POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Senior Research Officer / Research Fellow, Life Skills Program
DIVISION / SECTION: The Centre for Child Development and Education
SUPERVISOR: Director, CCDE
CLASSIFICATION LEVEL: Academic Level B (SRO1 – SRO4/RF1)
SALARY RANGE: $83,748 - $93,170
STATUS (FTE): 1.0 FTE
NO. OF POSITIONS REPORTING DIRECTLY: 1
NO. OF POSITIONS REPORTING INDIRECTLY: 0

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

The Centre for Child Development (CCDE) in the Menzies School of Health Research (MSHR) is responsible for a program of multi-disciplinary research that investigates trends in suicide and self-harm and effective approaches to promotion of social and emotional wellbeing of youth. CCDE works in partnership with communities, community health services, schools and agencies of government to develop interventions to promote resilience and to prevent suicide.

The Skills for Life project aims to develop and evaluate a life skills education program for remote Indigenous youth in secondary schools and in remote communities. The project is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and is supported by the NT Government Department of Education. It will be implemented in Maningrida community school and in 2-3 other NT secondary schools from 2015.

CCDE is seeking to employ a researcher with advanced skills in clinical or educational practice, a sound understanding of experiential learning strategies and experience in working with middle to senior school-aged adolescents for the Skills for Life project. The researcher will work with the leadership team to consolidate the program content and training program, to provide training for school and community staff and to co-facilitate the delivery of Skills for Life lessons in schools and community settings. The role will require a contribution to research and data-gathering activities for the project and would be compatible with a relevant postdoctoral research project.

This position will be based in Darwin but will involve travel to remote schools and overnight accommodation as required for training, delivery and evaluation activity.

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander persons are strongly encouraged to apply.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Work with the project leaders to implement the Skills for Life Program in participating schools and communities.
2. Engage schools, staff, students, their families and other community stakeholders for the purpose of promoting and implementing the Skills for Life Program.
3. Work with project leaders and training consultants to develop innovative pedagogical approaches to delivery of the 12 week program to remote Indigenous middle school and senior students.
4. Provide training to school staff and community personnel to implement the Skills for Life Program in various remote and urban residential school settings.
5. Work as part of a multi-disciplinary research team to develop and apply innovative research
methods to evaluate the effectiveness of *Skills for Life*.

6. Undertake a range of academic and administrative duties including preparation of reports, submissions, evidence reviews, resources and published outputs of the program.

7. Any other tasks as reasonably required by the Director.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

**Essential:**

1. Postgraduate or equivalent qualifications in a relevant discipline: clinical, educational or community psychology; education, or other relevant social or behavioural science.

2. Practical experience and knowledge in therapeutic and educational approaches to adolescent social-emotional learning in school and/or community settings.

3. An understanding of the issues affecting the wellbeing of Indigenous people, especially youth, in contemporary Australian society.

4. Demonstrated capacity to work independently, show leadership and initiative, while maintaining strong collaborative team relationships.

5. Demonstrated understanding of policy context and research evidence in education, social and emotional wellbeing and/or youth mental health.

6. Ability to maintain a current Working with Children Clearance (Ochre card) and a Northern Territory driver’s license.

7. Ability to undertake air or land travel as required for project implementation.

8. An understanding and awareness of relevant Workplace Health and Safety as well as Equal Opportunity principles and legislation along with a commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe workplace for all Menzies staff, students, volunteers and visitors.

**Desirable:**

1. Potential to undertake doctoral or postdoctoral research in mental health or social-emotional learning in school or community settings for Indigenous youth.

2. Advanced skills and experience in experiential teaching and training methods for social emotional curricula.

3. Demonstrated research experience resulting in publications, conference papers, reports or technical contributions.

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**Approval:**

Jacqueline Carroll  
Research Business Manager, CCDE  
Signature  
Date

Prof Gary Robinson  
Director, CCDE  
Signature  
Date
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PACKAGE COMPONENT</th>
<th>Minimum Value SRO 1 ($)</th>
<th>Maximum Value SRO 4 ($)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gross Salary</strong> (position advertised as Academic Level B, SR01 - SR04/RF1)</td>
<td>$ 83,748.00</td>
<td>$ 93,170.00</td>
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<td><strong>Superannuation</strong> (14% superannuation contribution depends on employee contributing 3% of pre tax salary)</td>
<td>$ 11,724.72</td>
<td>$ 13,043.80</td>
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<td><strong>Salary Packaging Gроссed Up</strong> (Based on utilising the full $16,040 salary packaging component plus the $5000 Meal Entertainment Card.)</td>
<td>$ 11,352.67</td>
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<td><strong>Leave Loading</strong> (Payable on the last pay before Christmas (first year will be a pro rata payment))</td>
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<td><strong>Total Salary Package</strong></td>
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