

Aboriginal Youth Justice Clinician

- For this position, preference may be given to persons of **Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander descent** (as permitted under The Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 2010 s12: “A person may take a special measure for the purpose of promoting or realizing substantive equality for members of a group with a particular attribute”).
- 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 50th 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

The aim is to provide an efficient and effective support process to appropriately refer young people, with a focus on improving access to culturally appropriate and safe mental health services for Aboriginal clients within the youth justice system. The role involves offering advice and guidance to the Youth Justice Mental Health initiative, specifically regarding the complexities of Aboriginal youth forensic presentations. Additionally, it includes developing systems and networks to better support Aboriginal health service providers and primary health care providers in addressing the mental health and Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) needs of Aboriginal young people involved with the youth justice program. The work also involves providing and promoting information, support, and referral services to young people, their families, and networks. Consultation with relevant networks and agencies is crucial to developing a work plan that identifies activities ensuring Aboriginal youth involved in the Youth Justice Program receive mental health services that are culturally appropriate and responsive. Finally, establishing significant relationships with a range of Aboriginal community-controlled agencies, including those with Aboriginal youth justice workers, the Youth Justice program, the Koori Youth Justice program (statewide), and child, youth, and adult mental health services is essential for effective support.

Prerequisites

Essential:

- Tertiary qualifications and experience in a relevant discipline such as Social Work, Psychology or other allied health disciplines.
- A minimum of 5 years' experience in clinical practice within the mental health field, including young people experiencing mental health disorders

How to Apply

Please send your application, which must include a cover letter and curriculum vitae, via employment@vahs.org.au before Sunday 9pm, 8 June 2025.