Position Description Mental Health Nurse

Department
Clinics

Title:
Mental Health Nurse

Classification:
Clinical Nurse Specialist

Reporting to
Clinical Program Manager, Primary Care, Well-being and Allied Health; and Director of Nursing

Time Commitment
0.8 FTE

Employment Type
Permanent

Position Purpose
The Mental Health Nurse will provide enhanced mental health triage services, emergency mental health care and support, facilitated access to specific mental health services, and support during recovery. They will take part in the development, implementation and coordination of mental health strategies to improve and facilitate mental health care of students.

About the Hospital:
Macquarie University Hospital is Australia’s first and only private not-for-profit teaching hospital located on a University campus. The Hospital’s commitment to patient care is captured by our values based culture and our purpose: heal, learn, discover. As part of MQ health, incorporating MUH, the Clinic and the Macquarie University Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences our vision is to be a world-class university health sciences centre, integrating clinical care, learning and research to improve lives. Built to exacting standards, equipped with the best available tools and technology and staffed by a superior team of caring professionals the Hospital is well positioned to become Australia’s leading private health care provider.

Last reviewed:
3 May 2018
Key responsibilities

Reports to: Clinical Program Manager, Primary Care, Well-being and Allied Health; and Director of Nursing

Positions Reporting to: None

Key Clients: Macquarie University students

Key Stakeholders:
- Campus Well-Being clinicians and staff
- GP Clinic clinicians and staff

Key Accountabilities

Triage and Liaison

- To conduct mental health and risk assessments and welfare checks for students walk-ins and service users (General Practitioners, Campus Wellbeing)
- To receive direct referrals from Campus Well-being and/or Security to the GP Clinic.
- To ascertain level of severity of the students’ condition
- To liaise with Campus Wellbeing, Security, and/or Police for any safety, risk and behavioural management concerns

Crisis Management and Critical Incident Response

- Respond and manage crisis situations using de-escalation strategies and brief interventions
- Identify and efficiently conduct internal and external referral pathways, whichever is appropriate
- Be able to initiate and/or coordinate the involuntary process of treating an individual under the Mental health Act NSW 2007 when voluntary measures have been exhausted and risks are imminent while safeguarding the individuals rights and dignity
- In collaboration with the multidisciplinary team within MQ Health and Campus Wellbeing as well as other relevant agencies within and external to the University, establish crisis and personal management plans

Delivery of Clinical Care

- Provide efficient, effective and responsive mental health care for students of Macquarie University.
- Provide psychoeducation about the correlation of physical health and mental health and promote healthy lifestyle
- Employ a holistic approach in treatment, incorporating the needs of the individual which encompasses their mental, psychosocial, environmental, cultural, spiritual, physical health and well-being
- Contribute, both within MQ Health and the university, to the planning, implementation and evaluation of therapeutic group activities and take part in organising events/programs aimed at reducing stigma, promoting mental health awareness, prevention, early intervention and strengthening clients’ independence and social integration consistent with the nationwide university programs such as “healthy Universities” as well as the Macquarie University strategic framework.
• Maintain essential and quality clinical documentation for students, entering, exiting and continuing with care.
• Ensure compliance with all legislative and regulatory requirements including Duty of Care, Freedom of Information, Privacy Act, Sexual Harassment and Occupation Health and Safety.
• Ensure that the delivery of care is in accordance with National Mental Health and Australian Clinical Practice Guidelines
• Abide by the codes of professional conduct established by professional associations

**Other**
- Other duties as directed, within approved scope of practice.

**Skills and Competencies**

**Key Selection Criteria**
Candidates are required to respond to each of the selection criteria.

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<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Experience/Knowledge/Attributes</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Mental Health Nurse registered with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority (AHPRA)</td>
<td>• Proven clinical experience in patient assessment, management and recent acute inpatient and or community experience</td>
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<td>• Sound knowledge and understanding of NSW and National Legislation governing area of practice (e.g. Mental Health Act, NSW 2007)</td>
<td>• Excellent triage skills</td>
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<td>• Basic first Aid and CPR certificate</td>
<td>• Extensive experience in the provision of mental health care including Medicare processing, completion of mental health assessments, crisis management, general health checks, psycho-education, psychopharmacological and therapeutic interventions based on current evidence-based approaches.</td>
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<td>• Experience working with culturally and linguistically diverse background</td>
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<td>• Proficiency in recording patient care details electronically</td>
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<td>• Organisational skills, with the ability to work autonomously within the multi-disciplinary team</td>
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<td>• Experience in delivering group education</td>
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<td>• High level communication, written and verbal, with demonstrated high level of interpersonal skills with clients, their families and all health care professionals</td>
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<td>• Computer literacy with common Microsoft platforms and patient management systems</td>
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<td>• Experience working in a University environment or with young adults, particularly international students</td>
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<td>• Experience in the planning, provision and evaluation of group-based activities for students, staff and/or the wider community.</td>
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• Essential
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• Essential
• Preferable
• Preferable
• Demonstrate commitment to community participation and ongoing engagement with consumer

• Demonstrate commitment to participating in the ongoing quality improvement activities of the agency

## Role Specific Conditions

| Other | • A valid working with children’s check card |

## Values

The six values described below capture the essence of the Hospital’s culture and play an important role in the way we assess the performance of our teams, staff and managers.

**Caring**
We act with deep respect and compassion for the dignity and diversity of our patients, staff, students and community.

**Integrity**
We are committed to being consistent, principled, honest and accurate in our actions, decisions, and communication.

**Teamwork**
We recognise that all individuals bring qualities and talents to their roles. Through collaboration, we enhance our work environment and the outcomes for our patients.

**Ambition**
We are ambitious in our efforts to achieve excellence in everything we do, exceeding expectations and setting new standards in our field.

**Innovation**
We have a special charge to bring new ideas and new evidence based knowledge into practice at every opportunity to advance health, clinical care and wellbeing, to improve lives.

**Engagement**
We willingly engage and collaborate with those beyond the perimeter of our campus and our country to multiply the impact and effectiveness of our work.