

Taikurtirna Warri-apintheta Practitioner

Department for Child Protection

Nurturing happy, healthy kids so they can grow up safe and reach their full potential.

CLASSIFICATION:

AHP1

DIRECTORATE:

Aboriginal Policy and Services

REPORTS TO:

Supervisor, Taikurtirna Warri-apintheta

FTE:

1.0

ROLES REPORTING TO THIS ROLE:

Nil

ABOUT THIS ROLE:

The Taikurtirna Warri-apintheta Practitioner is a role within the Department for Child Protection (DCP) and is accountable to the Supervisor, Taikurtirna Warri-apintheta. The role will provide support across DCP offices and will work closely with families and communities to map for placement and support options. Build and maintain a lifetime family support network for Aboriginal children and young people, whilst ensuring child safety. The role will use a family-led process to ensure children and young people are connected to their families, community, country, culture and identity in a timely and effective manner, particularly children and young people on temporary placements.

YOU WILL BE ADDING VALUE in line with the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle (ACPP) and the 5 Core Elements, including the Precursor, Identification, Prevention, Partnership, Placement, Participation and Connection by:

1. Establish meaningful, supportive and strong relationships for Aboriginal children and young people by way of engaging family, collaboration and participation, including attaining biological family connections and identity.
2. Use a variety of respectful techniques to identify relatives or other meaningful connections including identifying important people connected with family who can provide family information, mapping and family decision makers.
3. Develop a work plan to engage and prepare family networks including participation, urgency for the child or young person and identify supports and wraparound services that may be needed. Communicate the importance for connection to families and communities.
4. Support DCP staff to use Family Led Decision Making principles as a way to bring families together to develop a family led plan regarding safety and wellbeing for children and young people.
5. Monitor and problem solve the coping capabilities of individuals and assist in ensuring that Aboriginal families are enhanced through the provision of respectful consultation processes to advocate the importance of connections for Aboriginal children and young people.
6. Ensure Aboriginal children and young people remain connected to their families, community, country, culture and identity.
7. Provide culturally appropriate and relevant information in relation to identified needs for DCP staff to contribute to prevention and intervention plans.
8. Develop and sustain partnership internally and across DCP front-end offices.
9. Provide active efforts in visiting families to work and identify family placements and supports.
10. Develop and maintain effective and culturally safe working relationships with the Aboriginal community and other key stakeholders in order to achieve quality outcomes for Aboriginal families and their children.
11. Contribute to the provision and coordination of culturally appropriate service delivery
12. Contribute to the protection of Aboriginal children.
13. Identify potential risk issues regarding the care, safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal children and that reporting is in line with departmental policies and procedures.
14. Contribute to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment by taking personal accountability by identifying and reporting incidents, hazards and injuries in accordance with DCP policy & procedure, and cooperating and complying with reasonable instructions of DCP line management and WHS Officers.

WHO YOU WILL WORK WITH:

- Supervisor (direct line manager)
- Management and staff within the office and across DCP
- Aboriginal Community
- Other government departments
- Relevant Non-Government organisations
- Aboriginal Lead Practitioner
- Director, Aboriginal Practice and Policy

QUALIFICATIONS

Essential: A degree level qualification in Social Work which gives eligibility for full membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers

Desirable: Nil

Persons of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, who have the appropriate background and skills but do not have the essential qualification, may apply for and be engaged/assigned to the role of Social Worker and will be entitled to apply for any Allied Health Professional roles requiring a qualification in Social Work within the Department for Child Protection (DCP).



YOUR CAPABILITIES:

- Ability to establish, lead and maintain formal and informal networks and partnerships with Aboriginal people through their kinship systems.
- Capacity and capability to understand the context of child development, parenting capacity, including Aboriginal child rearing practices, and family and environmental factors in which to establish the need of an individual child.
- Ability to understand the factors that contribute to child abuse, including social and structural factors for Aboriginal people.
- Ability to identify and respond to needs and risks to safety, wellbeing and development of children and young people as well as ability to assess and form an opinion on the cultural needs of the client.
- Ability to manage workloads, organise and plan work activities taking into account the need to prioritise tasks and responsibilities.
- Ability to develop and maintain strong working relationships with people both within government, non-government sector and community to promote positive outcomes for children and families.
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of children and young people particularly in regard to developmental stages, vulnerability and resilience.
- Demonstrated ability to apply culturally sensitive child protection practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and community from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Demonstrated knowledge and commitment to promoting and creating a safe and inclusive work environment.

OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintain accurate and complete records in accordance with the *State Records Act 1997* and departmental policies, procedures and practice guidance.
- Understand and follow the requirements of confidentiality within the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017*, and whole of government and DCP policies, procedures and practice guidance to facilitate appropriate standards of confidentiality and information sharing practice.
- Actively participate in performance development processes.
- Comply with reporting obligations arising from legislation, professional conduct standards including the Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector, and departmental policies, procedures and practice guidance.
- Undertake mandatory training activities as specified with the DCP Mandatory Training Procedure.
- Actively contribute to Reconciliation, and to the aims and objectives of the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle.
- Demonstrate a commitment to preventing gendered violence against women consistent with DCP's status as a White Ribbon Accredited Workplace.
- Maintain the Program Standards of White Ribbon Reaccreditation.
- Actively support DCP's commitment to ensuring a workplace culture that is respectful, safe and inclusive where our employees are free from discrimination and are recognised for the individual and collective skills and perspectives that they bring by virtue of culture, race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status and other differences.
- Act at all times in accordance with the Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector and legislative requirements including (but not limited to) the *Public Sector Act 2009* and *Work Health and Safety Act 2012*.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- You must have, or gain, a current Department of Human Services working with children check prior to being employed and renew this every five years before expiry.
- You must be an Australian resident or provide evidence that you have a current work permit.
- You will need to undertake training in Child Safe Environments – Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect and other mandatory training as required.
- The incumbent will be required to achieve performance targets as negotiated and mutually agreed with the Supervisor, Taikurtirna Warri-apinhi.
- You may be required to perform duties in other locations/divisions/units dependent upon Departmental requirements.



YOU WILL CONTRIBUTE TO



OUR VISION is for all children and young people to grow up safe, healthy, connected and feeling loved so they reach their full potential.



OUR PURPOSE: The Department for Child Protection protects, cares for and empowers children and young people at risk and in care. We do this by working together with our key partners to respond to abuse and neglect, keep children and young people safe from further harm, help them heal from trauma and reach their full potential.



Leaders in practice excellence

Staff in all parts of child protection develop and use best practice in their work to deliver improved outcomes for children, young people, carers, and families.



Closing the Gap

We commit to a transformed child protection system that makes active efforts and where Aboriginal people and communities are empowered to lead decision making about the care and wellbeing of Aboriginal children and young people.



A child protection system that meets the needs of children and young people

We commission and deliver services based on a deep understanding of the needs of children and young people in care and our aspirations for them to heal from trauma and reach their full potential.



A thriving workforce

We are future focused in our workforce strategy, supporting and valuing our staff, proactively recruiting, and establishing sustainable systems, processes and workplaces that enable us to be highly effective.



Active and collaborative partnerships

We work together with our service partners and alongside the community to improve outcomes for children, young people, carers, and families.



Working alongside carers

We respect and value carers as vital partners in keeping children and young people safe and well.



Quality services and safeguarding

We are accountable and transparent, and pursue continuous improvements to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people throughout the services we fund and provide.

CERTIFIED CORRECT



Government of South Australia
Department for Child Protection