

Position Description

Child and Family Consultant

Location:	Brisbane	Reports To:	Program Manager
Award:	Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award, Level 6	Salary Range:	\$87,577 - \$91,439 per annum plus superannuation (pro rata for part-time)
PD Date:	November 2020		

About us

Act for Kids is a prominent provider of free prevention, professional therapy and support services for children who have suffered abuse and support for families at risk. With over 25 centres nationally, we have supported thousands of children and their families for more than 30 years. In 2019 - 2020 we provided services to 44,894 people, including over 29,000 children.

Our unique multidisciplinary teams provide integrated therapy, sexual abuse counselling, safe houses in remote Indigenous communities, information, advice and referral services, intensive family support and preschools designed for children with additional development needs to ensure we set them up for success at school.

About our commitment

- Our vision is that all kids have a safe and happy childhood, free from abuse and neglect.
- We are a child safe organisation and all children who come into contact with our services will be provided with a welcoming and safe service.
- We prioritise working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to grow our cultural expertise and deliver excellent services to children, families and communities.
- We endeavour to provide a work environment that ensures the health, safety and wellbeing of all team members is embedded in our everyday work practices.

About our values

At Act for Kids our exceptional organisational culture is aligned to our values. You will be part of a **team** that is **professional, ethical, caring, courageous** and **collaborative** and we expect you to demonstrate these behaviours throughout your career with us.

About the position

The Assessment and Service Connect (ASC) initiative is a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary approach developed as a new way of working between Child Safety Services, other government agencies and the non-government sector.

The Child and Family Consultant will work collaboratively with staff from Child Safety Services, the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Health and other sector members of the ASC to provide consultation, assessments, advice and input that will provide better outcomes for children and families referred for child protection concerns. The aim is to decrease the likelihood of children becoming in need of protection and to support better outcomes for families.

The Child and Family Consultant will contribute specialist skills and experience to the ASC in four stages of engagement with families:

- Stage 1: Initial information gathering and analysis
- Stage 2: Collaborative assessment
- Stage 3: Collaborative consultations for a planned response
- Stage 4: Collaborative consultation on triage, action and outcomes

Key responsibilities

- Respond as part of the ASC team on referrals and actively engage with individuals and families as co-responders with Child Safety Services.
- Provide expert opinion, guidance, advice, assessments and consultation on referrals, processes and service connections as part of the ASC team.
- Actively participate in activities including meetings of ASC members and key stakeholders including Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Support Services.
- Participate in joint training and professional development opportunities.
- Professionally and ethically represent Act for Kids in the delivery of the ASC services.
- Build and maintain partnerships with all ASC and partner agencies for the benefit of the service, children and the families.
- Maintain linkages with Act for Kids staff and services through regular attendance at staff meetings, organisational events and professional development activities.
- Maintain up-to-date output and outcomes data for all clients as required by Act for Kids policies and procedures.
- Participate in Act for Kids performance development processes through monthly and annual meetings with your line manager.
- Comply with all Act for Kids policies and procedures.
- Maintain confidentiality and privacy in all matters relating to staff, clients, and procedures.
- Fulfil other tasks that your manager/s may reasonably ask you to perform.
- Act as a client/customer focused, values based team member and work collaboratively with Act for Kids team members and key stakeholder members to achieve strong results across all activities.
- Ensure behaviour during all work interactions is aligned to our values of being *professional, ethical, team oriented, caring, courageous* and *collaborative*.

About you

Qualifications

- A tertiary degree in a relevant discipline (allied health, social work, human services).
- Professional registration (if required).
- Membership of a relevant professional association (desirable).

Skills and experience

- At least five years' experience working with children, young people and their families who have been impacted by trauma or have experienced abuse and neglect, or more than five years' experience working in similar roles.
- Demonstrated specialist skills in at least one of the following areas drug and alcohol, mental health, family and domestic violence, child development.
- Understanding of the impacts of trauma on child development and family functioning.
- Expertise in child development and assessing functioning and wellbeing of children and young people.
- Experience is utilising tools such as three houses, family storyline and circles of safety to inform assessment.
- Expertise in family functioning, parenting and attachment, including assessing family relationships and parenting capacity and functioning.
- Knowledge of Queensland child protection legislation and policy reforms.

- Experience in developing strategic stakeholder relationships for the benefit of children, young people and families. Extensive local networks and knowledge are highly desirable.
- A high level of cultural awareness and experience working with families from different cultural backgrounds, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Willingness to receive cultural supervision in your work with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.
- Willingness to work as part of a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary team and to cultivate a collaborative strengths-based approach to working with families.
- Well-developed communication, problem solving and interpersonal skills.
- High level time management and case load management skills.
- An ability to use electronic case management and reporting tools and experience using Word and Excel.

Other requirements

- Eligibility for a positive Working with Children Check in the applicable state of employment in Australia or exemption based on professional qualifications and registration.
- A current driver's licence.
- Applicants must be eligible to legally work in Australia and proof of eligibility may be requested.