



# Statement of Purpose: Volunteer Youth Mentor

## **What is a Volunteer Youth Mentor?**

If you feel you can act as a positive role model to young people, possess the ability to relate and engage with young people and would like to give something back to the community, then this may be the perfect opportunity for you. This opportunity would appeal equally to couples or singles.

## **Overview of Program**

The MyLife program is the first of its kind, offering separate individual accommodation for the lead tenant and to a number of individual young people, providing a safe, and supportive environment in which the young people are encouraged to excel.

The Youth Mentor component of a Targeted Care Package Program (TCP) is an out-of-home care placement option providing medium-term accommodation and support to young people aged 15-19 years who have been placed away from the care of their families by Child Protection. These young people are generally subject to statutory orders as defined by the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005. The program receives enhanced funding to provide individualised support to the young people in the program.

## **The role of the Volunteer Youth Mentor**

The Volunteer Youth Mentor role is pivotal, providing day-to-day guidance for the young people in the program. The Volunteer Youth Mentor's role is to reside on site, providing mentoring support for up to six young people aged between 15 -19 years, providing guidance, encouragement and support for the young people.

Volunteer Youth Mentors are expected to act as positive role models and be active members of the care team, when possible. Volunteer Youth Mentors are also expected to demonstrate a positive and balanced lifestyle and be engaged in some form of employment, study or training.

## **What's in it for You?**

As a Volunteer Youth Mentor, you will be provided with a rent-free and self-contained apartment located within a cluster of apartments occupied by our young people.

Whilst the Volunteer Youth Mentor is required to live and sleep overnight at the property, it is not a requirement that they be at the house 24 hours a day, rather at peak times such as early evening when the young people are most likely to need mentoring and role modelling. This role can be easily combined with full/part-time work, casual work or study.

## **Conditions**

- As this is a volunteer position, no wage or salary is payable. Whilst living in one of our properties, the Volunteer Youth Mentor is not required to pay rent or utilities (excluding telephone) and receives an honorarium payment of \$100 per week. A residential License Agreement must be accepted and signed.
- The Volunteer Youth Mentor must complete a Criminal History Check and possess a Working with Children Check (WWCC) on commencement in the role. The WWCC must be maintained while in the role.
- The occupant of this role recognises the importance of advising the Team Leader of any



proposed absences from the property as early as possible to allow adequate alternative arrangements to be made and to ensure best support to the young people.

- This position is subject to a six-month trial period and is available for 12 months with an option for a further 12 months, subject to review and negotiation with Anchor.

**About Anchor** - <https://www.anchor.org.au/>

Anchor has a long history of providing services for children and young people unable to live with their family, to young people who are at risk, and to individuals and families who are experiencing housing stress or homelessness.

### **Statement of Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing**

**Anchor has zero tolerance for abuse, neglect or harm of children.** We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children participating in our programs and the welfare of children is always our first priority.

We create environments where all children and young people are valued, empowered and feel safe.

Anchor recognises the history and impact of white settlement upon our First Nations people and ensures the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. Anchor understands and addresses additional barriers faced by children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Anchor acknowledges that children with a disability and LGBTQI+ children have additional vulnerabilities and Anchor responds to their individual needs to ensure their inclusion, empowerment and wellbeing.