

## Accredited Mental Health Social Worker or Psychologist

**REPORTING TO:** Manager – Counselling and Wellbeing Services  
**EMPLOYMENT:** Part-time (0.6 FTE) – consecutive days.  
**CONTRACT DURATION:** To 30 June 2023.

### POSITION OVERVIEW:

Working as part of a multi-disciplinary counselling, mental health and wellbeing team, the Accredited Mental Health Social Worker or Psychologist is responsible for providing ethical, high quality, inclusive, person-centred psychological interventions to Meridian's clients, in line with the stepped care approach to mental health care and suicide prevention. Utilising a variety of evidence-based therapeutic and psychological approaches, the mental health professional provides psychosocial and other clinical client assessments, case conceptualisation using strengths-based goals and strategies, support, advocacy, safety planning and referral pathways for Meridian's communities.

The Accredited Mental Health Social Worker or Psychologist supports clients with complex presentations and intersectional issues ranging from moderate to severe mental health presentations. Intersections for Meridian's clients include living with HIV; the exploration and affirmation of gender identity, gender expression and presentation; sexuality; general emotional wellbeing; the impacts of minority stress; and other support contexts such as managing substance use, LGBTIQ+ ageing and domestic and family violence.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide person-centred, outcomes-focused clinical psychological and psychosocial interventions using a range of evidence-based therapies and psychological strategies appropriate for a trauma-informed framework and focused on underserved and at-risk LGBTIQ+ people, specifically Meridian's communities.
- Provide psychological and psychosocial interventions at different levels of intensity/risk as part of the stepped care approach to mental health care and suicide prevention.
- Managing a daily minimum caseload of five (5) clients including intake, conducting needs and other psychological assessments, case conceptualisation, goal setting, boundary setting (including appropriate referrals to tertiary or acute services), expectation management, referral protocols and safety planning.
- Identifying key issues for Meridian's communities and understanding the intersectionality of case presentations with a view to wrap-around care.
- Actively connecting, participating, and supporting all of Meridian's services that support the health and welfare of the LGBTIQ+ community. This may include community engagement and health promotion activities such as the face of Meridian on stalls and panel presentations; developing and delivering wellbeing groups; developing curriculum for training opportunities, and nurturing relationships with internal and external stakeholders.
- Strictly observing scope of practice, organisational and registration body ethical standards and professional boundaries.
- Maintaining consistent and high-quality confidential records using Meridian systems and procedures.
- Actively participating in and contributing to professional development activities including group supervision and external clinical supervision.
- Comply with systems, policies and counselling procedures regarding ethical practice including procedures for protection of confidentiality.

- Other duties as directed, commensurate with existing skills, knowledge, and experience.

## **ORGANISATIONAL CONTRIBUTION**

- Delivering services that comply with Meridian’s organisational policies and procedures, legislative requirements, and the requirements of the mental health professional’s registering body.
- Demonstrating a strong commitment to a culture of quality, continuous improvement, and service excellence.
- Reinforcing and promoting the principles of diversity and inclusion and modelling Meridian’s values.
- Actively support an organisational culture that is based on a peer-led framework to empower and support our communities, as well as promoting accountability, quality, good governance, and staff well-being.

## **SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND KEY ATTRIBUTES**

- Tertiary qualifications as an Accredited Mental Health Social Worker or in Psychology
- Full registration with a professional body such as AHPRA or AASW, satisfactory completion of a National Police Check and an unrestricted Working with Vulnerable People registration in the ACT (or the ability to obtain WWVP registration).
- Demonstrated experience working in a multidisciplinary team and contributing a unique value to range of disciplines in support of Meridian’s communities.
- Demonstrated experience in delivering a variety of psychological and psychosocial interventions of varied intensity, using a range of evidence-based therapies and psychological strategies appropriate for a trauma-informed framework.
- Experience working with complex presentations and intersectional issues focused on the wellbeing of Meridian’s communities including people living with HIV, impacted by HIV and LGBTIQ+ communities.
- Managing a caseload of clients including intake, psychosocial, needs and psychological assessments, case conceptualisation, strengths-based goals and strategies, boundary setting, advocacy, referral protocols and safety planning.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills including maintaining confidential client records compliant with the relevant legislation.
- Ability to take direction, work independently within professional boundaries and contribute to the success of the wellbeing services as well as the whole organisation and its mission through the values of Meridian.
- Experience maintaining relationships with stakeholders across a diverse range of government and community sector organisations.
- Advanced computer literacy skills, including experience working with Microsoft Office Suite.
- Understanding and commitment to the objectives and values of Meridian and the health and wellbeing needs of Meridian’s communities.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

A salary package will be negotiated with the successful applicant/s and will be commensurate with skills and experience. Meridian offers very attractive salary and workplace benefits including additional leave for gender affirmation and parental leave. You may also elect to salary package a portion of your salary tax-free.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

All those considering applying should phone Tom Skelton, Manager Counselling and Wellbeing on 0412 882 855 to discuss the position in the first instance. To apply please submit a written application of no more than three pages, responding to the Skills, Knowledge, Experience and Key Attributes in the Position Description, a current resume, and contact details of at least two professional referees. Please send your application to [executive@meridianact.org.au](mailto:executive@meridianact.org.au)