

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

**Title:** Senior Carer Practitioner

**Award:** Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award

**Classification:** Community Services Worker - Level 4

**Position Objective:**

To ensure high-quality therapeutic carers are authorised and available to support children and young people within the Permanency Support Program (PSP).

**Role Description:**

The Senior Carer Practitioner is required to develop and implement strategies to attract and recruit new foster carers and undertake comprehensive assessments of foster and kinship carers to ensure they can provide therapeutic parenting to children and young people.

The Senior Carer Practitioner provides ongoing support services to carers to ensure they can provide quality therapeutic care for children and the young. This will include the delivery of psychoeducation and specialised carer training and mentoring.

The Senior Carer Practitioner works closely with the case management team to ensure an integrated service delivery model incorporating the Sanctuary Model framework. The Senior Carer Practitioner develops and implements culturally informed trauma practices for use when working with Aboriginal children and families.

**Primary Responsibilities:**

**Values, Sanctuary and Culturally Inclusive Practice**

- Uphold and model the Anglicare Values and the Anglicare Code of Conduct
- Commit to training in the trauma informed Sanctuary Model and implementing this model of care in day to day work with children, young people and carers.
- Work from and model a culture of respect and empowerment to support carers, children, young people, and their families.
- Prioritise cultural strengths-based practice when working with Aboriginal children, carers and families.
- Develop networks, consult and collaborate with Aboriginal communities and organisations to recruit and support Aboriginal carers.
- Ensure culturally inclusive resources and support when working with Aboriginal people and families.

### **Recruiting, Assessing and Training Carers**

- Coordinate foster care recruitment activities, including community engagement and partnership strategies.
- Undertake comprehensive carer assessments and prepare quality assessment reports for submission to the Anglicare Carer Authorisation Panel and Principal Officer.
- Coordinate and undertake carer reviews, including developing carer development plans.
- Coordinate and deliver introductory and ongoing training for carers, including the delivery of therapeutic care and psychoeducation training packages for carers.

### **Supporting Authorised Carers**

- Work with the case management team to provide emotional and practical support to carer households.
- Contribute to supporting carers by implementing Therapeutic Response Plans for individual children and young people.
- Provide consultation to case managers and other OOHC staff on placement matching and placements at risk of disruption.

### **Administration and Supervision**

- Maintain systems to ensure all required compliance and probity checks are completed for carer applicants and household members.
- Administrate and maintain internal and external carer databases.
- Actively engage and participate in monthly Sanctuary supervision with your line manager.
- Provide management and supervision of a Carer Recruitment and Support Worker.
- Work in accordance with Anglicare's overarching operational priorities and relevant policies and procedures.
- Commitment to training and participating in professional development activities.

Participation in the backup on-call roster

#### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree in psychology, social work or a related discipline.
- Current registration in the Step by Step (SbS) 2016 Assessment tool (*Desirable*)

#### **Key skills and experience:**

- Demonstrated skills and experience in undertaking complex family or carer assessments.
- Practice skills and experience in working with carers or families in a trauma-informed way, including those from an Aboriginal or Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background.
- Well-developed organisational skills, including prioritising competing needs and meeting deadlines.
- Excellent verbal communication, presentation and adult training skills.
- Excellent written skills and ability to prepare high-quality reports.

- Well-developed computer literacy skills, including word processing, spreadsheets and databases.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to work under pressure and complete required tasks in a timely fashion.
- Previous practical experience in foster care/Out of Home Care (*Desirable*)
- Experience and commitment to working in culturally safe ways with Aboriginal young people, their families and communities (*Desirable*)

- Key knowledge areas:**
- NSW Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 and Regulation 2012.
  - NSW Child Safe Standards for Permanent Care.
  - Knowledge of inter-generational trauma and its impact on Aboriginal people, families and communities.
  - Demonstrated knowledge of Aboriginal culture.

- Other Requirements**
- The role requires travel between Anglicare offices.
  - The position also includes some outside-of-usual business hours and the ability to work flexibly.
  - The position at the Bega location requires occasional additional site duties as the incumbent senior officer. – these are responsibilities involved with the maintenance of site work, health and safety including management of crisis issues; for example, through Covid outbreaks and requirements, natural disasters, staff safety concerns that may arise due to client escalations and addressing site maintenance issues.
  - NSW WWCC Check
  - Current Australian Drivers Licence

**Reports to:** Manager Permanency Support Program

**Direct reports:** Carer Support Practitioner