POSITION DESCRIPTION

Case Worker – Family Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classification</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organisation

The name Wathaurong (Wadda-Wurrung) is a recognised tribe (community) which consisted of some 25 clans (family groups) that formed part of the Kulin Nation of Aboriginal people.

The traditional boundaries of the Wathaurong people span the coastline from the Werribee River to Lorne peninsula and traverse inland in a north westerly direction towards Ballarat. The Wathaurong people have lived within these regions for more than 25,000 years.

As custodians of the Wathaurong lands, we are committed to working together to provide a secure future for our community by upholding the dignity of our ancestors; respecting our Elders and instilling a sense of cultural pride and belonging for our children and children’s children.

The Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative Ltd was formed by the community in 1978 and registered in 1980, to support the social, economic, and cultural development of Aboriginal people, particularly within the Geelong and surrounding areas.

The Co-operative provides a range of services including; family and community services, support to young people, justice support services; cultural heritage services, and health services. From time to time the organisation also undertakes special projects and economic development opportunities.

The Co-operative expanded to include a Community Controlled Health Service, which contributes toward addressing the inequality in health status of Aboriginal people. The Wathaurong Health Service supports the general wellbeing of Aboriginal people by providing holistic health care with clinical and primary care services as well as health promoting activities. Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative Ltd is the largest employer of Aboriginal people within the Geelong region.
Position Description: Case Worker – Family Services

Position Objective

In accordance with the overall case planning direction for a child, young person or family, this role follows best practice to provide and support better outcomes for clients through the coordination of cases across programs within the Family Services Department.

Key Responsibilities

- Manage a portfolio of cases within the Family Services Team across relevant programs including Kinship Care, Targeted Care Packages, Aboriginal Stronger Families, Family Reunification Orders and other programs as directed based on the case load of the department.
- Working within the guidelines and frameworks for the appropriate case type, develop and revise case plans and liaise with appropriate stakeholders and service providers to implement plans and identify and facilitate access for clients to appropriate services.
- Provide client support in court related matters including conciliation, appearances, and reports.
- Facilitate events for children and carers in the Kinship program.
- Supporting and supervising access between children in Out of Home Care and their families.
- Develop and maintain positive professional relationships with relevant internal and external stakeholders in order to provide holistic care and services to families and children.
- Contribute to permanent care panels and provide supporting information regarding suitability of permanent care placements.
- Undertake administrative requirements for cases using internal and external reporting systems; including case reviews, record keeping, and spend management.
- Other reasonable duties as directed by the manager to support and achieve team objectives.

Key Performance Indicators

- Case management is delivered successfully within the legislative requirements of the Child Safety and Children, Youth and Families Acts (CYFA) 2005 and any other Best Practice program guidelines as relevant to the case type.
- Responsibilities are met in line with organisational policies and procedures, and contribute to relevant goals and objectives of the organisational strategy.
- All relevant immediate and ongoing needs of children and families are being met with culturally appropriate supports and services through effective case management.
- Role demonstrates continuous quality improvement and risk management as identified and measured through organisational processes.
- Role undertakes any organisational and position-specific training and accreditation required.
- Internal and external reporting and record management obligations are met to an appropriate standard in a timely manner.
- Role contributes to the health, safety and wellbeing of all employees and clients by reporting risks, hazards, and incidents and maintaining awareness of emergency procedures.
- Role contributes to the cultivation of positive organisational and team environments that are supportive of culture, equality, and diversity.
Position Description: Case Worker – Family Services

Key Selection Criteria

- Relevant qualification (or working toward) in Community Services, Social Work, Psychology, or related area and/or experience providing support services to families and young children
- Demonstrated understanding of challenges which may affect an Aboriginal families’ ability to provide safe and adequate parenting to their children
- Demonstrated understanding of interfamilial relationships within indigenous families, and how these can support or impede the development and care of a child
- Excellent interpersonal skills with ability to develop positive stakeholder relationships and communicate with diverse individuals in a culturally appropriate manner
- Ability to demonstrate resilience and work in challenging and high-pressured environments
- Strong written communication skills including a high level of accuracy, record keeping, and report writing abilities
- Ability to work effectively and cooperatively as part of a team and follow processes
- Current Victorian Drivers Licence
- Current Working With Children Check

Employment Eligibility

Appointments are subject to satisfactory completion of relevant screening checks.
This role is open to applicants from throughout the community. Candidates who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander are encouraged to enquire or apply for this roles.

Wathaurong’s Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Wathaurong is committed to providing a child safe environment. We have zero tolerance of any abuse or maltreatment of children. We are committed to ensuring children and young people are able to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

We understand our legal and moral obligations to treat any child safety concerns seriously. We report any allegations and wellbeing concerns to authorities.