

Position Description



**Alannah & Madeline
Foundation**

Keeping children safe from violence

Position title:	Senior Children's Therapeutic Practitioner
Department:	Programs, Children Ahead
Reports to:	Manager, Children Ahead Program
Job type:	Part Time (3 days per week), 12 month contract
Date:	October 2018

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Alannah & Madeline Foundation was set up in memory of Alannah and Madeline Mikac, aged six and three, who were tragically killed with their mother and 32 others at Port Arthur, Tasmania, on 28 April 1996. In memory of his daughters, Walter Mikac and a small group of volunteers set up the Foundation with the belief that all children should have a safe and happy childhood without being subjected to violence. The then Prime Minister launched the Foundation on 30 April 1997. The Foundation:

- identifies issues that adversely affect the wellbeing of children; we work to help them recover and protect them from bullying and violence.
- works across the spectrum of prevention and care to deliver state-of-the-art, evidence-based programs and products.
- works with the best minds to identify and reduce significant threats to children's safety through innovation and partnerships.
- speaks out on the need for systemic change to build a supportive and safe society.

The Foundation is committed to Child Safety. Our Child Safe Policy outlines our safe practices for children. Our values are Caring, Friendliness, Respect, Responsibility, Valuing Difference and Including Others.

POSITION IN CONTEXT

Reporting to the Manager, Children Ahead Program, the Children's Therapeutic Practitioner is responsible for the delivery of therapy and case management to children who have experienced trauma or violence. This is a sole position and is based in Wangaratta, co-located with another agency. Provision of support and supervision to the position will be provided monthly by the Manager of Children Ahead in either Wangaratta or in Melbourne. Other occasional travel to Melbourne may be required such as attendance at training or planning meetings.

The Children Ahead program helps children by focusing on what they need to recover from traumatic events or violent circumstances. The program provides a dual service to children, offering both a comprehensive case management service and strengths-based counselling to promote resilience and recovery. The Children Ahead Program works collaboratively with relevant agencies to make sure children who are suffering the effects of violence, and their families, have the community connections needed for immediate and long term support.

Position Description cont.



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FREEDOM TO ACT

- Recommendations for change should be approved by relevant Manager/s in order to ensure alignment with overall operational needs
- The Children's Therapeutic Practitioner works according to the policies and procedures of the Alannah & Madeline Foundation.

MAJOR JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provision of individual therapeutic support and case management to children within the program to promote their recovery from the effects of experiences of trauma and/or violence.
- Provide efficient, professional case work consisting of intake, assessment, service provision, referral, review and closure including:
 - Holistic, trauma-informed case work incorporating child-centred, family focused interventions;
 - Collaborative goal setting and case planning;
 - Conducting assessments using a variety of child and family assessment tools
- Foster collaborative relationships with key stakeholders, including Victim Assistance Program agencies, schools, allied health professionals & Department of Health & Human Services;
- Maintain accurate and up to date client management and statistical records
- Participate in regular supervision and Children Ahead team meetings;
- Ensure skills and knowledge of research and clinical practice relating to children and violence, resilience and recovery are at cutting edge;
- Ensure up to date and accurate knowledge of relevant services available to Foundation clients;
- Proactively contribute to program development.
- Adherence to relevant Program Policies and Procedures, as well as with legislation relevant to working with children and families.
- Other tasks as directed by the Program Manager, Children Ahead Program, Head of Care, CEO and Senior Leadership team.

KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND REQUIREMENTS

- An appropriate tertiary qualification in social welfare such as Social Work or Psychology, with eligibility for membership of professional organisation (i.e. AASW or APS) or other qualifications suitable for practice in the child and family welfare field.
- Experience in providing high quality, complex case management to children, youth and families in the context of violence or abuse and trauma, including a range of comprehensive assessment, case planning and intervention tools with strong client outcomes focus.
- Proven ability to work autonomously, use initiative and seek advice where appropriate, including the willingness and ability to work independently at an offsite location whilst maintaining high levels of communication with supervisor and team members.
- Experience in delivering clinical services to vulnerable children and young people;
- Demonstrated knowledge of best practice models and theories relating to children, families, trauma and violence or abuse.

Position Description *cont.*



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- Demonstrated commitment to a child-centred, family focused, and strengths-based approach; ability to apply risk management approaches within the context of child and family casework.
- Excellent organisational skills (time management, thoroughness, efficiency) and verbal/written communication skills.
- Proven ability to problem solve creatively and work as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Proven ability in networking, service promotion and fostering collaborative relationships with relevant agencies.
- Holds a current drivers licence and willingness and ability to use own vehicle (appropriate reimbursement of expenses provided).
- Working With Children Check and Police Check.