

Position Description

AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs) Clinician Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program (DATP)

Position summary

Reporting to the Clinical Lead, the Clinician's role involves providing immediate trauma-informed and person-centred care to participants. They also support Case Managers and Peer Workers at the hub and manage day to day operational needs.

The Clinician facilitates therapeutic relationships with participants and supports understanding of the mental health alcohol and other drugs and suicide prevention reform. The role assesses treatment needs, develops, monitors and evaluates treatment plans and progress. They provide one on one counselling and work with other staff to facilitate groups providing training in psychoeducation, harm minimisation, process groups and relapse prevention.

The aim of the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program (DATP) is to achieve improved health and social outcomes for individuals, families, and communities at risk of, or currently affected by, problematic alcohol and other drug use. It supports people at all stages from early intervention to relapse prevention. This stepped care model is available to people aged 12 years or older with or without mental health conditions.

The role operates primarily onsite from a hub and a vehicle is available from a central location for work in the community. The role requires availability to work on some public holidays on a rostered basis.

The Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Alcohol and Other Drugs (MHSPAOD) hubs and services offer integrated mental health, psychosocial and AOD supports across the North Coast region.

Organisational relationships

Direct reports: AOD Case Manager(s), AOD Peer Worker

Internal and external relationships

Internal relationships involve team and staff engagement and collaboration

External relationships may include mental health service providers, alcohol, and other drugs organisations, LHD (Local Health District), HNC (Healthy North Coast,) and NGO's, families and carers, health professionals, clinicians, GP's, agents for housing, and the broader community.

Responsibilities	Outcomes
Provide assessment and individual care plans	
Identify and support participants and provide guidance on the program	New participants are supported and given information about the program, and if required provided with individual care plans.
	Appropriate specialist psychosocial/ psychometric assessments are utilised depending on needs.
	A calm, safe, friendly, and welcoming space to participants, families and carers is created.
	Safety plans are created as appropriate.
	There is evidence of participant-led decision makings on location of service provision either at hubs, in the community or other locations.
	Risk mitigation principles are applied for any meetings.
Provide Brief Interventions and safety planning	
Engage participants, build trust and rapport, and identify current levels of distress.	Discussions are had with participants about what is working, supports, achievements, reflections, and harm minimisation to support relapse prevention.
	Employ supportive techniques and interventions with participants as required (e.g., de-escalation and grounding exercises, mindfulness to manage distress and maintain mental wellbeing).
	Effective relationships are established with participants that encourage self-determination
	Crisis intervention techniques are utilised.
	There is an increase in insight and awareness regarding substance use and motivation toward behavioural change.
Provide Counselling Support	
Use appropriate counselling techniques to meet participant needs.	Supportive counselling techniques are facilitated using evidence-based principles such as Motivational Interviewing, Psychoeducation, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Dialectical Behavioural Therapy, Solution focussed therapy, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Compassion Focused Therapy, Schema Therapy, and Mindfulness.
	Appropriate Counselling techniques are tailored to individuals needs and preferences.
	Participants have one on one counselling and support sessions on a regular basis in alignment with their treatment plan.
	With participant consent, family, carers, and advocates of participants receive one on one evidence-based interventions.

Responsibilities	Outcomes
Provide a highly professional, ethical, and respectful standard of service to participants.	Feedback from participants indicated that the relationship is respectful and professional.
Group Facilitation	
Facilitate group sessions.	Group facilitation is provided to participants to cover areas such as relapse prevention, psychoeducation, life skills, stress management, harm minimisation reviews and dialogue and process groups.
	There is active participation in delivering 1 x 4-week mid-level intensive day group rehabilitation in the local hub each year.
	A range of group-work modules are utilised in areas such as coping strategies, healthy relationships, nutrition, boundaries, self-care, and wellbeing.
Manage the transition of participants after the program.	Transitional support is offered for relapse prevention.
	Transfer of care is ensured when closing care of a participant to other stakeholders for follow up.
Staff management and roster support	
Provide support, education, and direction to hub workers.	Responsibilities are delegated to staff in line with their experience and capacity.
	Staff are empowered to take responsibility for their own roles in accordance with policy and procedures.
	Employee contribution is encouraged to promote efficiency and job satisfaction.
	Leave is managed to ensure there is adequate support available to facilitate groups and maintain the program.
	Transparent communication is provided so absent staff are appropriately informed of organisational needs from meetings.
	Appraisals are carried out with the support of the Clinical Lead.
Practical Support	
Ensure welfare and safety of participants	Ensure that anyone attending the hub signs the appropriate Sign in Sheet
	All participants and guests are welcomed and provided with an overview of the service.
	The participants' welfare and safety is ensured through following guidelines, policies, and procedures.
	The confidentiality of participants, including their presence in the program, remains confidential to outside enquiries.

