health workers, AOD workers, outreach workers and other counselling staff.
- Capacity to work well under pressure and develop flexible solutions to complex issues.

# **Qualifications, Licenses and Registrations**

- Registration as a Psychologist under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act
- Hold a current Medicare Benefits Scheme Billing provider number (or eligibility to obtain registration).

## How to Apply

Applications can be submitted to: Employment@vahs.org.au before Sunday 11pm, 30 August 2020. Request for position description can be made via employment@vahs.org.au.