Wathaurong Position Description			
Position Title	Social & Emotional Wellbeing Worker – GGQ Mental Health and Wellbeing Local	**Contract**	(FT – Ongoing)
Identified Position	Yes - This is a special measures role and only Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples are eligible to apply		
Business unit	Health Services		
Award	Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010		
Classification	Social and Community Service Employee Level 4		
Reports to	SEWB Team Leader – GGQ Mental Health and Wellbeing Local		
Direct Reports	Nil		

Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative

(Pictured - Wathaurong Service catchment area)

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.

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.

Purpose of the Role

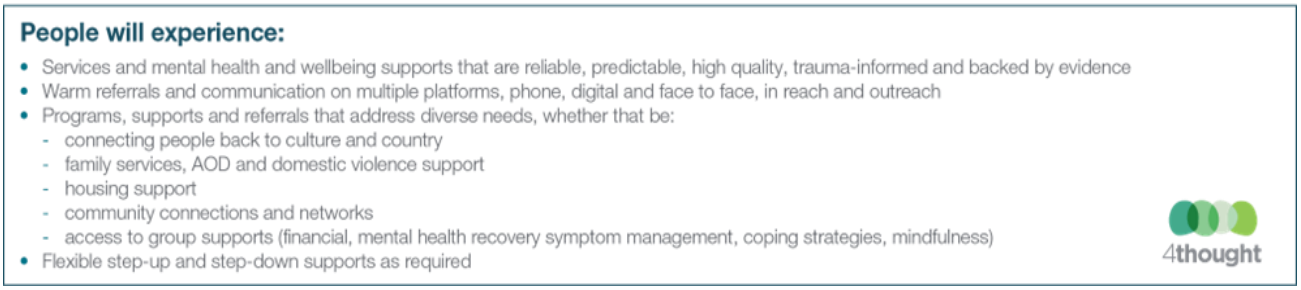
The GGQ (Greater Geelong & Queenscliff) Mental Health and Wellbeing Local is delivered by a consortium of partners: Barwon Health, Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative Ltd, Wellways Australia and ermha365.

The GGQ Mental Health and Wellbeing Local is underpinned by positivity, hope and inclusion. No matter whether a client, carer or provider enters or seeks assistance via digital platforms, contact centre, or physical locations, the first engagement will always start with a simple

Purpose of the Role

question: “Welcome, how can we help?”. Drawing on established services, networks, and pathways, the GGQ Mental Health and Wellbeing Local provides seamless integration between local, area and wellbeing services for the benefit of consumers, carers, and providers. This is supported through standardised assessment tools, treatment and support processes, care plans and care coordination, colocation of services and regional navigational pathways.

The three core elements of the GGQ Local service are people, purpose, and place:



The Social & Emotional Wellbeing worker role aims to provide culturally appropriate care to Community Members (Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders) who access the GGQ Local, who are experiencing mild to moderate mental health challenges and/or substance use disorders.

Through the provision of appropriate care, the SEWB worker role contributes to improvement in Social and Emotional Wellbeing outcomes, through the provision of:

- Support to explore each individual Community Members Social and Emotional Wellbeing needs and circumstance.
- Case Management and direct support to Community Members presenting with complex needs.
- Encouragement, psychoeducation and raising awareness with individual Community Members on how to take positive action to deal with Social & Emotional Wellbeing challenges that are impacting on their Mental Health and/or Alcohol and other Drugs issues.

Purpose of the Role

- Work alongside GGQ Locals staff, Wathaurong Health Service team, other Wathaurong programs and external agencies to develop effective strategies for appropriate referral and care coordination.

Primary Responsibilities

This position aims to:

- Provide culturally appropriate support for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People ("Community Members") 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.
- Development of an individualised Social and Emotional Wellbeing Plan, in collaboration with the Community Member and their family/carer when appropriate.
- See the Community Member's best interests through a holistic cultural, traditional or spiritual 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, extended family and community.
- Assist Community Members to access GGQ Locals services, Wathaurong services and help with service navigation, and facilitate appointments where necessary.
- Actively identify and reduce barriers for accessing services and support, including conducting outreach or home visits where individuals feel most comfortable.
- Provide feedback to Team leader regarding any service barriers, access issues, or systemic failures if arise.
- Take a role in identifying gaps and assisting GGQ Locals and SEWB team program development.
- 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 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and culturally appropriate care.
- Work in collaboration with all GCQ Locals staff and 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 GGQ Locals client management system and have all client related contact noted within the program for accurate data management & documentation.
- Participate in planning, implementation, evaluation, and data collection of health needs for the community.
- Work from different sites as required

Primary Responsibilities
• Other duties as lawfully and reasonably directed and within the scope of the position, and within the requirements of the organisation. • Contribute to Quality Improvement Activities • Work in a manner that observes Occupational Health & Safety legislation

Selection Criteria
Essential • Be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander decent • Relevant qualification (or working toward) in Community Services, Social Work, Psychology, or related area and/or experience providing support services. • Demonstrated skills and experience in delivery of SEWB services. • Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the drug and alcohol support and treatment sector, the mental health sector and community support services. • Sound Knowledge of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Culture, issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and the Aboriginal Service Sector including cultural and traditional healing opportunities. • 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 and follow processes • 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 and Torres Strait Islander 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** • Demonstrated experience in working within a mainstream mental health service. • Demonstrated experience working with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations. • Knowledge and understanding of local Aboriginal community and service networks.

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

Required activities / working environment	***Frequency***
Computer based tasks, sedentary position, office based	Often
Repetitive manual tasks	Sometimes
Driving, in & out of vehicles	Sometimes
Lifting/moving equipment	Sometimes
Walking, climbing stairs, bending	Sometimes
Working alone or at a co-located site	Sometimes
Confrontational/confronting situations *(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)*	Sometimes
Working outside in differing weather conditions	Rarely
Attending external locations including client homes	Rarely

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