

Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor

Full-Time (40 hours per week with ADO every 4 weeks)

Make a difference by joining one of Australia's most innovative youth services

A fulltime position is available for a Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor to join our enthusiastic team of health Professional at headspace Swan Hill,

Applications for this position are invited from **Social Workers, Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Mental Health Nurses**, and other candidates with relevant qualifications/experience. University students who are near completion are also welcome to apply. The primary role of the Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor is to work within the headspace multidisciplinary team providing mental health support to young people aged 12-25 years, their families, and extended support systems.

This position will involve travel to communities within Swan Hill Rural City Council, Gannawarra, Buloke and wider Shires across the region. The position will conduct psychosocial assessments, deliver evidence-based short-term psychological interventions with individuals and groups, and partake in community engagement and awareness activities.

This is an **ongoing full-time position** with some out of hours work required at times. The benefits of the role also include the provision of Supervision and Professional Development in addition to the salary. Salary is in accordance with the relevant enterprise bargaining agreement.

About Swan Hill District Health: Swan Hill District Health is a 143 bed (including Aged Care), fully integrated rural public health facility servicing a greater community of around 35,000 people. At Swan Hill District Health (SHDH), our vision is to provide connected care, best experience for our community.

SHDH is a compassionate, family friendly employer where every employee is a valued team member. Whilst encouraging and supporting work/life balance, SHDH also provides:

- ®A dynamic workplace
- ®Discounted Corporate gym memberships
- ®Salary Sacrifice/Packaging
- ®Professional Development opportunities
- ®Employee Assistance Program

Attract Connect Stay; our community are excited to see you and your family arrive. Let us help you connect; schools, partner employment, clubs, housing and the things that matter to you when building your new life.

Any enquiries? Please contact Hayley Neuschafer, headspace Swan Hill Manager, Ph: (03) 4010 7102 or hneuschafer@shdh.org.au

To apply for this position please email your Cover letter responding to the Key Selection Criteria and up-to-date CV, to employment@shdh.org.au.

You will find the position description on our website – [Vacant positions](#)

Swan Hill District Health is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion. We welcome applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds and people with disability. If you require any reasonable adjustments to the recruitment process or the role, please let us know by contacting employment@shdh.org.au

Applications close: 21st of June 2026

Swan Hill District Health reserve the right to interview and appoint candidates prior to this date.



Position Description

Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor

Location	headspace Swan Hill
Classification	Social Worker, Occupational Therapist, Counsellor (other relevant discipline) Allied Health Professionals (Victorian, Public Sector) 2021-2026 Psychologist Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists (Victorian Public Sector) 2021-2025 Mental Health Nurse The Nurses and Midwives (Victorian Public Sector) 2020-2024
Salary	<i>Salary in accordance with the appropriate Enterprise Bargaining Agreement and experience</i>
Hours	Full time (40 hours per week with Accrued Day Off (ADO) every four weeks). Part-Time positions also available
Term	Ongoing
Direct Employer	Swan Hill District Health is the Lead Agency for headspace Swan Hill

POSITION SUMMARY

headspace Swan Hill provides early intervention mental health services to young people aged 12 to 25.

The primary role of the Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor is to work within a multidisciplinary team providing mental health support to young people aged 12-25 years at both the headspace centre and via outreach to many communities across the Swan Hill, Gannawarra, Buloke and extended Shires.

This position will deliver evidence-based psychological interventions to young people with mild to moderate mental health issues. These services will be provided to young people across the clinical staging model for early intervention youth mental health services. This will include conducting assessments and developing care plans in conjunction with the young person and identified family, friends, and professionals. The role will also include care coordination support to young people, facilitation of groups, and community engagement work.

The Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor will collaborate with other staff and agencies to ensure a holistic approach to the young person's care. The Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor will ensure young people have pathways to access a range of services relevant to their health, housing, social and developmental needs.

We are looking for enthusiastic and optimistic applicants that are passionate about working with young people, responsive, and intent on providing positive outcomes for young people, their family, and friends.