Responsibilities	Outcomes
Safeguard buildings and property	Offices are locked and computers logged off at end of opening hours.
	The site is kept in a clean and well-presented state.
Act as Community Connectors through networking and representation	
Develop and maintain referral pathways.	There is active networking with external service providers to produce the best outcomes for participants.
Actively liaise with relevant agencies and other service providers, regarding participant progress and participation.	Relevant agencies are provided with appropriate information to support the participant and grant them access to services they need.
Attend interagency and Buttery networking groups as directed.	Interagency, consortia, committee and advisory meetings are attended as appropriate.
Team Support	
Participate in peer and clinical supervision processes	There is adequate preparation and active participation in peer and clinical supervision.
Manage vicarious trauma and professional boundaries and burn out.	Engagement with regular team and individual Clinical Supervision or EAP (Employee Assistance Program) is utilised, and the Clinical Lead is notified if additional support is required.
Participate in informal and formal case conferences, staff meetings and planned meetings.	There is active contribution and leadership displayed during meetings to reach key program and clinical decisions.
Work autonomously and as part of a team	A strong work ethic, respect, punctuality, and commitment to service is demonstrated to ensure all team members are well supported.
	Assigned tasks are carried out in a timely manner.
Reporting and Data Entry	
Provide timely reports as required	Participant records are maintained in alignment with legislation.
	Data entry of occasions of service to RediCASE is completed.
Provide support and referral information	Care Plans are developed in collaboration with participants.
	Referral information, transfer of care documents and care plans are supplied as appropriate.
General	
Be compliant with WHS (Work Health and Safety) requirements and take reasonable care to ensure your own safety and health and that of others. Abide by their duty of care provided for in the legislation. Ensure you do not place others at risk by any act or omission. Ensure	There is demonstrated compliance with WHS requirements to ensure a safe and healthy workplace. This includes abiding by the non-smoking directive at Buttery locations and any pandemic directives.
	Any injury, hazards or illness are reported immediately, where practical, to your manager/coordinator.

you do not interfere with safety equipment.	
Take an active role in building your resilience and preventing psychological injury. Take reasonable care for your health and safety and that of others who may be affected by your conduct.	The importance of wellbeing and self-care as a part of resilience is acknowledged. Strategies are implemented to maintain personal wellness and resilience. Clinical supervision or other supports are utilised, when needed.
Be compliant with codes, guidelines, policies, procedures, legislation, and Standards and proactively engage with Buttery continuous quality improvement.	Codes, guidelines, policies, procedures, legislation, Standards, and quality improvement processes are adhered to at all times. Changes and improvements are supported. All mandatory training programs and team meetings are attended.
Support an environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying and model appropriate standards of professional behaviour in the workplace.	Interactions with colleagues, participants, and stakeholders are undertaken in a courteous manner. Cultural and linguistic diversity is taken into consideration. There is positive feedback from others regarding your interactions.
Other duties relevant to the role as requested by the Clinical Lead.	

Selection criteria

Qualifications and checks

- Tertiary qualifications or higher in Counselling, Mental Health Nursing, Social Work or Psychology. Registration with PACFA, APHRA, AASW or ACA is desirable.
- Current and valid Driver's Licence with an ability to undertake regular travel around the Northern Rivers region.
- A satisfactory Criminal Record Check and Working with Children Check
- Current COVID-19 vaccination and First Aid certificate

Professional skills and experience

- Demonstrated experience in delivery of AOD, mental health and suicide prevention services
- Demonstrated experience providing trauma-informed care and counselling for persons with complex support needs
- Demonstrated experience facilitating groups.
- Demonstrated experience managing staff.
- Established networks and relationships with a with a range of referral services across the local community.
- Demonstrated proficiency using the Microsoft suite, a variety of databases and video conferencing tools such as zoom.
- Demonstrated commitment to cultural diversity, equal employment opportunity, legislative compliance and workplace health and safety.

Interpersonal skills

- Strong communication skills and the ability to collaborate as part of a team.
- Ability to work autonomously and use time effectively.
- A reasonable level of resilience to manage psychosocial demands, complex clinical issues, and exposure to participants in crisis.
- Self-reflective with the ability to review own work practices and maintain boundaries.

Agreement

These conditions of employment, your duties and location may be varied by The Buttery during the term of your employment. The position description duties are to read in conjunction with the terms and conditions that form your contract of employment.

I accept and agree to the duties in this position description. I understand and agree to abide by the terms and conditions stipulated.

Signature _____

Name _____ Date _____