

Position Description

Senior Clinician – Youth Early Psychosis Service

Classification:	Social Worker, Occupational Therapist, Psychologist or Speech Pathologist Grade 3, Registered Psychiatric Nurse Grade 4
Business unit/department:	Infant Child and Youth Mental Health Service (ICYMHS) Mental Health Division (MHD)
Work location:	Austin Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Burgundy St clinic Onsite at 37 Burgundy Street Heidelberg - with outreach
Agreement:	Victorian Public Health Sector (Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists) Single Enterprise Agreement 2021-2025 Victorian Public Mental Health Services Enterprise Agreement 2020-2024
Employment type:	Parental Leave Cover
Hours per week:	38
Reports to:	Team Leader (YEPS) and Program Manager (Central Community and Specialist Teams), ICYMHS
Direct reports:	NA
Financial management:	NA
Date:	March 2026

Position purpose

The Youth Early Psychosis Service (YEPS) is a specialist sub-program that provides assertive outreach model of case management for young people with psychotic illness during adolescence or early adulthood. Senior mental health clinicians within YEPS are members of the multidisciplinary outreach team, under the direction of the YEPS Team Leader, and the Program Manager, Central Community and Specialist Teams.

Roles include capability building, consultation, and liaison with adjacent programs within Austin Mental Health, and community service providers to support the functional recovery and remission of symptoms of young people with Early Psychosis and their families, and to improve their recovery outcomes.

In this role the clinician will primarily provide a community based outreach mental health service to young people aged 16-25 years, their families and wider service systems within the Banyule and Nillumbik council areas.

About the Directorate/Division/Department

The Mental Health Division provides care and services through a comprehensive range of teams to meet the needs of mental health consumers and carers throughout Victoria. Services are located across Austin Health campuses and in the community.

The Mental Health Division incorporates three program areas:

- Adult and Older Mental Health Services
- Infant, Child and Youth Mental Health Services and,
- Mental Health Specialty Services.

All mental health services work within a clinical framework that promotes recovery-oriented practice and supported decision making. This approach to client wellbeing builds on the strengths of the individual working in partnership with their treating team. It encompasses the principles of self-determination and individualised treatment and care.

About ICYMHS

The Child and Youth Mental Health Service (ICYMHS) sits within the Mental Health Division and provides tertiary mental health services to the north-eastern catchment of Melbourne (currently the local government areas of Banyule, Boroondara, Darebin, Nillumbik, Whittlesea, and Yarra). Young people eligible for the service are aged 0-25 years. Lived and Living Experience Workforce is also embedded with the ICYMHS Directorate.

Austin Health ICYMHS have two inpatient units (a child and an adolescent one), a Child and Family Centre called Booboop Narrkwarren Nagarra-Jarra-noun and a Youth Prevention and Recovery Centre (YPARC), along with a range of community teams.

The child and youth community teams work alongside specialist outreach teams, an Under 25 Crisis Assessment & Treatment Service (CATS) and a triage team. The work is supported by specialist roles: - Infant and Child Specialists, Carer and Consumer Consultants, Alcohol & Other Drug Specialists, Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison Officers, a group program coordinator and an Autism Spectrum Disorder Assessment Program.

About YEPS

YEPS is a specialty program of the Infant, Child, and Youth Mental Health Service (ICYMHS). YEPS is a multi-disciplinary team that provides early intervention and treatment to young people aged 16-25 who are experiencing psychosis during adolescence or early adulthood who live in the Banyule and Nillumbik local government areas. YEPS case managers provide evidence-based, phase-specific treatment for young consumers and support to their families or carers. The service operates within business hours.

The team office is in Heidelberg. Travel will be expected between campuses as required and in an outreach capacity for the purposes of fulfilling the needs of the allocated caseload.



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Position responsibilities

Role Specific:

Direct Comprehensive Care

- Deliver high quality care for a small clinical caseload, as well as consultation and liaison with organisations.
- Provide direct service in the clinical assessment, diagnosis and treatment of young people and families utilising individual outreach approaches, selected treatment modalities suitable for engaging young people in their recovery, which may include mental health promotion and other professional development/capacity building activities.
- Complete a high standard of accurate and timely clinical and operational documentation and data entry in a timely and efficient manner, and in accordance with CYMHS standards of documentation and relevant professional/mental health sector statutory requirements.
- Provide high quality, evidence-based clinical assessment and treatment at an individual or family-system level as indicated by clinical need within available resources, primarily in an outreach capacity. • Perform mental health and risk assessment, plan and implement treatment interventions including crisis management, individual counselling, family work, and system containment and consultations for the client/carers/system.
- Support and enhance understanding and identification of social, emotional and behavioural problems in order to reduce impact and prevalence of mental health difficulties/disorders in schools and other external agencies.
- Provide relevant discipline specific assessments that may be required according to the Senior Mental Health Clinician's level of training and experience.
- Demonstrate strong clinical reasoning and decision-making skills with appropriate clinical independence, seeking support when necessary.
- Regularly record accurate health record information and statistics pertaining to individual clients' attributable care and clinical support activity.
- Working collaboratively with the school community and other services (e.g., Child Protection, drug and alcohol treatment services, Youth Justice and other organisations) in providing integrated treatment and management.
- Contribute to team, discipline and CYMHS operational activities, portfolio management, service planning, research and evaluation activities so that the team's and service's performance and culture is safe, healthy and productive with a view to continual improvement.
- Effectively engage and work with lived experience/consumer and carer advocates to enhance the knowledge, attitudes and skills of the team to improve quality of care.
- Comply with relevant professional and mental health sector legislative and statutory requirements.
- Maintain an awareness and practice of safety issues, the safe practice policy and procedures of the service, and relevant legislation to ensure that risks to consumers, carers, families, staff and the community are minimised.
- Undertake roles and other duties as directed and appropriate to their experience and training that are necessary for the efficient functioning of the team and the service.



