



NSW Service for the Treatment  
and Rehabilitation of Torture  
and Trauma Survivors

## VACANCY

# Bicultural Mental Health Project Officer/Groupworker (Afghan Community)-1151-8

Do you want to work in one of Australia's leading organisations providing treatment and rehabilitation to torture and trauma survivors; that's quality focused, diverse & committed to making a difference in the lives of vulnerable people in communities?  
Come & join us!

### The Organisation

"STARTTS is a not-for-profit Affiliated Health Organisation focused on providing a broad range of services to refugees in NSW. The focus of STARTTS approach is on building capacity and empowering people and communities to take control over their own lives, using a strengths-based approach and building on individual, family, community and cultural strengths."

### The Role

This position will be working within STARTTS Community Development Team to work with support structures in the Afghan community in North Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) to increase the capacity of community leaders, volunteers, peer educators and community support structures to identify and support people at risk of suicide or serious mental health illness and make appropriate referrals. The position will deliver psycho-education and lifestyle/well-being group interventions to enable Afghan community members better identify signs of distress in themselves and develop appropriate coping strategies, develop mutually supportive relationships, break social isolation, reduce the stigma associated with seeking mental health assistance, increase knowledge and access to a variety of mental health services.

The successful applicant will be part of a multicultural and multi-disciplinary team.

**Position No:** 1151-8

**Closing date:** Friday 9 February 2024

**Enquiries:** Jasmina Bajraktarevic on 02 9646 6700

**Work Type:** Part-time; 32 hours per week. Contract up to 30 June 2025. (Continuation subject to ongoing funding)

**Location:** Sydney Metropolitan offices NSW (Dee Why & Ryde)

**Vaccination Requirement:** Category A.

**Salary:** Health Education Officer, or other relevant classification based on qualifications, experience and requirements of the role under the NSW Health Awards. A generous salary packaging scheme is also offered to reduce the taxable income and increase the take home pay.

### Skills and Qualifications Required

#### **Essential:**

1. Qualifications or significant experience in psychology, social work, community development, social science, counselling, group work or other relevant disciplines.
2. Demonstrated experience in planning, implementing and evaluating groups in a cross-cultural context.
3. Demonstrated understanding of torture and trauma on individuals, families, and communities and its impact on resettlement in the Australian context.
4. Demonstrated adult education and/or training skills.
5. Excellent understanding of the needs and issues related to mental health literacy and suicide prevention faced by the Afghan community settling in NSW.



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6. Good oral, written and interpersonal communication skills in English and an Afghan community language and ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team within a multicultural environment.
7. Experience in community development and/or group work in multicultural settings.
8. Knowledge of appropriate mental health literacy interventions and suicide prevention frameworks and strategies.

### Desirable:

1. Knowledge of stakeholders in the refugee/migrant/Mental Health sector.
2. Current NSW Driver's Licence.

\*This position is considered child-related employment and will require a Working with Children Background Check and a National Police Check.

### VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

**\*This role is a Category A role.** It is mandatory for Category A workers to meet and maintain the vaccination criteria (as per the current NSW Health and STARTTS policies) including annual Influenza vaccinations. Two doses of an approved COVID-19 vaccine will be required to provide a record of your COVID-19 vaccination status. *If successful you must provide evidence of vaccination.*

Additionally, vaccination and/or assessment is required for Category A workers for the following transmissible diseases – measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chickenpox), hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) and tuberculosis. *If successful you must also provide evidence of vaccination and/or assessment.*

Should you not be able to comply with vaccination requirements before your commencement date, the offer of employment may be withdrawn.

If you have a medical reason for why you cannot be vaccinated, a medical contraindication evidence will be required.

**NB:** Depending on the role, if appointed, you may need a current 'NSW Working With Children Check' clearance, follow this link for information on how to apply for your check: <https://ocq.nsw.gov.au/working-children-check/applicant>

### HOW TO APPLY

To be considered for this position, please ensure you address the selection criteria as thoroughly as possible.

1. Complete a [STARTTS Application for Employment Form](#)
2. Write a **Statement Against the Selection Criteria** outlining how you meet the selection criteria (see the guide "[How to apply for a job at STARTTS](#)")
3. Submit an up-to-date **Curriculum Vitae (CV)**
4. Provide copies of relevant Qualifications if applicable (overseas qualification must be assessed by an appropriate Australian body to be considered)
5. Statements of Service from previous relevant roles (if applicable, please ask us for a sample)
6. A cover letter is optional.
7. Email your application and supporting documents to: [STTS-Jobs@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:STTS-Jobs@health.nsw.gov.au)