

# **Position Description**

Position Social Worker

**Team / Service** Social Work Department

**Directorate** Community, Older Adults and Allied Health

**District** Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley

**Responsible to** Social Work Team/Professional Leader

Professional accountability to Above

**Children's Act 2014** This position is classified as a children's worker, requiring a safety check

including police vetting before commencing and every three years

**Location** This position is expected to work from Hutt Hospital

#### Te Whatu Ora

The Health System in Aotearoa is entering a period of transformation as we implement the Pae Ora/Healthy Futures vision of a reformed system where people live longer in good health, have improved quality of life, and there is equity between all groups.

We want to build a healthcare system that works collectively and cohesively around a shared set of values and a culture that enables everyone to bring their best to work and feel proud when they go home to their whānau, friends and community. The reforms are expected to achieve five system shifts. These are:

- 1. The health system will reinforce Te Tiriti principles and obligations
- 2. All people will be able to access a comprehensive range of support in their local communities to help them stay well
- 3. Everyone will have equal access to high quality emergency and specialist care when they need it
- 4. Digital services will provide more people the care they need in their homes and communities
- 5. Health and care workers will be valued and well-trained for the future health system

### **Context**

Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley district provides hospital and health services in primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare to a total population base of approximately 445,000 citizens.

We are accountable for meeting the needs of and improving health outcomes for all the constituent populations of our district, and the region more broadly. Together we:

- provide secondary and tertiary, medical and surgical hospital services alongside community based health care
- fund local health providers and work collaboratively with the community to create and support multiple health education initiatives and projects within the region

- deliver health services directly as well as contracting external providers
- provide local, sub-regional, regional and national health services as well as community-based health, rehabilitation and support services.

The majority of the district's population live in Wellington and Lower Hutt. The Māori and Pacific populations of Lower Hutt and Wellington are proportionally similar, with the largest Pacific population in the region in Porirua. Kapiti and Upper Hutt have similar numbers of Māori and Pacific people. Most people are enrolled with a GP near their place of residence, so the increasing focus on community-based healthcare is expected to lead to better health outcomes for these population groups. Hutt Hospital provides secondary and some tertiary, medical and surgical hospital services alongside community based health care from its main facility in Lower Hutt City. In addition to funding local health providers and working collaboratively with the community to create and support multiple health education initiatives and projects, Hutt Hospital is the centre for five tertiary regional and sub-regional services - Plastics, Maxillofacial and Burns Services; Rheumatology; Dental Services; Regional Public Health; and Regional (Breast and Cervical) Screening Services.

Wellington Regional Hospital in Newtown is the region's main tertiary hospital with services such as complex specialist and acute procedures, intensive care, cardiac surgery, cancer care, neurosurgery and renal care. The hospital is the key tertiary referral centre for the lower half of the North Island and the upper half of the South Island.

Kenepuru Community Hospital and Kapiti Health Centre provide secondary and community services based in Porirua and the Kapiti Coast

MHAIDS is the mental health, addictions and intellectual disability service for the Wairarapa District and Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley District, with multiple specialist facilities. Ratonga Rua-o- Porirua is our forensic, rehabilitation and intellectual disability inpatient unit.

### Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Māori Health Outcomes

Māori are the indigenous peoples of Aotearoa. We have particular responsibilities and accountabilities through this founding document of Aotearoa. We value Te Tiriti and have adopted the following four goals, developed by the Ministry of Health, each expressed in terms of mana and the principles of:

Mana whakahaere Effective and appropriate stewardship or kaitiakitanga over the health and disability

system. This goes beyond the management of assets or resources.

Mana motuhake Enabling the right for Māori to be Māori (Māori self-determination); to exercise their

authority over their lives, and to live on Māori terms and according to Māori

philosophies, values and practices including tikanga Māori.

Mana tāngata Achieving equity in health and disability outcomes for Māori across the life course and

contributing to Māori wellness.

Mana Māori Enabling Ritenga Māori (Māori customary rituals) which are framed by Te Aō Māori

(the Māori world), enacted through tikanga Māori (Māori philosophy & customary

practices) and encapsulated within mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge).

We will target, plan and drive our health services to create equity of health care for Māori to attain good health and well-being, while developing partnerships with the wider social sector to support whole of system change.

### The Vision, Mission and Values from our District

We bring forward and join our values within our district. These will change as we become a team of teams within Te Whatu Ora.

Hutt Valley	Capital and Coast
Vision Whanau Ora ki te Awakairangi: Healthy people, healthy families and healthy communities are so interlinked that it is impossible to identify which one comes first and then leads to another.	Vision Keeping our community healthy and well
Mission Working together for health and wellbeing.	Mission Together, Improve the Health and Independence of the People of the District
Ō mātou uara – Values Mahi Pai 'Can do': Mahi Tahi in Partnership: Mahi Tahi Te Atawhai Tonu Always caring and Mahi Rangatira being our Best	Value  Manaakitanga – Respect, caring, kindness  Kotahitanga – Connection, unity, equity  Rangatiratanga – Autonomy, integrity, excellence

## **District Responsibility**

The district leadership have collective accountability for leading with integrity and transparency a progressive, high performing organisation, aimed at improving the health and independence of the community we serve and achieving equitable outcomes for all. The leadership team are responsible for achieving this aim, aligned with our Region, within the available resources, through a skilled, empowered, motivated and supported workforce in line with government and HNZ policy.

