POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Senior Research Officer, Parenting Research PNG

DIVISION / SECTION: The Centre for Child Development and Education (CCDE)

SUPERVISOR: Director, CCDE

CLASSIFICATION LEVEL: Academic Level B

SALARY RANGE: $86,248 to $101,955

STATUS (FTE): 1.0 FTE

NO. OF POSITIONS REPORTING DIRECTLY: 0

NO. OF POSITIONS REPORTING INDIRECTLY: 0

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

The Centre for Child Development (CCDE) at the Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) is responsible for a program of multi-disciplinary cross-cultural parenting and family research. CCDE is undertaking a consultancy on behalf of UNICEF to develop, provide training to implement and to evaluate a parenting program in 3 provinces of Papua New Guinea. The program will be suitable for delivery by both child protection workers and supervisors and village-based volunteer workers.

CCDE is seeking to employ an experienced researcher to play an important role in the consultancy team responsible for the development and piloting of a parenting program in partnership with the Catholic Diocese and UNICEF. The focus of the role will be on the development of evidence-based parenting resources, the conduct of qualitative research in PNG, the pilot implementation of the program in one province and the provision of training for facilitators in three provinces of PNG. The Senior Research Officer will contribute to the implementation of the UNICEF funded PNG parent program, undertake field research and related activity in PNG and support efforts to ensure that all deliverables are achieved within contractual timelines.

The Senior Research Officer will be a researcher with disciplinary expertise in psychology, anthropology, child welfare or related areas and a background of applied multi-disciplinary research and program evaluation with families and parents, preferably in community settings. The successful applicant will have demonstrated capacity to contribute to project management and the ability to work under pressure with researchers, fieldworkers and stakeholders in multi-disciplinary projects. Experience in PNG/Melanesia or in comparable developing country contexts is highly desirable. The successful applicant will have the capacity to review relevant bodies of literature and possess high level writing skills with an ability to contribute to culturally appropriate resource development.

This position is based in Darwin and will involve periods of travel to PNG for up to and over a month, during which time team members will be based in Port Moresby or the main provincial centres and will travel by air or land to participating village locations.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Work with the Project Director, Team Leader and other members of the Menzies team to design, develop and implement the Parenting Program in PNG.
2. Coordinate research activities and manage the project to ensure that team members are able to deliver required outputs within contractual timelines.
3. Undertake initial qualitative research, implement and evaluate a pilot of the Parenting
Program in PNG.

4. Review relevant bodies of evidence to develop evidence-informed culturally and linguistically appropriate parenting program resources and training plan.

5. Deliver training for supervisors and facilitators in three PNG provinces.

6. Ensure compliance with contractual reporting requirements, including the preparation of progress reports.

7. Engage with key organisational and community stakeholders in PNG in order to facilitate the conduct of the consultancy.

8. Any other tasks as reasonably required by the supervisor, manager and/or Director.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Essential:

1. Postgraduate qualifications and a track record of research and publication in a relevant discipline.

2. Relevant experience in the conduct of research as evidenced through publication in peer reviewed journals and/or completion of contract consultancies and reports.

3. Demonstrated understanding of the research literature relating to parenting, child development, families and related fields and high level written and analytical skills.

4. Demonstrated project management, organisational, analytical and problem solving skills with a proven capacity to work in teams or individually and to tight contractual timelines.

5. Demonstrated capacity to engage and communicate effectively with community members including parents and families in PNG or a comparable context.

6. Demonstrated excellence in written skills, and an understanding of how to develop culturally appropriate resource materials for low literacy populations.

7. Capacity to sustain periods of independent research activity in remote field settings.

8. An understanding of risks and protective measures necessary for travel and work in diverse settings within PNG, including the requirement to be fully immunized.

9. The ability to interact effectively with people from diverse cultures.

10. Current Working with Children clearance (Ochre card) and ability to satisfy all visa requirements for working in PNG.

11. 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. Demonstrated understanding of culture, family and social organisation in contemporary Melanesia.

2. Fluency in Tok Pisin.

3. Significant experience in research and evaluation relating to families and communities in Papua New Guinea/Melanesia.

Approval:

Jacqueline Carroll
Research Business Manager, CCDE
Signature
Date

Prof Gary Robinson
Director, CCDE
Signature
Date
## Senior Research Officer - SRO1 to SRO6/RF3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PACKAGE COMPONENT</th>
<th>Minimum Value SRO 1 ($)</th>
<th>Maximum Value SRO 6 ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Salary (position advertised as Academic Level B, SR01 - SR06/RF3)</td>
<td>$ 86,248.00</td>
<td>$ 101,955.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superannuation (14% superannuation contribution depends on employee contributing 3% of pre tax salary)</td>
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<td>$ 14,273.70</td>
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<td>Salary Packaging Grossed Up (Based on utilising the full $15,900 salary packaging component plus the $2,550 Meal Entertainment Card.)</td>
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<td>Leave Loading (Payable on the last pay before Christmas (first year will be a pro rata payment)</td>
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<td>Total Salary Package</td>
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