

Cairns Youth Sexual Violence Prevention Community Educator

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| Region: | Cairns | Reports To: | Service Coordinator/Ops Manager |
| Base: | Cairns VPG | Industrial Instrument: | VPG Collective Agreement until Dec 2023 |
| Resources: | Work Computer, Work Mobile, Vehicle available for outreaching to schools/community | Award Match: | Social, Community, Homecare & Disability Services Industry Award Level 3-4 |
| Position Resourcing: | Department of Justice & Attorney General | Salary Range: | Est. \$75,000 - \$85,000 + \$15,900 Salary Tax Benefits + 11% Super commensurate with qualifications |

About us

VPG is a non-profit organisation that has been improving child and youth transitions in Far North Queensland for over 25 years. Servicing Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Atherton Tablelands & Mareeba, we have assisted thousands of young people and families. We seek to empower youth, strengthen families and build the capacity of education, industry and communities through quality partnerships. www.vpginc.com.au; www.respectme.org.au

About the resourcing

This position is resourced through the Department of Justice & Attorney General – Cairns Youth Sexual Violence Prevention Program to deliver culturally-safe, age-appropriate and evidence-based primary prevention strategies that address the drivers and factors of gendered violence and causes of sexual violence amongst children and young people aged from 12 years.

VPG as an organisation is primarily resourced to provide personal support, vocational training, work placement, pre-employment skilling and individual support services delivered by arrangement with the Federal & State Government to assist participants.

About our thinking

VPG uses the concept of Advantaged Thinking to direct the way we work with young people. VPG acknowledges that young people have a vital contribution to make to the social and economic life of our communities and society, and that to do so all young people should have access to the opportunities and social networks that facilitate this social and economic participation. VPG invests in building young people's abilities, harnessing them for personal as well as social good. By making a positive investment in young people, the approach focuses on developing their assets, and on co-creating solutions – to enable them to achieve independent adulthood.

About our values

At VPG our exceptional organisational culture is aligned to our values. You will be part of a team that is compassionate, generous, inclusive, responsible and fun and we expect you to demonstrate these behaviours throughout your career with us.

About the position

Working within an early intervention and prevention approach, you will:

- Deliver direct participation programs to groups/classes of children and young people aged 12 years and above, helping them build crucial life skills.
- Engage with young people as peer educators, empowering them to become agents of change and advocates for respectful relationships.
- Contribute to community awareness initiatives, raising awareness about the importance of fostering a respectful and safe environment for everyone.
- Provide training and mentoring support to local professionals, fostering a collaborative and informed network of support.

Key Responsibilities - Service Provision

- Act as a participant focused, values-based team member and work collaboratively with staff within our Advantage Thinking approach.
- Deliver direct participation programs focusing on age-appropriate consent and respectful relationships to children and young people in school-based and organizational settings at key adolescent transition points to build attitudes, knowledge and skills for equal, respectful and non-violent relationships.
- Build capacity of local children and young people to act as peer educators and change agents for respectful relationships in their communities.
- Assist to develop communication and resources for digital platforms inclusive of social media & respectme.org.au that extend young people's knowledge of consent and respectful relationships - www.respectme.org.au
- Deliver training, mentoring and support to school/organizational personnel building their capacity to contribute to the service elements and address issues.
- Develop strong working relationships with community stakeholders to achieve program delivery requirements.
- Collaborate with Schools/Organisations to create whole of agency approaches to the promotion of respectful relationships and the prevention of sexual violence amongst children and young people.
- As directed participate in media opportunities to extend community knowledge of respectful relationships eg. Community Radio
- Contribute to evaluation processes.
- As required implement solutions within the VPG's youth transitions model of practice such as assisting with intake or youth support.
- Provide quality information relevant to young people's needs and goals.
- Contribute to the design and development of resource materials for use in the delivery of the program.
- Maintain confidentiality and privacy in all matters relating to staff, participants and procedures.
- Assist in the preparation and presentation of applications, reports, submissions and recommendations as directed.

Key Responsibilities - Integrity & Productivity

- Ensure behaviour during all work interactions is aligned to our values of being compassionate, generous, inclusive, responsible and fun.
- Keep up to date with best practice sexual violence and domestic & family violence prevention strategies, youth sector trends and service information.
- Comply with all VPG policies and procedures.
- Actively contribute and participate as a VPG team member across all programs exchanging ideas and information on a regular basis.
- Maintain and develop your professional skills, seeking opportunities to ensure a high level of technical proficiency and personal effectiveness.
- Fulfil other tasks that your manager reasonably asks you to perform.
- Maintain an understanding of all VPG services to confidently communicate with and promote to external stakeholders.
- Understand the nature of risk when undertaking daily duties and the importance of complying with relevant legislation and service standards, reporting any known breaches to their Manager.
- With all team members undertake a range of duties as needed to ensure the smooth running of VPG Centres including but not limited to reception, washing up, emptying rubbish, putting away equipment, checking mail, maintaining vehicles, purchasing supplies, transporting participants to assigned activities.

About you

Qualifications

- A tertiary qualification in Education, Behavioural Science, Social Work, Psychology, Human Services or related field and relevant experience commensurate to the salary level.

Desirable Skills and Experience

- A high level of cultural awareness.
- Knowledge/capacity to rapidly gain knowledge of sexual and intimate partner violence within a feminist framework.
- Capacity to engage children and youth with high energy, positive, proactive approaches.
- Experience/knowledge in the delivery of community-based education/group activities which utilize evidence based strategies.
- Well-developed communication, problem solving and interpersonal skills.
- Strong reflective practice skills.
- Knowledge/capacity to rapidly gain knowledge of the local Cairns Community and Education Sector.

Mandatory Requirements

- A current QLD Driver's License - outreach to local schools and community organisations required.
- Current Clear Australian Police Check provided prior to commencement.
- Eligibility for a Suitability Card for Child Related Employment (Blue Card registration)
- Strong computer competency across Microsoft applications and ability to touch type.

Additional Information:

- Internally this role is named RespectMe Facilitator.
- The role will involve delivering the program within schools-sites and organisations across the Cairns Region.
- Working Hours: You may occasionally be required to attend school meetings/service activities outside of standard working hours. VPG offers employees flexibility of start and finish times in these instances, and by approval time off in lieu where additional reasonable hours are worked.
- VPG is a multi-location employer and staff may be required to travel to other offices such as Atherton or Mareeba for particular activities/events.
- VPG staff like to have fun, regularly participating in work-time activities that can be silly, occasionally require dressing up in costumes and generate lots of laughter - join us if this sounds like you.

Applying

All applicants must submit their applications in PDF format, by email to our Executive Assistant, Angela Wienert, angela@vpginc.com.au

You will only be considered by providing the following information in your application:

1. Current resume.
2. Copies of all qualifications held.
3. A covering letter detailing your interest in the role and relevant skills/attributes.

We conduct interviews during business hours 8:30am - 5pm. Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted regarding their application.