

Lived Experience Peer Cadet Program

Position Summary

The Lived Experience Peer Cadet Program is an employment opportunity for people with lived experience undertaking the Cert IV in Mental Health Peer Work, to enter a period of 12 month paid cadetship across one of six participating Victorian non-government community mental health services as a consumer or carer lived experience practitioner.

Cadets will develop knowledge, skills, practical placement experience and completion of work placement, and confidence in a structured and supported environment. Throughout their employment cadets will receive individual support, supervision, and reflective practice opportunities that are discipline specific and take part in appropriate Community of Practice activities.

Peer cadets will be employed two days per week (0.4 FTE) over a 12-month period. Remuneration in line with industry award rates.

Lived Experience Peer Cadet Duties and Responsibilities

Peer Trainees will develop personal qualities and experience that are considered desirable to enable you to effectively work in the role of a lived experience consumer or carer peer worker within a large community mental health service. Required to learn by experience and demonstrate a number of competencies in a supportive environment. Cadets will grow their understanding, experience, and knowledge in relation to working in a large community mental health service. Gain an in-depth insight into the workings of how different service programs work together. You will learn from a wide variety of professionals – both clinical and non-clinical, from other peer workers, consumers, and their families. As well as growing understanding, experience and knowledge, cadets will build and grow a professional, social, and peer network.

What organisations are involved?

[cohealth](#), [EACH](#), [Mind Australia](#), [Neami National](#), [Uniting Victoria Tasmania](#), [wellways](#).

What areas of practice will this program cover?

General Mental Health, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Programs, Homelessness, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Psychosocial Support, Youth, Youth and Family Violence, Suicide Prevention, LGBTIQ+, Prevention and Recovery (PARC), Carer and Family Support.

Selection Criteria

This Lived Experience Peer Cadet program will run over 12 months and require the cadet to be on site for two days a week. Selected applicants from the application process will be interviewed by a participating organisation before final acceptance into the program.

- Be able to commit to the 12-month Lived Experience Cadetship program.
- Demonstrate initiative to develop, complete learning goals and tasks
- Offering respect and dignity when building hope-based peer relationships
- Active participation in team meetings, mentoring, and supervision as required
- A commitment to practice self-care and self-reflection

Qualifications/Evidence Required

- Provide evidence of enrolment and undertaking of the Cert IV in Mental Health Peer Work
- Evidence of COVID Vaccination (or medical exemption)

Other relevant information

- Working with Childrens Check
- Completion of a Police Check upon successful appointment
- Australian working rights
- NDIS Worker Screening (*If required by organisation*)
- Disability Exclusion Check (*if required by organisation*)
- Current Victorian Driver's License (*If required by organisation*)

What are the next steps?

Applications will open on the 17th of January and Close on the 31st of January. Screening will take place and successful applicants will be contacted by participating organisations for an interview.

If successful, a position will be offered for commencement on or around the 21st of February 2022.

We aim to specifically promote safety and inclusivity for LBGTIQ+ and First Nations communities and warmly welcome applications from those communities.

[Register your interest here.](#)