



**Family Violence Networker
Hume Region (Goulburn Valley & North East Victoria)**

30.4 hours per week.

Background to Networker position

Family violence networkers engage in a range of professional development, training, community education, information provision and community awareness activities relating to family violence within DHS regions.

Networkers also play a critical role in the coordination of and linkages between agencies that provide services to people affected by family violence.

Currently, there is one service in each region funded to manage the coordination of family violence networking activities. These services are generally non-government organizations, community health or women's health services.

The Family Violence Networker position is funded under the Family Violence Prevention Program, Community Care Division of Department of Human Services. The position for the Hume region has been with Women's Health Goulburn North East since 1995. The position is located in the Wangaratta office of Women's Health Goulburn North East.

Background to Women's Health Goulburn North East

With the support of the Victorian State government, Women's Health Goulburn North East was established in July 2000 as an independent incorporated association with a Board of Governance made up of six to twelve women. Women's Health Goulburn North East replaced NEWomen as the government funded, specialist women's health service for the Goulburn Valley and north east Victoria.

Women's Health Goulburn North East believes women in the community are equal participants in health promotion and importance is placed upon the empowerment of individual women as well as addressing structural issues and building capacity of the community.

Position Objectives for the Family Violence Networker

To support family violence and community sector services through:

- ❑ Professional development and training
- ❑ Contributing to service linkages, coordination, policy and planning
- ❑ Community information and awareness
- ❑ Resource management of family violence information

Key Tasks

1. Professional Development and training

- ❑ To liaise regularly with agencies and communities to identify and monitor education and training needs
- ❑ To organise and facilitate (or arrange facilitators) for two to four training programs and education forums each year

2. Service linkages and coordination

- ❑ To participate in regional planning aimed at strengthening a comprehensive, coordinated regional response to family violence, in collaboration with key organisations
- ❑ To participate in the development and implementation of the 'Victorian Family and Domestic Violence Crisis Protection Framework' at a regional level
- ❑ Represent the Hume region at the quarterly Family Violence Networkers meetings in Melbourne
- ❑ To attend and contribute to sub regional family violence prevention network meetings in the Hume region
- ❑ To gather and analyse relevant information eg strategic directions, new initiatives, data, funding opportunities in order to maintain an overview of current and emerging trends regarding family violence and service provision issues in the region
- ❑ Participate in both strategic work in the region related to family violence and strategic work of Women's Health Goulburn North East related to family violence

3. Community information and awareness

- To coordinate community education initiatives in collaboration with agencies and communities
- In partnership with relevant agencies develop and coordinate program opportunities from the annual funds allocation for women and children experiencing/who have experienced family violence

4. Resource management

- a. To coordinate information provision and distribution, including the production of a quarterly newsletter
- b. In consultation with other staff, manage the resource library and resources related to family violence

5. Administration and reporting responsibilities

- a. To ensure the program meets the accountability requirements of Women's Health Goulburn North East and the funding body, DHS
- b. To participate in organization meetings and administrative requirements
- c. To provide reports in agreed format to the Family Violence Prevention Team Leader
- d. To initiate annual reviews of the key work areas for the networker with key stakeholders

Selection Criteria

1. Understanding of and commitment to the philosophy of Women's Health Goulburn North East and family violence principles
2. Demonstrated understanding of family violence, including an understanding of the gender issues underpinning family violence, prevention and support
3. Knowledge of and demonstrated experience in Health Promotion and Community Development
4. Demonstrated skill and experience in service system and strategic relationships development with a diverse range of stakeholders
5. Highly developed written and verbal communication skills including the ability to relate to a diverse range of people including rural women, health and community professionals
6. Demonstrated ability to facilitate groups eg work groups with key stakeholders, training programs
7. Demonstrated ability to initiate, plan, implement, evaluate and document projects

8. Capacity to use initiative, work independently and creatively as well as work as part of a team
9. Relevant qualifications and experience in Health Promotion, Community Development and/or other social science disciplines

It is essential for applicant to have a current Victorian driver's licence and good computer literacy skills

Accountability: This role is directly accountable to the Executive Director of Women's Health Goulburn North East through the Family Violence Prevention Team Leader

Salary & Conditions:

Currently the salary and conditions are based on the Social and Community Services Award - Community Development Worker Class 2B. A car will be available for work related use. The worker will be based at the office of Women's Health Goulburn North East in Wangaratta.

A three-month probationary period applies.

A performance appraisal will be conducted 3 months after commencement.

Yearly contracts there after, dependent on funding from DHS

Please send applications in writing, with names and phone numbers of two referees, marked 'confidential'. To:

**Jean Farrington
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Closing date: 5pm, 21st May 2003

WHGNE is exempt from provisions of The Equal Opportunity Act 1995

