

POSITION DESCRIPTION

HNELHD - Early Career Social Worker - Rural Generalist

Our CORE values
Collaboration Openness Respect Empowerment



Organisation	NSW Health
Local Health District / Agency	Hunter New England Local Health District
Position Classification	Social Worker Lvl 1, Social Worker Lvl 2
State Award	NSW Health Service Health Professionals (State) Award
Category	Allied Health Social Worker
Website	www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

PRIMARY PURPOSE

Provide social work services for patients in a rural setting, while learning the skills of rural practice. The Social Worker will provide services across various clinical areas and facilities based on service need. It is a development position targeting those early in their career, with build in time for learning, project work and supervision from more senior rural Social Workers.

COVID-19 VACCINATION COMPLIANCY

The Public Health (COVID-19 Vaccination of Health Care Workers) Order 2021 commenced on 26 August 2021. The Order establishes mandatory requirements for health staff and persons working in health settings to be vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine. Mandatory COVID-19 vaccination will now be required for all NSW Health staff.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Must hold as a minimum a bachelor degree in social work which provides eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers. And have graduated within the last 3 years.

Eligibility to drive in NSW

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Provide patient centred care and clinical advice to patients/consumers, their families/carers and other health care professionals to ensure delivery of innovative clinical practice models and therapeutic techniques.

Communicate and liaise with other community partners/carers and services providers to ensure seamless continuum of care that meets the needs of patients/consumers and their families/carers.

Develop professional judgment to independently manage a highly varied and complex caseload of people of all ages within diverse health settings (e.g. inpatients, outpatients) and know when to escalate issues or seek support from more experienced and specialised clinicians as required.

Participate in workplace education and training, clinical research and service delivery activities as required.

Willingness and ability to drive long distances for work purposes.

Ensure that work is conducted in a manner that demonstrates values of cultural respect in accordance with HNE Health's Closing the Gap strategy and a commitment to meeting the need of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

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populations and communities to access culturally appropriate services for improved health outcomes.

Act in accordance with the HNE Health Values Charter and NSW Health Code of Conduct; model behaviours that reflect the Excellence Framework (Every Patient, Every Time) and ensure work is conducted in a manner that demonstrates values of cultural respect in accordance with HNE Health's Closing the Gap strategy.

All staff are expected to take reasonable care that their acts and omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of others, that they comply with any reasonable instruction that is given to them and with any policies/procedures relating to health or safety in the workplace that are known to them, as well as notifying any hazards/risks or incidents to their managers.

Undertake Medical Imaging examinations and procedures and provide clinical advice and care in accordance with the level of training, experience, and where agreed with the Chief radiographer, recognised qualifications and credentialing.

KEY CHALLENGES

- Relocation and travel to undertake program rotations and adjusting to different work contexts dependent on workforce need
- Effective communication and building relationships with numerous, frequently changing stakeholders and establishing new professional and personal networks at each site.
- Engaging with and delivering services to rural and remote communities, some of which have limited service provision.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Who	Why
Service Manager / Line Manager	For operational support and to actively communicate future issues and new directions for the service to ensure appropriate notification and escalation of issues impacting on clinical practice
Health Professionals/Multidisciplinary Team	For consultation and advice regarding clinical risk, care planning
Clinical supervisor/professional Lead/Head of Discipline	For professional leadership, advice and support
Community Partners/Care and Service Providers including food services	Liaise with other providers to ensure seamless continuum of care between services
Universities/Educational institutions	Two way support with training and/or students

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Demonstrated commitment to and interest in rural health
2. Demonstrated understanding of the issues related to clinical practice in rural communities
3. Commitment to providing culturally appropriate services within rural communities

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4. Demonstrated effective verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills including the ability to adapt communication style to suit different audiences.
5. Demonstrated ability to analyse problems, set priorities and apply a range of options to develop solutions.
6. Demonstrated commitment to professional development, evidence based practice and continuous improvement and completion of a quality improvement project.
7. Demonstrated ability to work as a member of a multidisciplinary team
8. Willingness and ability to rotate through various clinical and geographic areas with HNE Health