

Wathaurong Position Description			
<b>Position Title</b>	Social & Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) Worker	<b>Contract</b>	Full-Time, Ongoing
<b>Identified Position</b>	No- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples are encouraged to apply		
<b>Business unit</b>	Health Services		
<b>Award</b>	Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010		
<b>Classification</b>	Social and Community Service Employee, Level 4		
<b>Reports to</b>	SEWB Team Leader		
<b>Direct Reports</b>	N/A		

Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative	
	<p>Wathaurong was formed by Community in 1978 as a place of common ground where Aboriginal people could be together and share in a sense of Community, with formal registration in 1980 to support the social, economic, and cultural development of the local Aboriginal Community. Wathaurong is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation governed by an Aboriginal Board who are elected through the Annual General Meeting process annually, with their Chief Executive Officer to operationalise the strategic directives of the Board.</p> <p>Wathaurong operate on the traditional lands of the Wadda Wurrung, Boonwurrung, Gulidjan and Gabudanud peoples. Our support focuses on the local government areas of Geelong, Wyndham, Golden Plains, Colac Otway, Surf Coast and Queenscliff.</p>
<small>(Pictured - Wathaurong Service catchment area)</small>	

Purpose of the Role
<p>The Social &amp; Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) worker will provide culturally appropriate support services to Community Members within the Wathaurong, Gulidjan, &amp; Gadubanud Communities. Our work is underpinned by the Aboriginal Social and Emotional Wellbeing Framework, (Balit Murrup – “Strong Spirit”) and we support Community Members in building their self-determination and to meet individual wellbeing goals. Community members actively</p>



**Purpose of the Role**

participate in their individual wellbeing journey, with our team ensuring each Community Member's unique journey is recognised, respected and supported.

We emphasise Community Members' strengths, resilience, and ability to overcome challenges, while making sure their independence and choices are respected. Within the Social & Emotional Wellbeing Team, we offer two types of programs: individual (1:1) support to Community Members, and programs delivered in a group setting.

Social & Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) Workers offer support on a brief intervention basis, with the program duration generally ranging from 6-12 weeks, depending on individual needs. The role works closely with a range of SEWB programs including:

- Intake & Assessment
- Alcohol and other drugs (AOD)
- Bring them home (BTH)
- Women's group
- Men's Group
- Psychology and Counselling
- Cultural Care Connect
- Towards Home Plus, Step Thru Care, Head to Health and GCQ Locals

**Primary Responsibilities**

The SEWB Worker will provide a tailored package of care to Wathaurong Community Members, utilising the Social and Emotional Wellbeing framework to plan and deliver support services in alignment with each Community Members unique expressed needs and wishes. This position aims to:

- Provide culturally appropriate support for people experiencing mild to moderate mental health challenges.
- Use trauma-informed, strength based and recovery orientated practices in all aspects of service delivery, including direct support, assessment, planning and case recording.
- Prioritise the wellbeing, safety, and stability of the Community Member and to actively engage each community member (and family/carer wherever possible) in a process of individualised assessment, service planning and service review.
- See the Community Member's best interests through a holistic Cultural lens.
- See Community Members within the context of their past and present experiences.
- Empower Community Members to make important decisions about themselves.
- Respect and promote connection to family and community.
- Assist Community to access both Wathaurong and external services, help with service navigation, and facilitate appointments where necessary.



**Primary Responsibilities**

- Actively identify and reduce barriers for accessing services and support, including conducting outreach or home visits where individuals feel most comfortable.
- Assist Community Members to access the services they need and where appropriate, provide warm formal and informal referrals to relevant services.
- Advocate for the rights of First Nations People and culturally appropriate care.
- Work in collaboration with other Wathaurong and general Community services to provide holistic and culturally appropriate health care to Community Members.
- Resource Community Members with appropriate psychoeducational resources.
- Accompany, support and advocate for clients at relevant appointments as required.
- Document all outcomes within the “Best Practice” patient management system and have all client related contact noted within the program for accurate data management & documentation.
- Take a role in identifying gaps and assisting SEWB team program development.
- Participate in planning, implementation, evaluation, and data collection of health needs for the community.
- The SEWB role will utilise a centre based and an assertive outreach model of care to members of the Wathaurong Community. In-reach services will be provided to clients who are engaged in specialist treatment services such as inpatient settings.
- Support and promote Wathaurong Group programs, Community events and cultural connection.
- Working from different sites as required
- Other duties as lawfully and reasonably directed and within the scope of the position, and within the requirements of the organisation.
- Commitment and contribution to Quality Improvement Activities
- Work in a manner that observes Occupational Health & Safety legislation

**Selection Criteria**

**Essential**

- Relevant qualification (or working toward) in Community Services, Social Work, Psychology, or related area.
- Demonstrated understanding of social, physical, economical, and cultural strengths and challenges affecting Aboriginal communities and their ability to access adequate and quality services.
- Demonstrated skills and experience in delivery of social and emotional wellbeing support in both group and individual settings.
- Knowledge of safe and appropriate culturally centred practices for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander focused services.



**Primary Responsibilities**

- Demonstrated high level of knowledge and understanding of the mental health sector and community support services.
- Sound knowledge of Aboriginal Culture, issues affecting Aboriginal people, and Aboriginal Service sector.
- Excellent interpersonal skills with ability to develop positive stakeholder relationships and communicate with diverse individuals in a culturally appropriate manner.
- Ability to demonstrate resilience and work in challenging and high-pressured environments.
- Strong written communication skills including a high level of accuracy, record keeping, and report writing abilities.
- Ability to work effectively and cooperatively as part of a team.
- Knowledge of safe and appropriate culturally centred practices for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander focused services, including employment of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.
- Demonstrated understanding of social, physical, economical, and cultural strengths and challenges affecting Aboriginal communities and their ability to access adequate and quality services.
- Understanding of the purpose and expectations of the Victorian Child Safe Standards and demonstrated commitment to contributing to a child safe organisation in both practice and culture.

**Desirable**

- Identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- Demonstrated experience working with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.

**Conditions of Employment**

- Must pass a National Police Record Check.
- Must pass and hold a Working With Children Check throughout the period of employment.
- Must hold a current Driver Licence.
- Must pass safety screening checks as required based on the position and/or as requested by the funding body.
- All positions are subject to funding.
- All positions are subject to an initial six (6) month probationary period.
- Other terms and conditions are in line with the relevant industrial instrument and internal policies.



**Wathaurong’s Commitment to Safety**

Wathaurong is committed to providing a child safe environment. We have zero tolerance of any abuse or maltreatment of children. We report any allegations and wellbeing concerns to authorities.

**Physical requirements & environmental conditions of the role**

The following table identifies the physical and psychological work environment characteristics that are inherent requirements of the role. Where possible, Wathaurong will make reasonable adjustments to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of their roles.

***A signed pre-existing condition declaration form is required to be completed prior to commencing in this role***

<b><i>Required activities / working environment</i></b>	<b><i>Frequency</i></b>
Computer based tasks, sedentary position, office based	Often
Repetitive manual tasks	Rarely
Driving, in & out of vehicles	Often
Lifting/moving equipment	Sometimes
Walking, climbing stairs, bending	Sometimes
Working alone or at a co-located site	Sometimes
Confrontational/confronting situations <i>(Due to the nature of our work, there may be times when staff are exposed to behaviour, language and/or situations that can be confronting)</i>	Sometimes
Working outside in differing weather conditions	Rarely
Attending external locations including client homes	Often

**Position Description Acceptance**

**Signed by the Employee:**

I have read and understood the above and agree to carry out the duties listed in my Position Description.

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Name

Signature

Date