



Case Manager

EMPLOYMENT STATUSES			
Status	Full Time	Award	SCHADS
Hours per week	38 Hours Per Week	Classification	Level 4
Length of Term	12 Months	Salary	As per award
Reports to	Program Manager	Additional Benefits	Access to Salary Packaging
Secondary Report		PD Review Date	12 months

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT	
 <p>VACCHO member organisations</p>	<p>The Bendigo & District Aboriginal Cooperative (BDAC) is an ACCO (Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation) registered as a member under the umbrella of VACCHO (Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation) and represented nationally through NACCHO (National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation).</p> <p>BDAC was founded to represent and provide services to the Dja Dja Wurrung community (Jaara people) and Aboriginal residents living in the Dja Dja Wurrung boundaries. BDAC has a responsibility to ensure growth of services, development of our Aboriginal community, better and improved health outcomes for our people, improved quality of life and be a lead agency in providing employment and career pathways for Aboriginal people.</p> 

LOCAL WORK ENVIRONMENT
<p>Bendigo and District Aboriginal Co-operative provides a range of specialist services for clients based primarily in the Dja Dja Wurrung including Health and Wellbeing services, Family and Community Services and Corporate services.</p>

POSITION OBJECTIVE
<p>Reporting to the team leader and supported by senior staff, working within the ACAC Wartaka program (a Dja Dja Wurrung name meaning "Come with purpose") Case Managers will lead investigations and make assessments if a child is in need of protection. If the child is found to need protection the Case Manager will work directly with children, families and community to ensure the child's safety and wellbeing. Where this is unable to be achieved voluntarily, it may include initiating legal proceedings and all work associated with making protection applications. Case managers work in a statutory environment where they must exercise legal delegations and functions pursuant to the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 (Vic). The Act under Section 18 provides the legislative mandate for the ACAC programs to protect children and young people using best interest and decision-making principles. This mandate involves,</p>

receiving reports, conducting investigations, intervening if it is assessed that a child needs care and protection, taking matters before the Children's Court, supervising children on child protection orders, determining case plans (including stability plans, cultural plans and therapeutic treatment plans) for the safety and wellbeing of children, and delivering case practice and case management services for children and young people who are either living with family or in out of home care.

BDAC'S VISION AND CORE VALUES	
<i>"Empowered generations belonging to strong families, culture and community"</i>	
<u>LEAD</u>	We are committed to lead as an individual, team and organisation in order to achieve positive health and wellbeing outcomes for our community.
<u>OPENNESS</u>	We will be accountable and remain transparent in the delivery of our service to clients, visitors and staff.
<u>RESPECT</u>	We treat one another with honesty, integrity, respect and value everyone's opinion and feedback.
<u>EXCELLENCE</u>	We strive for excellence in our programs and services so that we can support positive health and wellbeing outcomes for our community.

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary Responsibilities

Supported by the Team Leader and senior program staff, the Case Manager will:

- Provide quality, timely and effective case practice and case management services including risk assessment, working from a strengths based approach.
- Work with children, families, carers and community to implement the actions determined through planning to facilitate the changes necessary to improve the safety, stability and development of children.
- Lead investigations into reports of harm received by child protection about Aboriginal children and young people, this will include interviews with children and families and documentation of investigation.
- Conduct outreach visits to family homes and manage conflicts as they arise.
- Make assessment and recommendations if the child or young person needs protection.
- Engage families on a voluntary basis, working with children, families, and community to ensure the child's safety and wellbeing, working from a strengths approach.
- Provide case management, including ongoing assessment and leading a care team.
- Refer children and or families to appropriate services, work with services to ensure that referrals are responded to in a way that acknowledges the needs.
- Complete written records and reports using the Client Relationship Information System and keep files in line with program requirements.
- Actively participate in teamwork in a manner that ensures a co-ordinated approach to service delivery.
- Lead and attend meetings to support the work with families and advocate for children and families as required.
- Ensure work applies and adheres to legislation, policies and BDAC frameworks.
- Reflects on practice and articulates assessment outcome with their supervisor
- Travel to meet with families and for training, some overnight and interstate travel may be required.
- Make applications, prepare documentation, give evidence, and make recommendations to the Children's Court on decisions and actions in the best interests of the child.

Administration & Compliance

- Model and abide by BDAC Values, Code of Conduct, Policy and Procedures.
- Participate actively in and facilitate supervision and professional development activities.
- Ensure that you participate in team meetings, staff meetings and other community activities as requested.
- Ensure that you adhere to legislative requirements.
- Ensure that you report any risks identified immediately to your line manager.
- Participate within the team to ensure performance against expectations including performance management and staff development, in accordance with BDAC's policies and procedures.
- Ensure that all staff are provided with and operate in a safe environment in accordance with BDAC'S OHS policies and procedures.
- Ability to prepare high quality plans, letters, emails, and reports, ensure written communications achieve their purpose.
- Demonstrated skills in managing competing demands in a structured thoughtful manner.
Ability to transport children, conduct home visits and willingness to travel as needed.
- Participate in Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) activities.

Mandatory Education

- A recognised Social Work degree or a similar welfare or behavioral related degree which includes: (a) a primary focus on child development, human behavior, family dynamics and/or impacts of trauma; and preferably (b) a practical component such as counselling or case work practice
or
- A recognised Diploma of Community Services Work, or similar qualification which is studied over a minimum of two academic years of full-time study (or part time equivalent) and includes: (a) a primary focus on child development, human behavior, family dynamics and/or impacts of trauma (b) supervised fieldwork placements (ideally completed within the child and family welfare sector) and at least one unit of study in case management, case work practice or counselling.

*If you don't meet these requirements but strongly believe and are able to demonstrate you have the knowledge and capacity to fulfill this role, please contact us.

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal history, Culture and the ACCHO environment.
- Understanding of the Children's, Youth and Families Act 2005.
- Skill to engage Aboriginal families through a relational approach, maintaining professional boundaries.
- Knowledge of child and adolescent development and strategies for working with vulnerable children, young people, and their families.
- Experience or detailed understanding of completing investigations, interview strategies and documenting evidence.
- Strong reasoning skills, ability to make assessments and communicate rational for assessments.
- Understanding of self-care and resilience when working with children and families in crisis and who have experienced trauma.
- Strong computer skills, ability to use a range of software and IT based reporting systems.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- Must pass a Criminal Police Record Check.
- Must pass & provide copy of Working with Children's Check.
- Must hold current full Victorian Drivers Licence and provide a copy.
- Must have the right to work in Australia.
- Must pass an Employment History check.
- Must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

EMPLOYEE STATEMENT

I have read, understood and accepted the above position description of the Case Manager.

EMPLOYEE NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:/...../.....