



FAMILY ACCESS NETWORK

Family Access Network is committed to providing a child safe environment

POSITION: Volunteer Mentor

REPORTS TO: The Co-ordinator, Volunteer Program

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT:

Family Access Network (FAN) has been making a difference in young people lives since 1981 and is committed to responding to the diverse needs of homeless and at risk young people and young families.

FAN is underpinned by a strong client focused, rights-based approach that seeks to maximise positive outcomes for young people through timely intervention and strategic responses. FAN provides a range of services for young people, young families and accompanying children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, family violence and social isolation including:

- Homeless Support Services, incorporating
 - Transitional Support Program case management
 - Private Rental Brokerage Program
 - Housing Establishment Fund
 - Homeless Youth Dual Diagnosis Initiative
- Pathways to Resilience – Family Violence Therapeutic Intervention for LGBTIQ Young People
- Life Skills – including Young Mums Group and Eastern Diversity Group (EDG)
- Engage – Whole Package LGBTIQ Program
- Peer Leadership Program
- Volunteer Program – Lead Tenants and Mentors
- LGBTIQ Capacity Building Project
- Children's Program – Early Years
- Equity Support Program

ROLE:

The aim of the Volunteer Mentor is to act as a neutral and consistent role model and provide friendship and support (on a one to one basis) to a young person between the ages of 15-25 years. Mentors and young people meet on a weekly basis – at a time and place that is mutually agreed - and engage in a range of low cost activities that build positive adult relationships and community connection.

FAN has a team of professional workers who respond to the therapeutic needs of young people, Volunteer Mentors provide a positive adult role model in the context of everyday social activities and interaction and as such, the Mentor is not a support worker to the young person.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. To develop a supportive friendship with a young person showing respect for and understanding of their individual needs.
2. To adhere to Family Access Network's program boundaries and guidelines.



3. To act as Mentor for the young person and encourage new experiences and opportunities and to be a link to the wider community.
4. To be accountable to the Co-ordinator of Volunteers.
5. The Mentor is also responsible to the Program as its representatives in the community.

FAVOURABLE ATTRIBUTES:

1. Some experience and a genuine interest in the well-being of young people.
2. Patience, understanding, acceptance, compassion, the ability to listen.
3. Ideally to be over the age of 25.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSITION:

1. Minimum twelve month commitment.
2. A minimum of two hours contact per fortnight.
3. Days and time of meetings are to be negotiated between the young person and the Mentor.
4. FAN is committed to providing and supporting a child safe environment and acceptance as a Mentor is determined by successful completion of all components of the volunteer screening process.
5. All Mentors are required to undergo Volunteer Induction Training and to attend regular meetings
6. A three month probationary period is a condition of employment.

Please sign and date this form in acknowledgment that you have read and understood the above.

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____