

Position Description

Clinical Family Therapist



Position	Clinical Family Therapist
Team	Strength 2 Strength
Employment Type	Full Time, Permanent
Hours	38 hours, with flexibility to work one evening per week
Location	Frankston <i>From time to time the incumbent may be requested to work from, or be based at, other Family Life sites.</i>
Reports To	Manager Strength 2 Strength
Effective Date	November 2019

Overview of Program

The Strength to Strength Program is a client-centred trauma informed therapeutic response for children and their mothers who are victim survivors of family violence, which includes therapeutic services delivered via outreach and through centre-based sessions.

A partnership response has been activated to maximise client access, safety, empowerment and therapeutic outcomes. The Therapeutic Demonstration Project, Strength2Strength operates through a partnership of key service providers including: Family Life, Salvation Army, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, SECASA and Peninsula Health.

The interventions target children and their mothers from diverse populations, with the aim of

- Strengthening therapeutic responses and improving outcomes;
- Building evidence about effective practice approaches for responding to victim survivors of family violence, including victim survivors from diverse populations;
- Determining, through evaluation, how these approaches might be incorporated into future service delivery frameworks and organisational operating models; and
- Increasing access to a broad range of therapeutic approaches to family violence victim survivors including adults and/or children across diverse cohorts.

Position Objective

The Clinical Family Therapist works as part of a multi-disciplinary team, providing outreach and centre based services to address the effects of ongoing exposure to family violence, and assist families to achieve safety and stability.

Primarily through the use of dyadic and whole of family practice therapeutic interventions, the Clinical Family Therapist focuses on strengthening the attachment bond between mothers and their children.

Key Responsibilities

The key responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Working as part of a multi-disciplinary team to deliver evidence-based, trauma informed services to women, children and their families impacted by family violence and support the innovation of service responses and sector reform.
- Delivering dyadic, attachment-focused therapy for children affected by family violence and their mothers.
- Managing a caseload of clients, as well as providing support and assistance to co-workers on their cases.
- Working flexibly across a range of service delivery sites, including the provision of outreach support to enhance service accessibility.
- Performing other partnership related tasks as required to assist the program in meeting its contractual and compliance obligations.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Degree in Psychology, Family Therapy, Occupational Therapy or Social Work.
2. Qualifications in and experience delivering dyadic developmental psychotherapy, parent child interaction therapy, theraplay, Greenspan floortime approach, transgenerational therapy or other evidence-based approaches to dyadic therapy.
3. Ability to develop and implement trauma informed approaches to practice.
4. Knowledge and experience with the effects of trauma on behaviour and development of children and youth.
5. Demonstrated experience in the provision of therapeutic interventions.
6. Excellent knowledge of the impacts of Family Violence and, feminist, systemic, child focused and trauma informed approaches to practice.

7. Capacity to work with ambiguity and uncertainty in the context of ongoing environmental change and complex problems for vulnerable members of the community.
8. Demonstrated experience and willingness to participate in the provision of therapeutic intervention with people who have used violence.

The Family Life Way

Our six principles are at the heart of the work that we do at Family Life, they inspire us to achieve the best results for our clients and the communities we serve. The principles exemplify our commitment to support our people to produce quality services and outcomes.

Create Safety



- Safety for Clients and Peers
- Respect, Empowerment & Well-being
- Be Supportive
- Be Kind

Celebrate Difference



- Welcome Diversity
- Celebrate Difference Of Ideas
- All Community Members are Welcome at Family Life
- Share Knowledge and Experiences

Be Bold



- Fail Forward
- Lead By Example
- Ask Why?
- Ask for Feedback and Self-Reflect

Be Real



- Be the Best Version of Yourself
- Admit What You Don't Know
- Have the Hard Conversations, Respectfully
- Be Open and Honest

Dream Big



- Have Stickability - Persistence
- Think differently, Innovatively
- Be Adaptable
- Plan and Prioritise

Embrace Everyone



- Many Voices, One Purpose - To Transform Lives for Stronger Communities
- Collaboration
- Partnerships
- Be Inclusive and Encourage Participation

Additional Information

- Family Life is a youth and child safe organisation. We value, respect, and listen to children and young people.
- All offers of employment are subject to a satisfactory Working with Children Check and Police Records Check.
- Family life operates across multiple sites therefore it is essential that all employees hold a current Driver's License.
- Family Life offers generous Salary packaging benefits.
- All offers of employment at Family Life are subject to a six month probationary period.
- Family Life is committed to providing a safe, healthy and friendly working environment.
- We pride ourselves on being flexible and family-friendly wherever possible for the mutual benefit of employees and the organisation.
- We expect all Family Life employees and volunteers to understand and behave in accordance with our principles, purpose, values and code of conduct.