To find out more about **headspace**, **headspace Swan Hill** and **Swan Hill District Health** visit headspace.org.au, headspace-centres/swan-hill, and www.shdh.org.au.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Clinical Work

- Practice safely within their profession and their own scope of clinical practice.
- Practice within an evidence-based framework for individual, group, and family therapies.
- Conduct brief and/or comprehensive assessments, planning, implementation, and evaluation of care in collaboration with the client and the multidisciplinary team to achieve health goals and outcomes.
- Maintain timely, accurate, and current clinical records ensuring documentation meets professional and legal standards.
- Monitor patients for critical changes and in consultation with the Senior Clinician initiate appropriate risk/emergency procedures.
- Conduct health promotion activities which enhance consumer health and well-being and encourage and empower consumers to participate in their own health care.
- Collaborate with other health professionals to ensure the consumer's safe and effective transition across the care continuum and facilitate referrals to appropriate health resources and services.
- Participate in multidisciplinary meetings with clients and their family and friends as required.
- Engage in feedback informed practice with young people and as a continuous quality improvement activity.
- Address Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) use through identification, assessment, and intervention. Supporting young people to engage with specialist AOD service if required.
- Contribute to clinical quality audits and continuous quality improvement activities.
- Mentor and support staff, students, and volunteers, including orientation and supervision.
- Engage in clinical supervision and ongoing professional development as per clinical practice guidelines and professional registration body.
- Adhere to clinical governance, legislative requirements, and the headspace Model Integrity Framework (hMIF).
- Relieve the reception role – responding to service enquiries, screening new referrals, and booking appointments as needed.

Community Engagement

- Work as a part of the headspace team to represent and promote headspace at community awareness and youth engagement events. This may at times include developing and facilitating events, projects, activities, and programs that increase the mental health literacy of young people and the wider community. These may be outside standard work hours.
- Ensure the collection of relevant data in order to measure deliverables and continuously improve the delivery of services.
- Ensure compliance with relevant quality and safety, professional, and healthcare standards.

General

- Build and maintain effective relationships with key stakeholders (internal and external) involved in the provision of health, mental health and psychosocial services to young people and their family to enable integrated service delivery.
 - Contribute to developing a culturally safe workplace for Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander, and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse employees and service users.
 - Promote the positive reputation of the organisation.
 - Participate in relevant training and development activities as an effective team member.
 - Participate in quality and service improvement activities.
 - Follow all relevant legislation, regulations, and organisational policies.
 - Other duties consistent with the position where required or as requested by the headspace Swan Hill Manager from time to time.
-

RELATIONSHIPS

The position holder will develop and maintain positive and effective working relationships with a broad range of people and organisations. They must positively represent **headspace** and **Swan Hill District Health** to the public, community, government, and other organisations.

Reports To	headspace Swan Hill Senior Clinician and Manager
Internal Relationships	headspace service staff headspace service collocated staff Swan Hill District Health staff Youth advisers/reference group members
External Relationships	headspace National staff Staff from other headspace services Consortium partner organisations and staff Local youth, health, and community service providers and staff Government departments, ministers, and staff Young people and their family and friends that access the service Other external partners, vendors, providers, and key stakeholders

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Successful applications will complete and provide **all** of the following:

1. a cover letter,
2. résumé,
3. responses to below bullet points for *Qualifications and Registrations, Experience, Knowledge and Skills, and Personal Attributes* ('Desirable' bullet points only if able to)
4. Swan Hill District Health [Application for Employment Form](#).

Qualifications and Registrations

Essential

- Psychologist (registered as a Provisional Psychologist or Psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia)

Position Description – headspace Swan Hill Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor

- Social Work (eligible to be registered with the Australian Association of Social Workers)
- Occupational Therapy (registered with Allied Health Practitioner Regulation Agency)
- Mental Health Nurse (registered with Allied Health Practitioner Regulation Agency)
- A diploma or certificate in social sciences, health sciences, mental health, youth work, counselling or other related field *or* working towards a relevant tertiary qualification.

Experience

Essential

- Demonstrated experience working in the youth, mental health, and/or community sector.
- Demonstrated experience in working with families, and the ability to support a team to work effectively with the family of young people.
- A solid understanding of mental health/social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB) care for First Nations young people.
- Knowledge, skills, and expertise for provision of culturally appropriate and socially inclusive services to young people.
- Demonstrated experience of embedding strong governance, quality, safety, and continuous improvement in all aspects of service delivery.
- Proven track record in building and maintaining effective working relationships with a range of internal and external stakeholders.

Desirable

- Demonstrated experience working with young people aged 12-25 years who have a mental health and/or alcohol and other drug problem.
- Experience in youth mental health services.

Knowledge and skills

Essential

- Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability to work with people from a diverse range of social, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds.
- The ability to work independently with limited supervision, and collaboratively as a productive team member.
- Highly developed verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to prioritise and manage multiple and competing work tasks and deliver to agreed deadlines.
- Advanced computer skills including word processing, spreadsheets, electronic recording systems and database applications.

Desirable

- A broad understanding of the mental health service system in the state, and knowledge of relevant legislation.
- A broad understanding of the primary health care system in Australia.
- A broad understanding of the challenges and experiences of young people in Australia, including specific community factors.

