



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

*STARTTS is committed to Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and anti-discrimination policies.*

**POSITION NUMBER: 1083-F**

**Date reviewed/created: January 2023**

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**POSITION TITLE: Girls and Young Women's Project Officer**

**TEAM:** Youth Team – Community Services

**LOCATION:** Carramar

**AGREEMENT:** "NSW (Non-Declared) Affiliated Health Organisations' Professional and Associated Staff Agreement".

**CLASSIFICATION:** Health Education Officer, or other relevant classification based on qualifications, experience and requirements of the role.

A generous salary packaging scheme is also offered.

**PERIOD OF APPRAISAL:** Performance will be assessed within 3 months of commencement and a 6 month probationary/qualifying period will also apply.

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### Background to STARTTS

STARTTS is a state-wide service funded by the NSW Department of Health and Commonwealth Department of Health to provide high quality assessment, treatment and rehabilitation services to people living in NSW who have experienced organised violence or trauma associated with the refugee experience. STARTTS is an Affiliated Health Organisation (AHO), a Non-Government Organisation whose services are deemed to be part of the NSW public health system.

STARTTS' service provision philosophy is predicated on a bio-psycho-social framework that incorporates a large range of clinical and psycho-social interventions informed by the latest advances in neuroscience and evidence based practice in relevant fields. As such, STARTTS provides a broad range of services including assessment; counselling for all age groups; psychiatric assessment and interventions; family therapy; group interventions; body-focused interventions such as massage, physiotherapy, acupuncture and pain management groups; support groups; programs for children and youth; and various strategies to increase the capacity of support networks and refugee communities to sustain their members.

The focus of the 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.

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### Background to the Program Area of the position

The Community Services Team covers a wide range of services for refugee individuals, families and communities. The team is managed by the Community Services Coordinator and it consists of 7 smaller teams (School Liaison, Youth, Community Development, Rural and Regional Community Development, My Language Team, CLSR and FICT) and the following positions: Witness to War staff, CD Evaluation Officers; Grants, Tenders and Fundraising Officer; CiCT Project Officers Community Cultural Development Officer, LGBTIQ+ Project Officers, and CD Policy Officers. The Community Services Team is integral to the STARTTS systemic approach to recovery of torture and trauma survivors.

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### ORGANISATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS:

1. Responsible to: Youth Program Team Leader
2. Responsible for: Nil

## **QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:**

*Being female is considered a genuine occupational qualification for this position. The position is exempt under the section 31 (2) (h) of the Anti-Discrimination Act.*

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## **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

### **Essential Criteria:**

1. Tertiary qualifications in youth work, community development, social work, health or the social science or significant experience in the area.
2. Demonstrated knowledge and experience in working with children and young people particularly young women from refugee background and in organising programmes for this group.
3. Understanding of the effects of torture and trauma on individuals, families, and communities and its impact on resettlement in Australian context particularly as this relates to the challenges faced by young women.
4. Demonstrated understanding of current legislation relevant to working with children and young people.
5. Demonstrated knowledge and experience in community development, advocacy, partnership building and community liaison in a multi-cultural context.
6. Demonstrated knowledge and experience in group work.
7. Ability to work as a team member in a multicultural and multi-disciplinary team and provide consultancy and mentoring to other staff engaged in youth related projects.
8. Excellent written, oral and interpersonal communication skills and computer literacy.
9. Current NSW Driver's Licence and current First Aid Certificate.

### **Desirable Criteria:**

1. Demonstrated knowledge and experience in case management or counselling.
2. Demonstrated experience in the development and delivery of training programs and/or understanding of adult education principles.

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

## **COVID -19 REQUIREMENTS**

\*In line with NSW Health & STARTTS Policies, all STARTTS workers are considered Health Workers and are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19. In order to be eligible for consideration for employment with STARTTS, all recruits must provide evidence of three vaccinations against COVID-19, or alternatively provide a Medical Contraindication in the approved form which complies with the requirements of NSW Health & STARTTS Policies, prior to appointment. Should you not be able to comply before your commencement date, the offer of employment may be withdrawn.

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## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ROLE**

This is an interesting position for a highly motivated person with youth work and community development skills. This position will be responsible for coordinating STARTTS Girls and Young Women's Program, participation in mixed gender residential programs, participation in after school hours program, limited provision of one-on-one services to young people when required, participation in STARTTS work with schools and youth and children's services, provision of support and mentoring for other STARTTS staff working with refugee young people, supporting youth initiatives within various refugee communities and networking and liaison with relevant stakeholders.

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## **PRIMARY OBJECTIVES:**

1. Liaise and consult with refugee young people, refugee communities and relevant organisations about the needs of refugee young people, identify gaps in services and advocate for the development of appropriate services to address those needs.

2. Participate in the development of STARTTS services and programs to address the specific needs of refugee young people and children in conjunction with STARTTS staff.
  3. Coordinate the delivery of STARTTS' residential and group programs for refugee girls and young women.
  4. Network with people working with refugee young people or likely to come into contact with refugee young people and participate in collaborative initiatives.
  5. Provide support to refugee communities wishing to develop their own youth projects.
  6. To provide limited individual interventions where required.
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## **PRIMARY DUTIES:**

### **1. Liaison and Consultation**

- 1.1. Liaise and consult with refugee young people, refugee communities and relevant organisations about the needs of refugee young people.
- 1.2. Identify gaps in services and advocate for the development of appropriate services to address those needs.
- 1.3. Attend relevant youth interagencies and other similar fora.
- 1.4. Participate in STARTTS Community Consultations to ensure youth input.
- 1.5. Identify gaps in services and policy issues and feed those to the STARTTS Policy Officer or senior staff.

