

# **Psychology Placement Opportunity**

## Yarrawonga Mulwala Psychology

Yarrawonga Mulwala Psychology (YMP) is a private practice psychology clinic based in Yarrawonga (North East Victoria). Yarrawonga Mulwala Psychology was established to meet the need for client-centred, evidenced-based assessment, treatment and support for local children, adolescents and adults. We believe that rural Australians should have the same access to high quality psychological support as those living in metropolitan areas. We enable this via face-to-face and telehealth (videoconferencing) appointments. Some of our clinicians are based locally, and others are based elsewhere throughout Victoria.

We are a general psychology clinic, and we provide psychological assessment, treatment and support to children, adolescents and adults. We work with individuals, couples and families. We have strong relationships with local GPs and allied health professionals, and we provide services for a variety of presenting problems including mood, anxiety, and eating disorders, attention-deficit and disruptive behaviours, autism etc. We are respected in our community, and we have varied and consistent referral pathways.

### Provisional Psychology Placement

Yarrawonga Mulwala Psychology provisional psychology placements would suit a provisional psychologist with a genuine interest in working in a rural private practice, and a genuine commitment to implementing empirically supported treatments in real-world settings. We are particularly keen to support a placement student who has an interest in staying on with us as an intern or registrar.

Essential Selection Criteria (at a level expected for a provisional psychologist working under the supervision of a board approved supervisor)

- Registration as a provisional psychologist
- Ability to provide psychological services and reports in a manner that is at all times consistent with legal, ethical and professional requirements
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- Ability to maintain record keeping that is at all times up-to-date and consistent with legal, ethical and professional requirements
- Training in counselling skills assessment, diagnosis and cognitive behaviour therapy
- Ability to develop therapeutic rapport with clients and implement empirically supported treatments
- Experience in face to face and telehealth delivered psychological services
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to work independently, and to be a cooperative and supportive team member
- Ability to use supervision appropriately
- Ability to develop relationships with referrers and other members of the treating team
- Current Working with Children Check and Police Check
- Fully vaccinated
- Continued access to your own secure laptop and access to an appropriate confidential space for the

## **Expectations of Provisional Psychology Placement Students**

We are committed to providing students with a positive experience working in a rural private practice with the hope that they will love it so much they will go on to provide psychological assessment, treatment and support to rural Australians.

Provisional psychologists will have the opportunity to work with our team to experience a range of tasks which could include observation of psychological sessions, conducting cognitive assessments, and providing assessment and treatment for individuals with a range of presentations of mild-moderate severity (face to face and telehealth). The provisional psychologist may also undertake school visits. Provisional psychologists will be expected to build up to carrying a small caseload, so some degree of skill in working autonomously is required.

Provisional psychologists will need to be available to be on placement part-time (typically two days per week) for 20 to 25 weeks or so (depending on client needs and provisional psychologist competence) to give them the opportunity to see clients through therapy. This must include a Monday, and one other weekday. Depending on client needs, provisional psychologist competence, and other considerations, at times during the placement it <u>may</u> be possible for provisional psychologists to alternate between face-to-face and telehealth sessions on a fortnightly basis (so they are in Yarrawonga fortnightly rather than weekly).

Prior to the provisional psychologists seeing clients without other YMP staff present, the supervisor will ensure that they are competent and confident in risk assessment, de-escalation, crisis management etc and that they know how to contact appropriate supports and emergency services as required. Please note, that we do not typically see high risk client groups, however we realise that risk cannot always be predicted. Therefore, we are taking these steps out of caution to ensure the safety of the client and provisional psychologists in the unlikely event that a client was at immediate risk of harm to themselves or others.

## Supervision, Training and Support Arrangements

Provisional psychologists will be provided with individual supervision by an approved supervising clinical psychologist at an average rate of one hour supervision per two days of placement (as required by APAC). Additional email and phone contact with the supervisor will be available to the provisional psychologist, as needed. In addition to individual supervision students will also have the opportunity to participate in team meetings and group supervision from psychologists with expertise in a range of areas (e.g., trauma, neurodiversity, eating disorders, complex mental health etc.).

Supervision, training and support arrangements include

- Individual supervision and group supervision by approved supervising clinical psychologists to meet the requirements for the placement
- Regular group supervision facilitated by psychologists with recognised expertise in their field (e.g., complex adult presentations, eating disorder, trauma, ASD etc)
- Access to skills workshops facilitated by experienced psychologists covering a range of topics important for clinical practice (e.g., managing admin tasks, setting and reviewing homework tasks, liaising with referrers, Medicare etc)
- Opportunity for training in a range of empirically supported psychological assessment and treatment approaches

## **Application Requirements**

Provisional psychologists should apply for this position via their University Placement Coordinator (who can forward the application to <a href="leah.brennan@yarramulpsychology.com.au">leah.brennan@yarramulpsychology.com.au</a>). The application should include (1) a cover letter which outlines your response to the essential selection criteria, (2) a CV summarising your training, qualifications, experience, and skills, (3) at least 2 referees who can speak to your psychological training, skills and experience, and (4) copies of mid- and end of placement review report (where applicable).