



## Rural Counsellor Position

The Bila Muuji Aboriginal Corporation Health Services Incorporated (BMACHS) comprises Aboriginal Community Controlled Medical Services from, Coomealla, Coonamble, Dubbo, Forbes, Orange and Orana Haven and we are very active in trying to address the health inequality in each of our local communities. Our approach is to “provide health services addressing not just the physical well-being of the individual but also the social, emotional and cultural well-being of the whole community”.

BMACHS has an opportunity for 2 fulltime Rural Counsellor positions.

One of these positions will be based in Dubbo NSW the other in Orange NSW.

In line with the Towards Zero Suicides Initiative and in partnership with the WNSW Local Health District this role will be providing professional counselling services while working within the governance of Bila Muuji.

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Applicants strongly encouraged to apply.**

### Position Description

<b>Position</b>	Rural Counsellor Position
<b>Primary Purpose</b>	To increase the psychological and emotional support available to people, communities, and workplaces in rural areas in Western NSW so they can better cope with natural disasters, economic changes, and severe adversity. This includes providing dedicated clinical interventions to people experiencing suicidal ideation or recovering from a suicide attempt.
<b>Duration</b>	April 2021 – April 2023
<b>Location</b>	The positions will be managed within Bila Muuji Aboriginal Corporation. One position will be located within the Dubbo Aboriginal Medical Service with outreach to Aboriginal Health Services in the northern region of WNSWLHD. One position will be located in the Orange Aboriginal Medical Service with outreach to Aboriginal Health Services in the southern region of WNSWLHD (including Coomealla).

*“Access to Health Services is vital for the wellbeing of our communities and future generations”*

*Bila Muuji Aboriginal Corporation Health Service ICN: 8846*

*107 Wingewarra Street, Dubbo, NSW 2830*

*ABN – 24 169 186 744*

*Ph: (02) 6885 6097*

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<p><b>Key Accountabilities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work within the governance of the Bila Muuji providing regional direction for the delivery of health services across the region.</li> <li>• Work with the WNSW LHD Mental Health clinical governance framework in the provision of clinical services in line with the Towards Zero Suicides Initiatives.</li> <li>• Provide an autonomous advanced clinical service, including those of a novel, complex or critical nature to people experiencing suicidal crisis and their family/carers.</li> <li>• Understand the concept and principles of trauma informed mental health recovery and demonstrate experience and skills using a collaborative strength-based approach to the care of clients.</li> <li>• Develop and demonstrate cultural competence and a commitment to improve the health outcomes of Aboriginal people.</li> <li>• Provision of evidence-based clinical interventions to clients of the counselling service including clinical programs and group treatments.</li> <li>• Work collaboratively with other service providers, both government and non-government, to coordinate the provision of holistic care.</li> <li>• Review and actively follow up clients following recovery and treatment and provide ongoing support as required</li> <li>• Collate and report data in relation to services provided</li> <li>• This position will work closely with Bila Muuji Aboriginal Corporation members and other Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services across the region and the current workforce in relation to suicide prevention.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Relationships and Reporting Lines</b></p>	<p>The position would be accountable to the CEO, Bila Muuji Aboriginal Corporation Health Services Inc. (BMACHS).</p> <p>The position would be supported by the Mental Health specialist team within Western NSW Local Health District (LHD), including access to training and capacity building opportunities and clinical support. The position would provide regular activity reports to Western NSW LHD and Bila Muuji.</p> <p>The position will work closely with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in Western NSW that are members of</p>

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	Bila Muuji Aboriginal Corporation. The position would also maintain close relationships with Western NSW LHD Mental Health Services.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	<p>The position will capture data about activities delivered and provide reports to Western NSW LHD and BMACHS on a quarterly (every 3 months) basis. The reports will detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity undertaken to build relationships and connections with individuals within the target cohort</li> <li>• The number of individuals that the worker has successfully engaged with, including: age, gender, ethnicity, geographic location of the person, and the extent to which family/carers are engaged in care planning/ treatment</li> <li>• A description of the type of work that has been done with individuals, including with respect to: screening, assessment, treatment, care coordination</li> </ul>
<b>Selection Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant qualifications <b>and</b> either AHPRA registration (as registered nurse, occupational therapist or psychologist) <b>or</b> demonstrated eligibility for membership of a recognised professional association (in relation to Social Work, Welfare Officer or Counsellor) <b>or</b> having completed the Bachelor of Health Science (Mental Health) Djirruwang. Minimum 3 years post-graduation experience.</li> <li>• Proven clinical expertise in working with people experiencing suicidality and their families/key support people, with demonstrated ability to navigate complex clinical and psycho-social situations. With an ability to provide clinical supervision.</li> <li>• Applied understanding of the principles of person-centred care, trauma-informed care and recovery in the context of suicidality.</li> <li>• Demonstrated applied practical understanding of clinical practice that is collaborative, holistic, and respectful in relation to Aboriginal people experiencing suicidality and their families.</li> <li>• Proven ability to function effectively as a member of a multidisciplinary team environment and to work in a professional manner unsupervised.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated effective oral, written, and interpersonal communication skills, with ability to liaise and network with a range of services.</li> <li>• Demonstrated ability to operate in a computerised environment and knowledge of electronic information systems.</li> <li>• Current NSW driver's licence and willingness and capacity to travel including occasional overnight stays if required.</li> <li>• Current First Aid and CPR Certificate</li> <li>• Current NSW Working with Children Check</li> <li>• Current Criminal History Check</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Challenges</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The position will be required to negotiate a complex service landscape regarding suicidality, including the effects of pandemic, drought, fire, floods and other climate change impacts as well as the challenges of being part of a newly established service.</li> <li>• Priority setting within limited time frames</li> <li>• Managing the impact of the work on self and seeking out clinical supervision.</li> </ul>

**Prior to commencing your application for the Rural Counsellor position, please review the Position Description and the relevant selection criteria, which you are required to address in your submission in a separate document.**

**Please forward your resume, cover letter and required selection criteria to:**

**[pamelar@bilamuujihealthservices.org.au](mailto:pamelar@bilamuujihealthservices.org.au)**

**Alternatively, please contact our office for enquiries on 02 6885 6097**

**Applications close 5pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

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