



**VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL  
HEALTH SERVICE**  
*Caring for the Community*

## **Aboriginal Youth Justice Mental Health Clinician**

- A supportive workplace that will help you to develop your skills further
- Not for profit Salary Packaging available

### **About the Organisation**

The Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) was established in 1973 to address the specific medical needs of Victorian Aboriginal communities. 2023 marked a landmark year as VAHS proudly celebrated its 50-year of providing a comprehensive range of medical, dental, allied health 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 organisation, committed to child safety and wellbeing, and recruits' staff in accordance with the Child Safe Standards Victoria.

### **About the Opportunity**

The aim of this position is to improve and provide a better mental health care response to youth justice clients by supporting a range of Aboriginal-specific and mainstream services in their work with relevant clients.

It is a specialist senior clinical role focusing on enhancing the ability of community-based Youth Justice clients to access appropriate and timely mental health services.

### **Key responsibilities**

- Provide an efficient and effective support process with the aim of referring young people appropriately.
- Improve access to culturally appropriate and safe mental health services for Aboriginal clients of the youth justice system.
- Provide advice and guidance to the Youth Justice Mental Health initiative, more broadly regarding the complexity associated with Aboriginal youth forensic presentations.
- Develop systems and networks to better support Aboriginal health service providers and primary health care providers to respond to the mental health/SEWB needs of Aboriginal young people involved with the youth justice program.
- Provide and promote information, support and referral services to young people, their families and networks.
- Undertake consultation with relevant networks and agencies to develop a work plan that will identify a range of activities to ensure that young Aboriginal people who are clients of

the Youth Justice Program receive mental health services that are culturally appropriate and responsive to their needs.

- Develop significant relationships with a range of Aboriginal community-controlled agencies – especially those with an Aboriginal youth justice worker, the Youth Justice program, Koori Youth Justice program (statewide), as well as child, youth and adult mental health services.

### **Key Selection Criteria**

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

- The capability and engagement to understand the philosophy and principles of Aboriginal Community Control and transforming it into practice.
- Demonstrated capability to achieve the key responsibilities.
- An understanding of services provided by the justice system, local community mental health network, mainstream health services, and mental health services.
- Knowledge of the principles of case management with the ability to utilise a range of assessments and interventions relevant to the background and needs of the young person.
- A passion for contributing to the rehabilitation of young people in the justice system.
- The ability to gather information through assessment and formulate findings and recommendations utilising strong report writing skills.
- A strong sense of personal accountability, resilience and emotional intelligence.
- Demonstrated experience in effective case management practices with complex youth.
- Excellent verbal communication skills and confidence in dealing with young people exhibiting challenging behaviours.
- Comply with all legal requirements pertaining to the position including responsibility for maintaining current registration as required by your professional organisation or other applicable Acts.
- Ability to develop, implement and evaluate client-centred individual service plans, risk assessments and diagnostic formulations.
- Demonstrated interpersonal and communication skills (written and verbal) as well as abilities in problem solving and negotiation.
- Ability to participate in policy and service development within the program and in continuous quality improvement through ongoing evaluation of services delivered to clients.

### **How to Apply**

Please send your application, which must include a cover letter, resume and responses to the selection criteria, via [employment@vahs.org.au](mailto:employment@vahs.org.au) before Wednesday 9pm, 1 January 2025.