Personal attributes

- Ability to relate and work effectively with young people and their family.
 - High levels of professionalism, confidentiality and discretion.
 - Positive and collaborative team player.
 - Adaptability and flexibility to changing work environments and requirements.
-

WORKPLACE POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Swan Hill District Health would like to acknowledge First Nations communities of Wamba Wamba, Wadi Wadi, Barapa Barapa, Latji Latji, and the Tatti Tatti people on whose land, we work and live. We pay respect to all Elders past and present and honour their connection to the land and water.

All headspace and **Swan Hill District Health** employees are required to familiarise themselves with the organisations policies and procedures and to abide by them at all times.

It is expected that at all times employees will:

- Be respectful towards the organisation, colleagues, clients, and the general public.
- Support the headspace vision and objective and demonstrate the values of headspace.
- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety, and that of others in the workplace.

The position holder must also:

- Maintain a current Working with Children Check. **
- Undergo a current and satisfactory National Police Check. **
- Maintain a current driver's license. **
- Maintain eligibility to work in Australia. **
- Participate in a 6-month probationary period.
- Participate in annual individual performance reviews and professional development planning.
- Have some flexibility to travel, and to work after hours (including weekends and evenings).

** *Evidence must be provided prior to appointment.*

All **Swan Hill District Health** employees are required to familiarise themselves with the organisation's policies and procedures and to abide by them at all times:

Infection Control Each employee has a responsibility to minimise exposure to incidents of infection/cross infection of residents, staff, visitors, and the general public.

The risk minimisation strategies are to be supported by all employees adhering to the Infection Control Manual policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Continuous Quality Each employee is expected to demonstrate a commitment to best practice

- Improvement:**
- All employees shall take responsibility for their own practice and share responsibility for creating and maintaining a system that provides safe, high-quality services.
 - All employees will participate in quality improvement activities aimed at improving patient outcomes and maintaining accreditation standards.
 - It is the responsibility of every employee to be familiar with Health Service-wide and specific

Person Centred Care: The Health Service supports in its values the philosophy of Person-Centred Care to ensure all people, including health service providers, clients, their carer's, and family members are respectfully cared for and encouraged to participate in the provision of quality health care.

We recognise diversity is part of every person and as such providers of health care must be actively involved in developing models of care that are person centred.

Child Safety: All children have the right to feel and be safe. Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. SHDH is committed to providing a child safe environment where children are safe and feel safe, and where their voices are heard about the decisions that affect them.

SHDH have zero tolerance to child abuse.

Each employee has a responsibility to adhere to this requirement. Any breach of this standard will result in disciplinary action.

Our Purpose: **Connected Care / Best Experience**
SHDH commits to meet the growing health care needs of our community through our new vision to provide better connected care and to achieve the best care experience.

Privacy and Confidentiality: SHDH are committed to protecting patient and staff privacy and confidentiality, as it is an important aspect of our commitment to providing high quality services. In accordance to both the Health Records Act and the Information Privacy Act, information should only be used and disclosed for the primary purpose of its collection.

Each employee has a responsibility to adhere to SHDH's Privacy and Confidentiality Policy, as it is a condition of employment. Any breach of the rules of privacy and/or confidentiality relating to health service business, patients or medical records will result in disciplinary action.

Mandatory Training: All employees must be aware of and complete designated mandatory training within the required timeframe.

Safety: **RESPONSIBILITIES: It is the responsibility of every employee to:**

Position Description – headspace Swan Hill Mental Health Clinician/Counsellor

- Take reasonable care for their safety and the safety of others while at work.
- Report accidents, incidents, and potential hazards as soon as reasonably practicable to their supervisor and record on VHIMS reporting system.
- Advise their supervisor if they have an injury or illness that may affect their ability to perform the inherent requirements of their position.
- Be familiar with emergency and evacuation procedures as detailed in the Emergency Procedures Manual.
- Complete all Mandatory training requirements as identified and directed.
- Comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Act and all SHDH O.H. & S. online Policies and Procedures.

Asset Management:

Employees with asset management responsibilities are required to adhere to the Asset Management Policy and Protocols.

SWAN HILL DISTRICT HEALTH AND SWAN HILL

For more **information on How to Apply** go to www.shdh.org.au/employment/how-to-apply.

For more information about leisure, work and accommodation in Swan Hill visit dreamswanhill.com.au and [click here](#) to download a local information booklet.

Further enquiries

To find out more about this position, please direct your enquiries to Hayley Neuschafer, headspace Swan Hill Manager on 03 4010 7100 or hneuschafer@shdh.org.au

Approved by: headspace Swan Hill Manager

Date Approved: 25.05.2026

Manager Name: Hayley Neuschafer

Manager Signature:

Date:

Employee Name:

Employee Signature:

Date:
