

**Position Title:** Child Life Therapist

**Campus:** Grampians Early Parenting Centre

**Directorate:** Community and Aged Care

**Division:** Primary and Community Care

**Reporting to:** Senior Early Parenting Practitioner

### Appointment Terms/Conditions:

**Classification and Code:** Allied Health Classification relevant to candidate experience and classification OR Play Therapist Grade 2 Year 1 to 3 (PT67–PT69)

**Enterprise Agreement:** Allied Health Professionals (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement.

### ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION

Grampians Health was established on 1 November 2021, bringing together Edenhope and District Memorial Hospital, Stawell Regional Health, Wimmera Health Care Group and Ballarat Health Services as one united health service. More information can be found at [www.grampianshealth.org.au](http://www.grampianshealth.org.au)

Our purpose is to provide high quality and accessible health care services in each of the communities we serve. We currently service the healthcare needs of more than 250,000 Victorians and we employ more than 6,300 people across 21 campuses and sites with an annual operating revenue of over \$700m.

<b>Collaboration</b> <i>We are stronger together.</i>	<b>Compassion</b> <i>We show that we care.</i>	<b>Accountability</b> <i>We do what we say and say what we do.</i>	<b>Respect</b> <i>We appreciate and value all people.</i>	<b>Innovation</b> <i>We adapt and innovate to achieve best outcomes.</i>
Recognising and utilising strengths to share knowledge, solve problems, build relationships and deliver the best outcomes possible.	All people deserve to be treated with compassion, kindness and empathy.	Openness, honesty and transparency support us to be courageous, take responsibility for our actions and follow through on our commitments	Our actions and words reflect our commitment to a safe and fair health service for all.	Every day, we apply expertise and integrity to make responsible choices, always striving for continuous improvement.

## **GRAMPIANS EARLY PARENTING CENTRE (GEPC)**

The GEPC is a free primary health service that provides specialist support for families with children from birth to four years.

The service provides flexible targeted services including group sessions, day stay, 4-night stay program and telehealth targeted to enhance the parent-child relationship and support parents with strategies to achieve their parenting goals.

### **POSITION PURPOSE**

The Child Life Therapist will provide support and education to staff and families based on the Department of Health (DH) EPC's model of care. You will work in the creation, implementation and delivery of programs tailored for parents and children (aged 0-4 years of age), who require education and support during periods of vulnerability. You will promote positive health, growth, development and wellbeing and provide activities for infants, children and families, and recognise and respond to factors that impede this.

The Child Life Therapist will be involved in the development and facilitation of group activities for inpatients and members of the community seeking advice and additional support.

The Child Life Therapist works competently within their scope of practice to deliver safe, evidence-based child centred care. As part of the multidisciplinary team, the Child Life Therapist will work across all GEPC parenting programs as required including day stay, home stay and outreach programs.

Working as part of the multidisciplinary team the Child Life Therapist will work with external organizations using a strengths-based and trauma-informed approach to support best outcomes for families. This will include organising, managing and evaluating appropriate activities for children and their parents within the service and support the clinical team in safe, effective and connected care.

The program has a strong focus on family/child/patient centred care, and the Child Life Therapist will demonstrate this along with an ability to work within our organization's values.

### **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES**

- Provide clinical service to admitted families and implement the EPC model of care
- To work as part of a multidisciplinary team to support parents to achieve their parenting goals
- Understanding of parenting challenges and promoting prevention, early intervention and help-seeking opportunities
- Ability to apply knowledge to practice independently and evaluate situations
- Awareness of scope of practice and initiative to discuss significant decisions surrounding care with the team leader and/ or manager if required
- Recognise and promote factors that contribute to connection to culture and community diversity, and promote self-determination in decision-making

### **KEY SELECTION CRITERIA**

#### **Essential**

- Bachelor degree in Early Childhood Studies, Bachelor of Teaching (Primary), or other Bachelor qualification as recognised by the Association of Child Life Therapists Australia.
- Ability to deliver evidence-based education to professionals and to families.
- Ability to work a rotating roster when demand requires.

### **Desirable**

- Ability to draw on existing strengths and assets of individual families to drive positive outcomes
- Enhanced understanding of families experiencing a period of vulnerability and adverse childhood experiences
- Knowledge of strength based approaches
- Enhanced knowledge of attachment theory
- Understanding of trauma-informed practice
- Demonstrated understanding of broader issues, current trends and a range of possible strategies associated with delivery of high-quality treatment modalities to people and families during the perinatal period.
- Sound knowledge and understanding of relevant legislation, including but not limited to: Best Interest Framework and Child Safe Standards
- Ability to provide reflective supervision
- Knowledge of parenting strategies such as Keys to Caregiving, Solihull Approach, Sleep and Settling Model of Care, First 1000 days Movement, Play and Nutrition and Newborn Behaviour Observations
- Understanding of the importance of perinatal and infant mental health

### **Personal attributes**

- Ability to develop trust and rapport with patients and families
- Motivated to continual learning
- Excellent time management skills and ability to prioritise tasks
- Ability to work well in a multidisciplinary team
- Ability to identify vulnerabilities/ learning variances/ inequities in patients and link them with appropriate education, allied health and community services
- Ability to work professionally & respectfully with families from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds
- A passion and drive for innovative services

## **ORGANISATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Grampians Health is committed to a consumer centred approach in the provision of health care and services, consistent with our values, purpose and vision. It is expected that team members demonstrate the core values of consumer centred care in every interaction.
- All team members of Grampians Health are responsible for supporting the safety, participation, wellbeing and empowerment of children.
- Quality care is a strategic and operational priority at Grampians Health, achieved through our Governance Framework.
- Participation in the Grampians Health integrated quality improvement and risk management systems by being aware of responsibilities to identify, minimise and manage risks and identifying opportunities for continuous improvement in your workplace through communication and consultation with managers and colleague.
- You must ensure that the affairs of Grampians Health, its patients, clients and staff remain strictly confidential and are not divulged to any third party except where required for clinical reasons or by law.

Such confidentiality shall extend to the commercial and financial interests and activities of Grampians Health.

- In accordance with current legislation and organisational policy, employees must be willing to undertake and maintain a police check, working with children check and where necessary an NDIS Worker screening check. Ongoing employment will be dependent on the provision of satisfactory checks.

## **OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

- At Grampians Health we recognise and respect diversity. Each person has a right to high-quality health care and opportunities regardless of diversity factors which might include aspects such as cultural, ethnic, linguistic, religious background, gender, sexual orientation, age, and socioeconomic status. Inclusiveness improves our service to our community and promotes engagement amongst Grampians Health employees.
- All Grampians Health employees are required to take reasonable care of their own health and safety in the workplace as well as take reasonable care for the health and safety of others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. Persons with delegated management functions have an additional duty to provide and maintain a working environment that is safe and free of risks to health, so far as is reasonably practicable in areas where they have management or control. All employees have a duty to report issues they cannot rectify, follow all existing Grampians Health policies and protocols relating to health, safety, wellbeing and injury management and cooperate with any action taken by Grampians Health to comply with the OHS Act or Regulations.
- Statements included in this Position Description are intended to reflect in general the duties and responsibilities of this position and are not to be interpreted as being all inclusive.
- Management may alter this Position Description if and when the need arises. Any such changes will be made in consultation with the affected employee(s).
- An annual performance review will occur with your Manager. Your performance review is intended to be a positive discussion, outlining the key roles and responsibilities outlined in this Position Description. The performance review discussion provides an opportunity to clarify your role, revise key performance activities and identify any objectives or goals for the year ahead.