## **Team/Service Perspective**

The Social Work Department provides secondary health social work services to patients/clients within the hospital setting and/or in the community. Services are provided on all of the inpatient wards including Medical Assessment and Planning Unit (MAPU) and Emergency Department (ED).

Social Workers work as members of interdisciplinary teams providing assessment, interventions and discharge planning with patients/clients who present with a range of complex physical and psychosocial needs.

Social workers are allocated to inpatient wards across the hospital setting. This allocation may change from time to time due to demand. All social workers develop and require specific health related knowledge and skills which reflect the area to which they are allocated. Additionally, all social workers require a base level of competency and confidence to work across all patient areas as social workers support other areas of the hospital from time to time, provide cover for colleagues on leave, and participate in a duty roster system.

# Purpose of the role

#### Clinical/Speciality Area

This position works across all inpatient areas at Hutt Hospital joining a team of 14 social workers in the social work department. This role provides cover when the usual social worker is on leave, or to assist other social workers as required. Areas include the Emergency Department, Medical Ward, Women's Health, Plastics and Burns, Paediatrics, Orthopaedics, Surgical, Oncology and Older Persons and Rehabilitation Wards.

#### **Clinical Skills**

Social workers provide comprehensive assessment and intervention for patients and their whānau to promote and support best possible health outcomes, independance, autonomy, and dignity of life.

### **Demographics**

Social workers work with people from a wide range of ages, cultures, deprivation and need across the region.

### **Key Accountabilities**

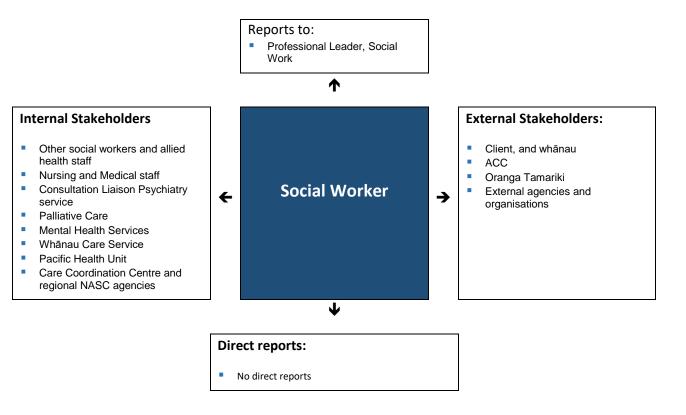
The following role accountabilities may evolve with organisational change and there may be additional duties, relevant to this position that will be required to be performed from time to time.

Key accountabilities	Deliverables / Outcomes
1. Clinical Practice	<ul> <li>Takes legal and professional responsibility for managing own caseload of patients / clients, with support from a more experienced social worker.</li> <li>Carries out comprehensive assessment with patients (and whānau where appropriate) This may include use of standardised assessments to assist in assessment and intervention planning.</li> <li>Formulates and delivers individualised social work intervention using appropriate clinical assessment, reasoning skills and knowledge of treatment approaches. This should, take into account the patient's own goals and those of the wider multidisciplinary team (MDT).</li> <li>Demonstrates effective communication to establish a therapeutic relationship and set expectations with the patient, whānau and MDT, inclusive of the wider health team and external agencies as appropriate.</li> <li>Assesses the patient's understanding of assessment, interventions and goals and gain informed consent for intervention, taking into account</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>those who lack capacity (e.g. those with cognitive difficulties).</li> <li>Regularly reassesses and evaluates the patient / client's progress against identified goals and adjust intervention as situations change.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Develops comprehensive discharge / transfer plans as appropriate.</li> <li>Refers on to other services to work with the patient/client towards achievement of longer term goals.</li> </ul>

Carries out regular clinical risk assessments for patients/ clients on own caseload and takes action to effectively manage identified risks, seeking support where appropriate. This may include assessing harm to self and/or others, elder abuse and neglect, family violence, child abuse and neglect and vulnerable adults. Demonstrates provision of culturally safe and bicultural practice with patients and their whānau. Actively contributes at clinical meetings and case conferences to ensure the delivery of a coordinated multidisciplinary service and to ensure that social work is integrated into the overall intervention including discharge planning. Completes documentation consistent with legal and organisational requirements. Adheres to any applicable recognised best practice for social work and any relevant clinical policies and practice guidelines. Provides advice, teaching and instructions to patients, carers, relatives and other professionals to promote consistency of support being delivered. Demonstrates an understanding of the roles of the multidisciplinary team. Maintains competency to practice through identification of learning 2. Teaching & Learning needs and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities. This should comply with professional registration requirements. Contributes to the education of social work students as directed and delegated by student supervisors. Maintains an awareness of current developments in the clinical areas being worked in. Be involved in the induction and training of newly appointed staff as required. Completes mandatory training as applicable for the role. Participates in an annual performance review and associated clinical assurance activities. Participates in regular professional supervision in line with the organisations requirements and/or professional body. 3. Leadership & Attends and contributes to relevant department, clinical and team Management meetings Directs and delegates work to allied health assistants and support staff as required in the role, ensuring that delegated tasks, documentation and communication is carried out. 4. Service Improvement Undertakes as directed, the collection of data for use in service audit and Research and research projects.

