

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Social Worker
Business Unit/Department:	Specialised Rehabilitation Program
Division:	Western Health at Home
Award/Agreement:	Allied Health Professionals (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement
Classification:	Grade 2 – Year 1 to Year 4 (SC21 to SC24)
Reports To:	Allied Health Manager – Social Work via delegated Senior Social Worker
Direct Reports:	Professional supervision of Grade 1 staff and Social Work students, as required
Date Prepared/Updated:	20 April 2026

Position Purpose

The Grade 2 Social Worker in Specialised Rehabilitation Service is required to provide high quality care to clients at the centre and in the community using proficient clinical skills, effective communication, and demonstrate developing professional leadership through pro-active participation within the Social Work team.

The Grade 2 Social Worker will apply effective communication skills to work within the multidisciplinary team, and participate in service development and quality improvement. They will be expected to maintain their currency of knowledge and skill to ensure an evidence-based approach to patient management.

The Grade 2 Social Worker will undertake other tasks and responsibilities within the scope of practice as requested. The position will primarily be based at Sunshine Hospital. Staff may however be required to work at any or all campuses of Western Health as required.

Business Unit Overview

Division of Western Health at Home

The Division of Western Health at Home provides a comprehensive range of inpatient, clinic-based and home-based services. Our multidisciplinary workforce of over 1,000 employees includes medical, nursing, pharmacy, allied health and administration staff. Western Health at Home services provide care from all Western Health campuses and within patient's homes, including residential aged care, supported accommodation and the custodial setting. The division is rapidly expanding to meet the needs of the community through the delivery of innovative, integrated and patient centred care.

Western Health at Home services support patients across the continuum of care with a primary objective to support patients to live more healthy days at home. Our breadth of services, clinics and units work collaboratively to reduce avoidable hospital presentations and support early and sustainable hospital discharges. Through multidisciplinary service delivery, integration with primary care, research and clinical trials our division supports the detection, management and secondary prevention of chronic disease.

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The divisions medical specialties include Renal, Endocrinology and Diabetes, Geriatric Medicine and the General Practice (GP) Integration Unit. Western Health at Home provides a range of acute and subacute services that deliver hospital level care within the comfort of a patient's home. These services include Hospital in the Home, Rehabilitation at Home, GEM at Home, Rapid Allied Health, Community Based Transition Care Program and Dialysis at Home, which deliver healthcare that would otherwise be provided within an inpatient setting.

Western Health at Home's breadth of community-based care and specialty assessment clinics provide comprehensive care to support the management of chronic disease. The division has chronic dialysis units located at all Western Health main campuses and acute units at Sunshine and Footscray Hospital. Western Health at Home manages a primary healthcare service within Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, a maximum-security women's prison located in Melbourne's West.

Specialised Rehabilitation Program

Specialised Rehabilitation Program (SRP) aims to assist clients and their carers to reach their maximum potential and independence through the provision of multidisciplinary rehabilitation. Clients are provided with an individualised, short-term, goal-orientated therapy program which emphasises self-management and education. Sessions are conducted in the centre, at home and/or via Telehealth.

Division of Allied Health

Allied Health provides a range of evidence based, client centred, specialist services at Western Health, across the care continuum, from admission within the emergency department through to discharge in the community. These services work across the spectrum of life, from neonates to the elderly. The predominant focus of Allied Health is the return and optimisation of an individual's function, and wellbeing, from both physical and psychosocial perspectives. Activity is aligned with Western Health's Best Care Model and CARES values. Allied Health involvement is pivotal to efficient and effective multidisciplinary team functions, discharge planning and patient centred care. Western Health employs a range of Allied Health disciplines, each with unique specialist tertiary training and skills, including Audiology, Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology, Exercise Physiology, Language Services, Nutrition and Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Pastoral Services, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Social Work, and Speech Pathology.

Key Responsibilities

- Demonstrate a commitment to the patient 'Charter of Healthcare Rights'
- Comply with the expected scope of the role and standards of performance in the role as described by the relevant professional bodies/industry standards
- Maintain registration (as required) and report any changes or limitations on practice if applicable
- Hold accountability for own actions and seek guidance and support from appropriate employees when limited by own skills and experience
- Comply with confidentiality obligations with regard to patients, consumers and colleagues
- Comply with all Western Health policies and procedures
- Deliver high quality person centred interprofessional care in line with the "Best Care" framework
- Demonstrate independent clinical reasoning and clinical competencies, including expertise in use of relevant assessment tools, treatment methods, and case management skills
- Demonstrate developed organisational skills and efficient time management to appropriately evaluate, prioritise and complete workload
- Perform evidence based clinical services using a person-centred approach in the development of an appropriate treatment plan
- Assist with development and evaluation of procedures and guidelines
- Participate in planning for clinical services for the team
- Identify solutions to problems within the service and seek advice for complex matters
- Participate and represent the service (in consultation with senior staff) at relevant committees, working groups and meetings as requested.
- Provide information and education about the service and professional role within the service
- Attend and participate at relevant team/service meetings
- Where designated, provide high quality clinical supervision to junior staff and students that is timely, flexible and responsible

