

Position Description | Te whakaturanga ō mahi Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora

Title	Clinical Psychologist			
Reports to	Clinical Manager, Ngā Harakeke mai Rongokako Child, Adolescent and Family Services (CAFS)			
Location	Hawke's Bay fallen Soldiers Hospital			
Department	Ngā Harakeke mai Rongokako , Adolescent and Family Services (CAFS)			
Direct Reports	0		Total FTE	0.9
Budget Size	Opex	N/A	Capex	N/A
Delegated Authority	HR	N/A	Finance	N/A
Date	September 2025			
Job band (indicative)	In accordance with Public, Allied and Technical Health Employee's Multi Employer Collective Agreement (MECA) Steps 5 to 8 per annum according to qualifications and experience pro-rata for hours worked.			

The Health System in Aotearoa is entering a period of transformation as we implement the Pae Ora/Healthy Futures vision of a reformed system where people live longer in good health, have improved quality of life, and there is equity between all groups.

We want to build a healthcare system that works collectively and cohesively around a shared set of values and a culture that enables everyone to bring their best to work and feel proud when they go home to their whānau, friends and community. The reforms are expected to achieve five system shifts. These are:

1. The health system will reinforce Te Tiriti principles and obligations.
2. All people will be able to access a comprehensive range of support in their local communities to help them stay well.
3. Everyone will have equal access to high quality emergency and specialist care when they need it.
4. Digital services will provide more people the care they need in their homes and communities.
5. Health and care workers will be valued and well-trained for the future health system.

Te Mauri o Rongo – The New Zealand Health Charter

The foundation for how we ensure our people are empowered, safe and supported while working to deliver a successful healthcare system, is Te Mauri o Rongo – the New Zealand Health Charter. It guides all of us as we work towards a healthcare system that is more responsive to the needs of, and accessible to all people in Aotearoa New Zealand.

It applies to everyone in our organisation and sits alongside our code of conduct as our guiding document.

Te Mauri o Rongo consists of four pou (pillars) within it, including:

Wairuatanga – working with heart, the strong sense of purpose and commitment to service

Rangatiratanga – as organisations we support our people to lead. We will know our people; we will grow those around us and be accountable with them in contributing to Pae Ora for all.

Whanaungatanga – we are a team, and together a team of teams. Regardless of our role, we work together for a common purpose. We look out for each other and keep each other safe.

Te Korowai Āhuru – a cloak which seeks to provide safety and comfort to the workforce.

These values underpin how we relate to each other as we serve our whānau and communities.

Together we will do this by:

- caring for the people
- recognising, supporting and valuing our people and the work we all do
- working together to design and deliver services, and
- defining the competencies and behaviours we expect from everyone.

About the role

The primary purpose of the role is to:

- Provide safe and clinically effective psychological assessment, intervention and advice for tangata whaiora (service user), families and whanau within the CAFS
- Provide a range of psychological skills and services including comprehensive assessment, neuropsychological assessment, individual and group therapeutic intervention, case management and consultation.
- Ensure and prioritise a focus on patient safety and quality relating to care and processes within Mental Health and Addictions services.
- Deliver on organisational KPI's including relevant MOH target, financial budgets and service plans.
- Recognise, support and contribute to the delivery of the Te-Matau-a-Māui, Hawkes' Bay Health sector vision, values and behaviours.
- Work in close association with GP's and community agencies with the aim of enabling tangata whaiora and their whānau to have choice and control over their return to good health.

Key Result Area	Expected Outcomes / Performance Indicators
Clinical Practice- Te Mahi Haumanu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes professional and organisational responsibility for managing a caseload of patients / clients/tangata whaiora with increasing complexity and be able to independently adapt and make decisions regarding psychology assessment and intervention. • Utilises information available to assist with prioritisation of tamariki/tangata whaiora accepted for psychological assessment or intervention. • Carries out comprehensive assessment with tamariki/tangata whaiora and their whānau. This may include standardised and non-standardised assessments, neuropsychological assessment, and clinical observations to assist in assessment and intervention planning. • Formulates and delivers individualised psychological intervention using comprehensive clinical reasoning skills and in depth knowledge of evidence-based psychological intervention approaches. This is in partnership with tamariki/tangata whaiora, their whānau and the clinical advice of the wider multidisciplinary team (MDT). • Demonstrates effective communication and utilises relationship centred practice to establish a therapeutic relationship and develop agreed goals with tamariki/tangata whaiora, their whānau, including the wider health team and external agencies. This includes relaying complex, sensitive and contentious information. • Assesses the tamariki/rangitahi's understanding of assessment, interventions and goals and gain informed consent for intervention, taking into account those who lack capacity (e.g. those with cognitive difficulties). • Regularly reassesses and evaluates the tamariki/tangata whaiora progress (as appropriate) against identified goals and adjust intervention as situations change. • Refers on to other services to work with the tamariki/tangata whaiora towards achievement of longer term goals • Develops comprehensive discharge/transfer plans with the tamariki/tangata whaiora and their whānau. • Carries out regular clinical risk assessments with tamariki/tangata whaiora on own caseload and takes action to effectively manage identified risks, seeking support where appropriate. • Provides advice, teaching and coaching to tamariki/tangata whaiora, their whānau and other professionals to promote consistency of support being offered. • Demonstrates an awareness of health inequalities, with evidence of implementing actions within own clinical practice towards reducing these for the tamariki/tangata whaiora, and their whānau. • Demonstrates provision of culturally safe practice and a confident approach to partnership, protection and participation with tamariki/tangata whaiora and their whānau.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represents the service and / or individual tamariki /tangata whaiora at clinical meetings and case conferences to ensure the delivery of an integrated approach to intervention and to ensure psychology is integrated into the overall intervention (where appropriate) including discharge planning. Completes documentation consistent with legal, professional and organisational requirements. Adheres to applicable recognised evidence based research and best practice for clinical psychology and any relevant clinical policies and practice guidelines. Demonstrates awareness of local, sub-regional and regional context in relation to provision of health and social support and the impact on service provision. Identifies unmet needs of tamariki/tangata whaiora and their whānau and identifies potential solutions to address these needs. Demonstrates an understanding of the roles and contributions of the multidisciplinary team (MDT). Works in other areas as identified or following a reasonable request in order to support the organisation in managing safe patients / clients/tangata whaiora care and maintaining service delivery.
Leadership & Management – Te Ārahi me te Whakahaere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attends and contributes to relevant department, clinical and team meetings, leading and facilitating such meetings as requested. Assists team leaders and professional leaders in clinical assurance activities of clinical psychology staff as requested.
Service Improvement & Research – Te Whakapai Ratonga me te Rangahau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadens research and development skills through participation in local audit and research projects as identified by colleagues, or professional leaders. Participates and leads quality improvement activities to develop and improve service delivery, clinical practice or professional standards. Develops and /or participates in regional and national professional networks as appropriate to area of work. Establishes working partnerships with external organisations to promote integrated working. Contributes to annual planning process, including identifying gaps in service and participating in work activities that may result from the planning process. Practises in a way that utilises resources (including staffing) in the most cost effective manner Awareness of and complies with all legislative and contractual requirements as applicable to the role (e.g. Health and safety in Employment Act 1992, Privacy Act 2020, Vulnerable Children's Act 2014, Privacy Act, ACC service specifications etc.)

