

Women's Health Advocate/Caseworker

Position:	Women's Health Advocate/Caseworker
Status:	Participation - On Call Sexual Assault Response Team Roster
Hours of Work:	Part-time/Full-time negotiable
Responsible to:	76 Hours per fortnight negotiable
Salary:	Team Leader/Coordinator
	Commensurate with experience under the SCHCADS Award – Level 4

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. NQCWS feminist philosophy embodies an analysis of the subordinate (secondary) position of women in society with a strong commitment to personal and social change.

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 to medium term counselling, group work, information, 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 provide a range of interventions to women in the area of women's health including domestic and family and sexual violence against women including case management, crisis to medium term support, advocacy and referrals.

Accountability

The worker is accountable to the NQCWS Coordinator, Senior Counsellor and Team Leader and through her to Management Committee, to the Staff team, and to women who access the service.

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 government funders

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Service Provision

Service delivery will be both centre and mobile based. Services will be provided in a safe and timely manner.

Duties

To support women through the provision of trauma informed casework and advocacy

- Initial and ongoing assessment
- Participate on a crisis support roster to provide support to women who are struggling with significant social and emotional health issues identified crises.
- Advocate to relevant authorities to support women to meet their needs.
- Providing emotional and practical support.
- Providing activities/programs for developing living skills and building capacity for independent living.
- Provide appropriate referrals to, and advocate for women, particularly within both the medical and legal systems.
- Facilitating social contact with family and friends and forming new social networks.
- Facilitating access to education, volunteering, employment & leisure activities.
- Facilitating transition to mainstream services and to community supports.
- To contribute to the reception/backup of the Service, providing information and referrals to women and to other service providers.
- To encourage human service organisations to be more responsive to the needs of women who are in crisis.
- To support other women based services or projects as appropriate e.g. Women's Refuges, Women's Legal Service.

Administration

- In consultation with the Co-ordinator/Team Leader, 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.

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 victim/survivors rights and options with legal and medical issues.
- Preserve the integrity of client 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 partnership.

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- Liaison and consultation with other professionals, including, Police, Homelessness Services, Mental Health Services, Courts, Medical Services and Victim Assist Queensland.
- Employees are on a roster for after-hours support to victims of sexual assault.

Other Duties

- Other duties as requested by the Coordinator and/or Management Committee

Specific Conditions of Employment

- Employment Contract
- Social Community, Home Care and Disability Services Award (SCHADS) 2020
- National Employment Standards (NES)