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- Conduct or contribute to feedback to staff on their performance including performance development planning where relevant
- Assist in cultivating an environment where workers have the opportunity to work to their full scope of practice and potential
- Participate in the development, organisation and delivery of education programs for Western Health staff, external service providers and the community
- Participate in research/evaluation and ongoing service review
- Ensure that workload statistics, and other required information is entered in a timely and accurate manner
- Perform other duties as directed
- Demonstrate effective negotiation skills and conflict resolution when dealing with difficult situations
- Contribute to a culture that promotes effective teamwork, encourages cohesion and ensures staff feel valued and contributions are acknowledged
- Demonstrate open and effective communication (verbal, non-verbal, written and electronic) with consumers, other staff and service providers
- Demonstrate knowledge of resources relevant to work area and act as a resource person for other team members
- Actively participate in regular supervision, demonstrating ongoing development of clinical skills and reflective practice as identified in supervision plan
- Demonstrate flexibility/responsiveness within professional practice/duties/roles and assumes extra responsibility as required to meet organisational priorities

In addition to the key responsibilities specific to your role, you are required to deliver on the [WH AH Capability Framework](#) and the [Key Organisational Accountabilities](#) which are aligned with the Western Health strategic aims.

Key Working Relationships

Internal:

- Service Manager SRP
- Social Work Manager
- Operations Manager, Western Health at Home
- Director, Western Health at Home
- Senior Social Worker SRP
- Grade 2 SW's within Western Health at Home
- Other members of the service/team, including the multidisciplinary team
- Director of Allied Health and Senior Allied Health Staff
- Social Work staff across Western Health
- Relevant Western Health Clinicians and staff

External:

- Clients and their family/carers
- Key community organisations
- SW peers in other tertiary organisations, health or community services

Selection Criteria

Essential:

- Bachelor/Masters of Social Work degree and eligibility for AASW membership
- Minimum 3 years professional social work experience, preferably in a hospital/health care setting
- Highly developed interpersonal, written and electronic communication skills
- Demonstrates a sound understanding of a broad range of theoretical frameworks, including trauma-informed care, recovery-oriented practice, human rights, and social justice principles
- Understands the impact of mental illness on families and carers, including those from diverse communities
- Knowledge of, and participation in, continuous quality improvement processes and commitment to clinical research
- Commitment to continuing professional development and lifelong learning

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- Computer literacy
- Current Working with Children Check

Desirable:

- Current AASW CPE accreditation
- Current Victorian Drivers Licence

Desirable Personal Attributes:

- Self-motivated
- Compassionate and empathetic approach
- Ability to influence others
- Open to new ideas
- Timely informed decision making
- People orientated
- Confidence in own ability
- Builds rapport
- Adaptable, flexible and persistent as required
- Takes direction
- Resilience
- Positive outlook

Additional Requirements

All employees are required to:

- Obtain a police/criminal history check prior to employment
- Obtain a working with children check prior to employment (if requested)
- Obtain an Immunisation Health Clearance prior to employment
- Report to management any criminal charges or convictions you receive during the course of your employment
- Comply with relevant Western Health clinical and administrative policies and guidelines.
- Comply with and accept responsibility for ensuring the implementation of health and safety policies and procedures
- Fully co-operate with Western Health in any action it considers necessary to maintain a working environment, which is safe, and without risk to health
- Protect confidential information from unauthorised disclosure and not use, disclose or copy confidential information except for the purpose of and to the extent necessary to perform your employment duties at Western Health
- Safeguard children and young people in our care, by ensuring that your interactions are positive and safe, and report any suspicions or concerns of abuse by any person internal or external to Western Health
- Be aware of and comply with relevant legislation: Public Administration Act 2004, Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006, the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (OHS Regulations 2017), Fair Work Act 2009 (as amended), Occupational Health and Safety (Psychological Health) Regulations 2025, the Privacy Act 1988 and responsibilities under s141 Health Services Act with regard to the sharing of health information, Part 5A of the Family Violence Protection Act 2008 and Part 6A of the Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005
- Be aware of and comply with the Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees and other Western Health employment guidelines
- Work at any of the Western Health sites as directed, in accordance with business and organisational demands and priorities.

General Information

- Redeployment to other services within Western Health may be required
- Employment terms and conditions are provided according to relevant award/agreement

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- Western Health is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing for its employees a work environment which is free of harassment or discrimination. The organisation promotes diversity and awareness in the workplace
- Western Health is committed to Gender Equity
- Western Health provides support to all personnel experiencing family and domestic violence
- This position description is intended to describe the general nature and level of work that is to be performed by the person appointed to the role. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required. Western Health reserves the right to modify position descriptions as required. Employees will be consulted when this occurs
- Western Health is a smoke free environment

I confirm I have read the Position Description, understand its content and agree to work in accordance with the requirements of the position.

Employee's Name: _____

Employee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

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