Te Tiriti o Waitangi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remains focused on the pursuit of Māori health gain as well as achieving equitable health outcomes for Māori. • Supports tangata whenua- and mana whenua-led change to deliver mana motuhake and Māori self-determination in the design, delivery and monitoring of health care. • Actively supports kaimahi Māori by improving attraction, recruitment, retention, development, and leadership.
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commits to helping all people achieve equitable health outcomes. • Demonstrates awareness of colonisation and power relationships. • Demonstrates critical consciousness and on-going self-reflection and self-awareness in terms of the impact of their own culture on interactions and service delivery. • Shows a willingness to personally take a stand for equity. • Supports Māori-led and Pacific-led responses.
Innovation & Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is open to new ideas and create a culture where individuals at all levels bring their ideas on how to 'do it better' to the table. • Models an agile approach –tries new approaches, learns quickly, adapts fast. • Develops and maintains appropriate external networks to support current knowledge of leading practices.
Collaboration and Relationship Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Models good team player behaviour, working with colleagues to not allow silo thinking and behaviour at decision making level to get in the way of doing our best and collegially supports others to do the same. • Works with peers in Hauora Māori Service and Pacific Health Business Unit to ensure the voice of and direct aspirations of Māori and Pacific People are reflected in planning and delivery of services.
Health & safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercises leadership and due diligence in Health and Safety matters and ensures the successful implementation of Health and Safety strategy and initiatives. • Takes all reasonably practicable steps to eliminate and mitigate risks and hazards in the workplace that could cause harm, placing employee, contractor and others' health, safety, and wellbeing centrally, alongside high-quality patient outcomes. • Leads, champions, and promotes continual improvement in health and wellbeing to create a healthy and safe culture.
Compliance and Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes responsibility to ensure appropriate risk reporting, management and mitigation activities are in place. • Ensures compliance with all relevant statutory, safety and regulatory requirements applicable to the Business Unit. • Understands, and operates within, the financial & operational delegations of their role, ensuring peers and team members are also similarly aware.

Relationships

External	Internal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamariki/ tangata whaiora and their whanau • Community Services and Agencies • Education • All other Health Providers, including PHO, GPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAFS Leadership and multi-disciplinary team • Allied Health Professionals, Professional Leader & Director of Allied Health • Mental Health and Addictions Group Leadership Team • Te Wāhanga Hauora Māori • Other teams relevant to supporting the Tangata Whaiora and whānau journey

About you – to succeed in this role

You will have

Essential:

- A relevant graduate and post-graduate qualification.
- Experience in implementing Te Tiriti o Waitangi in action.
- A Master's Degree in Psychology with NZ Psychologists Board approved practicum/internship
- Scope of Practice: Clinical Psychologist, Registered Psychologist, Counselling Psychologist
- Registration as a psychologist under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act (2003) with a current practicing certificate.

Desired:

Experience

- Experience in providing clinical supervision
- Evidence of postgraduate development with Treaty of Waitangi principles
- Previous clinical experience in child & adolescent specialist mental health and addiction settings
- Ability to deliver Dialectical Behaviour Therapy or willing to learn this modality

Business / Technical Skills

- Understanding of organisational dynamics and able to work effectively in a complex multi-professional workplace.
- Advanced IT skills

You will be able to

Essential:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the significance of and obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, including how to apply Te Tiriti principles in a meaningful way in your role.
- Take care of own physical and mental wellbeing, and have the stamina needed to go the distance.
- Maximise the quality and contributions of individuals and teams to achieve the organisation's vision, purpose and goals.

- Establish and maintain positive working relationships with people at all levels within the public and private sectors, related industry and community interest groups and the wider national and international communities.
- Demonstrate a strong drive to deliver and take personal responsibility.
- Demonstrate self-awareness of your impact on people and invests in your own leadership practice to continuously grow and improve.
- Demonstrate the highest standards of personal, professional and institutional behaviour through commitment, loyalty and integrity.

This position description is intended as an insight to the main tasks and responsibilities required in the role and is not intended to be exhaustive. It may be subject to change, in consultation with the job holder.