### **2. STARTTS Services and Programs**

- 2.1. Participate in the development of STARTTS services and programs to address the specific needs of refugee young people and children in conjunction with STARTTS staff.
- 2.2. Provide mentoring and consultancy to other STARTTS staff members in their development of programs targeting young people and children.
- 2.3. Participate in the development of strategic plans regarding services to young people and children.
- 2.4. Ensure that issues specific to girls and young women are considered during this process.
- 2.5. Participate in the STARTTS Children and Adolescents Working Group.

### **3. STARTTS' Residential and Group Programs**

- 3.1. Coordinate the delivery of STARTTS' residential and group programs for refugee girls and young women.
- 3.2. Organise two Young Women's Residential Programs targeting 14-17 years olds p/a.
- 3.3. Organise one mixed gender Residential Program targeting 10-13 years olds p/a.
- 3.4. Run at least two young women's groups per school term most likely within school setting.
- 3.5. Organise at least one Outward Bound type outdoor activity and continue to enhance the program.
- 3.6. Organise at least one group to continue enhancing STARTTS' "The Journey" women's program
- 3.7. Participate in the Youth Team after hours programs.

### **4. Networking**

- 4.1. Network with people working with refugee young people or likely to come into contact with refugee young people and participate in collaborative initiatives.
- 4.2. Attend relevant interagencies
- 4.3. Identify and implement collaborative projects with relevant stakeholders.
- 4.4. Provide STARTTS Training to relevant stakeholders as required.

### **5. Community Support**

- 5.1. Provide support to refugee communities wishing to develop their own youth projects.

- 5.2. Develop relationships with relevant refugee communities.
- 5.3. Provide training, advice and guidance with project planning, implementation and evaluation.
- 5.4. Assist with funding submission writing.
- 5.5. Assist with linking refugee community organisations with other relevant stakeholders.
- 5.6. Mentor youth leaders likely to run projects in their own communities.

## **6. Individual Interventions**

- 6.1. Provide limited individual interventions where required.
- 6.2. Undertake regular case reviews and follow-up of children and youth with relevant staff from STARTTS Youth Team.
- 6.3. Ensure all client data are entered in CAREHR as per required standards.

## **7. Reporting**

- 7.1. Prepare bimonthly reports to Youth Program Team Leader.
- 7.2. Supply statistical information and maintain accurate client records.

## **8. Personnel**

- 8.1. Participate in STARTTS Performance Management program and in the development of an annual Work Plan.
- 8.2. Be an active participant in team meetings to maximise contribution to the work of the team.
- 8.3. Participate in STARTTS staff meetings and other relevant meetings.
- 8.4. Work to ensure professional and co-operative working relationships within own team and with other departments across STARTTS.
- 8.5. Participate in identifying quality improvement initiatives/strategies.
- 8.6. Attend and participate in all training opportunities identified for the role and if necessary, undertake training about the effects of torture and trauma and the approaches to rehabilitation available at STARTTS.
- 8.7. Liaise with and seek senior advice as required.

## **9. As a STARTTS employee you are expected to:**

- Have commitment to Human Rights, EEO, WHS and Safe Work Practices.
- Carry out the role and responsibilities in a manner that is consistent with delegations, policies, procedures and operations systems of STARTTS and in line with STARTTS Code of Conduct.
- Maintain confidentiality and exercise discretion in relation to all STARTTS matters.
- Actively seek to improve skills and knowledge that will benefit the organisation.
- Project a professional image at all times and in all situations.
- Undertake any other duties that may be required within the area of work.

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### **Equal Employment Opportunity and Staff Relationships:**

- STARTTS is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer and encompasses its philosophy and practice.
- STARTTS rejects racism and sexism in all its forms and is committed to the elimination of racial and gender discrimination including direct and indirect racism and sexism, racial vilification, and harassment.

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### **STARTTS Workplace Policies**

You must observe and comply with the provisions set out in any and all written policy, practice or procedure of STARTTS. A breach of STARTTS' policies, practices and procedures may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of your employment.

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### **Work Health & Safety responsibilities:**

- Comply with STARTTS WHS policies and procedures.

- Work with due care and consideration to safeguard your own health and safety and the health and safety of others, and to report to your Supervisor any potential hazards, mishaps, incidents or injuries that may occur or become aware of during the course of work.

**Risk management responsibilities:** All staff have a responsibility to identify any risks (i.e. the chance of something happening that will have an impact on the objectives of the organisation) in the course of their work and to inform their supervisor, as per the *STARTTS Risk Management Policy and Program*.

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**Smoke-free Workplace**

STARTTS is completely smoke-free. This means that smoking is not allowed in any STARTTS' buildings, vehicles or grounds, there are no designated smoking areas. As an employee you are required to comply with the 'Non-smoking' Policy.

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I have read the **Girls and Young Women's Project Officer** Position Description, understand its contents and agree to work in accordance with the requirements of the position. I understand and accept that I must also comply with STARTTS' policies and procedures and can be required to work in any location under the jurisdiction of STARTTS.

I also agree to strictly observe STARTTS' policy on confidentiality of client information or such other sensitive or confidential information that I may come across in the course of my employment.

**Employee Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please print*

**Employee Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Jorge Aroche**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The review for this Position Description is due: January 2025**