- Participates in quality improvement activities when requested.
- Contributes to annual planning process, including identifying gaps in service and participating in work / projects that may result from the planning process.
- Practises in a way that utilises resources (including staffing) in the most cost effective manner.
- Awareness of and complies with all legislative and contractual requirements as applicable to the role (e.g. Health and safety in Employment Act 1992, Privacy Act 1993, Vulnerable Children's Act 2014, Privacy Act, ACC service specifications etc.).

# **Key Relationships & Authorities**



# **Capability Profile**

Solid performance in the role requires demonstration of the following competencies. These competencies provide a framework for selection and development.

Competency	Behaviours
Problem	Uses rigorous logic and methods to solve difficult problems with effective
Solving	solutions
	Probes all fruitful sources for answers

Competency	Behaviours
	<ul> <li>Can see hidden problems</li> <li>Is excellent at honest analysis</li> <li>Looks beyond the obvious and doesn't stop at first answers</li> </ul>
Interpersonal Savvy	<ul> <li>Relates well to all kinds of people – up, down, and sideways, inside and outside the organisation</li> <li>Builds appropriate rapport</li> <li>Builds constructive and effective relationships</li> <li>Uses diplomacy and tact</li> </ul>
Communication	<ul> <li>Practises active and attentive listening.</li> <li>Explains information and gives instructions in clear and simple terms.</li> <li>Willingly answers questions and concerns raised by others.</li> <li>Responds in a non-defensive way when asked about errors or oversights, or when own position is challenged.</li> <li>Is confident and appropriately assertive in dealing with others.</li> <li>Deals effectively with conflict.</li> </ul>
Team Work	<ul> <li>Develops constructive working relationships with other team members.</li> <li>Has a friendly manner and a positive sense of humour.</li> <li>Works cooperatively - willingly sharing knowledge and expertise with colleagues.</li> <li>Shows flexibility - is willing to change work arrangements or take on extra tasks in the short term to help the service or team meet its commitments.</li> <li>Supports in word and action decisions that have been made by the team</li> <li>Uses time effectively and efficiently – values time, concentrates efforts on the</li> </ul>
Management	more important priorities.  Personally committed to and actively works to continuously improve.
Self Development	<ul> <li>Understands that different situations and levels may call for different skills and approaches.</li> <li>Works to deploy strengths.</li> <li>Works on compensating for weakness and limits.</li> </ul>

# **Experience and Capability**

Essential qualifications, skills and experience

### A. Knowledge, Skills & Experience:

- Minimum of 3 years of professional practice, with at least 2 years within a health setting.
- Comprehensive psycho-social assessment;
- Risk assessment and safety planning;

- Recognising and responding to concerns and risks of safety for children (Child Protection) and indicators of family violence; with risks for care and safety of vulnerable and/or older adults;
- Assisting individuals and families to manage the impact of diagnosis and/or long-term health conditions; and/or disabilities;
- Supportive counselling;
- Exploring appropriate and available support services for patients and whānau;
- Facilitating family meetings;
- Navigating and working within the legal requirements of health care and social work;
- Liaising with doctors, nursing staff and other health professionals working within a multi-disciplinary team:
- Liaising with and making relevant referrals to internal and external support agencies and services;
- Advocacy;
- Using reflective practice as a tool for growth and development;
- Trauma and Crisis intervention;
- Identifying and responding to grief, loss and bereavement concerns;
- Navigating and using legislative frameworks related to family violence, care and protection of children and vulnerable adults/older people (including liaison with Oranga Tamariki)

### B. Essential Professional Qualifications / Accreditations / Registrations:

- NZ Registered Social Worker with current annual practicing certificate.
- Member of Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers Professional Association (desirable).

#### C. Someone well-suited to the role will place a high value on the following:

- Focus on delivering high quality care for the patient/client/whānau.
- Self motivated in developing clinical and professional practice.

#### D. Other:

- A commitment and understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi (and application to health) and a willingness to work positively in improving health outcomes for Māori.
- Current full NZ driver's licence
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office, Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, Internet resources and e-mail.
- A high standard of written and spoken English.

Ma tini, ma mano, ka rapa te whai By joining together we will succeed

Te Whatu Ora is committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles of partnership, participation, equity and protection by ensuring that guidelines for employment policies and procedures are implemented in a way that recognises Māori cultural practices.

We are committed to supporting the principles of Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) through the provision and practice of equal access, consideration, and encouragement in the areas of employment, training, career development and promotion for all its employees.