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Education

- Actively participate in regular supervision (operational, professional and clinical) and performance development and review processes.
- Participate in both internal and external continuing education programs and demonstrate a commitment to improving professional performance and development to satisfy Continuing Professional Development requirements.
- Provide education to clinicians, students and external service providers as indicated.

Professional Leadership

- Provide secondary consultation to primary and other specialist service providers on behalf of the service.
- Participate in team quality improvement initiatives, supervision, departmental research and evaluation activities and to fill other portfolio responsibilities on behalf of the team and department as required.
- Provide support to the team's leadership, offering guidance, support and supervision to other members of the team, or students, as required.

Selection criteria

Essential Knowledge and skills:

Relevant, 5 minimum years of post-graduate experience in a tertiary mental health setting - specific to experience with children and young people.

- Demonstrated commitment to care for young people and their families in the least restrictive and intrusive manner, respecting rights, privacy, and dignity.
- Demonstrated commitment to working collaboratively with consumers and carers, to promote self-determination and progress toward personal recovery goals.
- Sound understanding of and ability to apply best evidence base for assessment and treatment.
- Experience in case management of consumers via implementation of tailored Individualised Treatment Plans.
- Well-developed interpersonal skills to effectively communicate with young people, families/carers
- Demonstrated ability to develop effective relationships with colleagues, service, and other external stakeholders.
- Thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of DHHS Recovery-Oriented Practice in Mental Health
- Sound knowledge of Mental Health and Wellbeing Act (2022) and other relevant legislation
- Excellent organisational and time management skills

Desirable but not essential:

- Demonstrated experience in the provision of clinical/professional supervision with willingness to develop and expand on these skills



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- Demonstrated ability to provide leadership to a multidisciplinary team with willingness to further develop these skills.
- Evidence of on-going professional development
- Demonstrated capacity to undertake/support research, publication, and public presentation.

Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- Current registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (APHRA) (all disciplines except Social Work and Speech Therapists):
- Relevant professional qualification in a health-related discipline (social work, occupational therapy, psychology, psychiatric nursing, or speech pathology) and current registration with the relevant professional board, Association or College.
- Registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) and approved post graduate qualifications in psychiatric nursing and/or relevant experience; or
- Registration with the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia and an approved Degree from a recognised school of Occupational Therapy or other qualifications approved for eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Occupational Therapy (Vic.) with a minimum of 5 years working as an Occupational Therapist in public mental health.; or
- Relevant postgraduate professional qualifications and current registration with AHPRA, with registration with a specialist endorsement in Clinical Psychology, the minimum of a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology, at least 5 years of clinical experiences as a registered psychologist, and APHRA endorsement as a Board Approved Supervisor with supervisory experience; or
- Speech Pathologists must have membership of Speech Pathology Australia, or be eligible for membership of Speech Pathology Australia.; or
- An approved degree in Social Work and eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers. A minimum of 5 years working as a social worker in public mental health
- Must meet minimum years of clinical experience for a senior role according to the Enterprise Agreement, specific to experience with children and young people within a tertiary mental health setting.
- A current Victorian Driver's License (without restrictions), and ability to drive a work vehicle.
- A current Working with Children's Check (without restrictions).

Quality, safety and risk – all roles

All Austin Health employees are required to:

- Maintain a safe working environment for yourself, colleagues and members of the public by following organisational safety, quality and risk policies and guidelines.
- Escalate concerns regarding safety, quality and risk to the appropriate staff member, if unable to rectify yourself.
- Promote and participate in the evaluation and continuous improvement processes.
- Comply with the principles of person-centered care.



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- Comply with requirements of National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and other relevant regulatory requirements.

Other conditions – all roles

All Austin Health employees are required to:

- Adhere to Austin Health’s core values: *our actions show we care, we bring our best, together we achieve, and we shape the future.*
- Comply with the Austin Health’s Code of Conduct policy, as well as all other policies and procedures (as amended from time to time).
- Comply with all Austin Health mandatory training and continuing professional development requirements.
- Provide proof of immunity to nominated vaccine preventable diseases in accordance with Austin Health’s immunisation screening policy.
- Work across multiple sites as per work requirements and/or directed by management.

General information

Cultural safety

Austin Health is committed to cultural safety and health equity for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People. We recognise cultural safety as the positive recognition and celebration of cultures. It is more than just the absence of racism or discrimination, and more than cultural awareness and cultural sensitivity. It empowers people and enables them to contribute and feel safe to be themselves.

Equal Opportunity Employer

We celebrate, value, and include people of all backgrounds, genders, identities, cultures, bodies, and abilities. We welcome and support applications from talented people identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, people with disability, neurodiverse people, LGBTQIA+ and people of all ages and cultures.

Austin Health is a child safe environment

We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. Austin Health has zero tolerance for any form of child abuse and commits to protect children. We take allegations of abuse and neglect seriously and will make every effort to mitigate and respond to risk in line with hospital policy and procedures.



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