

Community Educator Women's Health & Sexual Assault

Position:	Community Educator Women's Health and Sexual Assault Participation - On Call Sexual Assault Response Team Roster
Status:	Full-time negotiable
Hours of Work:	Hours per fortnight negotiable
Responsible to:	Leadership/Coordinator
Salary:	Commensurate with experience under the SCHCADS Award – Level 5

Employees will be required to participate in the after-hours Sexual Assault Response Team. Employees also may be required on occasion to work outside ordinary hours.

Organisation

The North Queensland Combined Women's Services Inc (NQCWS) operates from a broad feminist perspective and is welcoming of all women. The Centre's feminist philosophy embodies an analysis that the personal experiences of women are the consequence of the patriarchal political nature of society and believe in social change for the equality of women in society.

NQCWS is housed at The Women's Centre, and offers a Specialist Homelessness Service, the Townsville Sexual Assault Support Service and a Women's Health Service. The Women's Centre also provides crisis support, trauma informed counselling, therapeutic group work, social inclusion activities information and referral support, advocacy, outreach, home visits and appropriate referrals to other service providers.

While working with women, both individually and in groups, The Women's Centre aims to promote social and political change by validating women's stories and experiences, advocating for women's rights through awareness raising, community education and social action.

Purpose

To coordinate, develop and facilitate appropriate activities including community education, advocacy and activism events covering the priority health areas inclusive of awareness raising and education re: sexual assault. To be involved in projects with other organisations that increase awareness and understanding of issues related to women's health and sexual assault.

To provide counselling as required including responding to sexual assault victim/survivors.

To participate in the 24hr sexual assault roster.

Accountability

The worker is accountable to the NQCWS Leadership team and through them to the Management Committee, to the Staff team, and to women who access the service.

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Responsibilities

- To work towards achieving the objectives of NQCWS.
- To demonstrate an understanding and commitment to social justice and feminism and to foster an environment dedicated to the celebration and promotion of feminist principles.
- To meet the requirements of the service agreement with the government.
- Contribute to the health and well-being of women within the target group.
- To provide leadership/mentoring to the team that will facilitate and contribute to the safety and support of victims of Sexual Assault and to the health and well-being of women within the target group.

Target Group

Community education will be provided to those requesting it as well as those groups identified as requiring further skills, knowledge and information related to women's health and sexual assault.

Counselling will be for women and young women 12 years and above.

Service Provision

- Community education will be at the most appropriate venue.
- Counselling and sexual assault responses will be at the most appropriate venue.
- Services will be provided in a safe, trauma informed and timely manner.

Duties

In conjunction with the Coordinator and other NQCWS workers, ensure a staffed Service to meet the needs of women and their children.

- Coordinate, develop and facilitate community education and training for government and community organisations within Townsville and its region.
- Participate in local and state networks where appropriate.
- Develop and facilitate groups for young women and women.
- Facilitate other health services to provide clinics at The Women's Centre to increase women's access to those services.
- Provide counselling and liaise with appropriate organisations with and on behalf of women who access the service.
- Provide appropriate referrals to, and advocate for women, particularly within both the medical and legal systems.
- Participate in an on-call response to support sexual assault victims/survivors.
- Contribute to the reception and daily support of the service, providing counselling, information and referral to individual women and to other service providers.

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- Support other women-based services and/or projects as appropriate.
- Provide training to Staff and supervise tertiary level students as required.
- Provide coaching and mentoring to new and less experienced staff.
Lead reviews of community education and related practice and revise and update the practice guide where appropriate.
- Provide reports or write funding or policy submissions to government as required.

Administration

- In consultation with the Leadership team, plan work schedules for efficient use of time and resources.
- Use current case management system.
- Record and collate monthly statistics for organisational purposes.
- Assist in providing case study data and statistics for the purpose of project work or reports.
- Organise workload effectively to include preparation and follow up time.
- Participate in Professional Development, Staff Training and Supervision.
- To participate with the Coordinator, other staff and management in Women's Centre meetings, policy formulation and the planning of future directions of the Service

Community Education - Partnerships and Collaboration

- Provide timely community education/training on relevant Women's Health and Sexual Assault issues. Provide a range of education and awareness opportunities to organisations and educational institutions including Police, Health and Welfare Professionals, Schools, University.
- Improve referral pathways for women by strategically working with government and social service organisations.
- In conjunction with other staff, identify and facilitate social action responses which may include International Women's Day, Reclaim the Night and Sexual Violence Awareness Month
- Participate in peak body networks and forums in consultation with the Senior Counsellor, Team Leader and/or Coordinator.
Be prepared to respond publicly to the debate on sexual assault and women's health issues.
- Promote social justice and the equality of women within social systems and in society generally.

Sexual Assault Response Team

- In collaboration with agencies involved in the Townsville Sexual Assault Response Team, participate to provide 24 hour on-call crisis care services for recent victim/survivors.
- Provision of specialist critical incident sexual assault support and information regarding survivors' rights and options with legal and medical issues.

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- Preserve the integrity of survivor confidentiality in accordance with the victim centred best practice model of the Townsville Sexual Assault Response Team, and share information as necessary to facilitate the collaborative interagency partnership
- Liaison and consultation with other professionals, including, Police, Homelessness Services, Mental Health Services, Courts, Medical Services and Victim Assist Queensland
- Employees are required to participate in an on call roster for after-hours support to survivors of sexual assault.

Selection Criteria

Essential Requirements

- Tertiary qualification in Social Sciences/Social Work degree and relevant employment history and experience.
- Three or more years' experience working in the Women's Health and/or sexual assault field, counselling or related areas.
- Ability to develop, facilitate and activate community education and training in social and emotional women's health and/or sexual assault issues for government and community sectors.
- Ability to show initiative, lead and project plan using consultancy and engagement skills.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience incorporating a feminist analysis of violence against women.
- Demonstrated abilities to provide information and referral, crisis and ongoing counselling, with clear frameworks and theoretical knowledge.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience working with women in relation to complex matters in case coordination, support work and counselling.
- Demonstrated high levels of verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in working with women from diverse cultural backgrounds, and/or access services which would assist women particularly those who are disadvantaged.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in working with First Nations Women.
- Demonstrated ability to lead, mentor and respond as a go to person for your colleagues.
- Current or eligible to hold Commission for Children, Young Persons and Child Guardian working with Children Blue Card.
- Current valid Queensland, Open, C class driving licence.