



# Australian General Practice Network

## Principal Network Adviser Mental Health

January 2010

The Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) is a national Canberra based organisation established in 1998 to support 110 general practice networks and eight state based organisations throughout Australia.

AGPN is funded under the Divisions of General Practice Program and is an integral component of the Australian Government's general practice policy. The strategy has resulted in greater involvement of general practitioners in the development of health policy, the planning and delivery of health services at the local and regional level and the management of a range of health service delivery projects.

AGPN's mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of communities and individuals by providing national leadership and support through the general practice network. We strive to become a cohesive high performing Australian general practice network that is the essential regional and local infrastructure for integrated primary health care delivery. AGPN has three key result areas: national leadership and advocacy (KRA1), network capacity and performance (KRA2) and member engagement (KRA3).

AGPN's team comprises core administrative staff, policy advisers, principal network advisers and network support officers (approx 30 staff) who are highly motivated, adaptable and multi-skilled employees.

### Organisational values:

All staff at AGPN are required to operate in accordance with the organisation's values, to ensure that we act and relate with **PRIDE** in all that we do:

- **P**assion, **R**espect, **I**ntegrity, **D**aring and **E**xcellence

### Position Description

The role of the Principal Network Adviser – Mental Health is to provide leadership, dynamic facilitation and advocacy in primary mental health care. The Principal Network Adviser will also promote best practice primary mental health care and ensure that Australian Government primary mental health care programs are implemented consistently across Australia. AGPN's role is to link the Government's reform agenda, the work of COAG and other primary mental health care initiatives to ensure best practice implementation models are developed and disseminated nationally. The Principal Network Adviser will work closely with the AGPN policy team and other national programs and provide policy input and leadership.

**Australian General Practice Network Limited**

25 National Circuit Forrest ACT 2603 | PO Box 4308 Manuka ACT 2603  
T 02 6228 0800 | F 02 6228 0899 | [www.agpn.com.au](http://www.agpn.com.au) | ABN 95 082 812 146

**Delivering local health solutions through general practice**

*AGPN acknowledges the financial support of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing*

## **Knowledge, Education, Experience and Key Attributes**

### **Essential**

- Demonstrated high level oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to consult and negotiate effectively with peak primary mental health care stakeholders at a national level
- Demonstrated ability to contribute to the policy, program development and health service development of national primary mental health care programs
- Highly developed communication, coordination and liaison skills including a demonstrated capacity to engage with stakeholders, develop partnerships and successfully coordinate and manage a national network
- Demonstrated ability to manage large and complex projects, ideally within the health sector
- Demonstrated ability to exercise judgement and initiative, to determine priorities, organise workload and ability to work independently or as part of a team
- Extensive knowledge of Australian government primary mental health care programs, the general practice environment and the role of the Divisions Network in the health care environment
- An ability to undertake some interstate travel and work outside of standard hours on a needs basis

### **Desirable**

- Tertiary qualifications in a relevant discipline such as health promotion, psychology, nursing, primary care, mental health or communications.

### **Key Responsibilities**

- Work closely with AGPN's mental health team and other members of the AGPN team
- Deliver on and administer AGPN contracts, particularly the primary mental health care network contract with the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA)
- Support, oversee and provide leadership to SBOs and DLOs in the implementation of their primary mental health care program
- Organise and manage regular National Primary Mental Health Care Network (NPMHCN) meetings to progress work being undertaken in primary mental health care
- Support and advise the AGPN Chair, and Executive on primary mental health policy issues
- Oversee and ensure the integration of related AGPN programs within the primary mental health care agenda, including linking with PNA's in other program areas
- In conjunction with the state based organisations (SBOs) as appropriate, identify, document and disseminate good models of practice focusing on areas of Division' operation where difficulties are encountered, including Primary mental health care education programs

- Contribute to a range of relevant primary mental health care events representing AGPN and the divisions network
- Collaborate with relevant national mental health stakeholders to promote best particular primary mental health care and develop policy recommendations to the Department

## Selection Criteria

Candidates should include a paragraph addressing each of the essential criteria individually, along with any of the desirable criteria that may be applicable.

## Reporting Relationships

Supervisor:	Deputy CEO
Position:	Principal Network Adviser
Direct Reports:	Network Support Officer

## Terms of Employment and Remuneration

- The Principal Network Adviser (PNA) will be appointed for a 12 month period. Continuation of employment is subject to ongoing funding from the Department of Health and Ageing.
- Salary will be negotiated commensurate with skills, experience and qualifications.
- Superannuation benefits will be in accordance with the provisions of Federal Superannuation Guarantee legislation. Flexible remuneration packaging will also be offered.

## How to Apply

Please forward your resume, a covering letter and contact details for three referees.

**By Email:** [mconroy@agpn.com.au](mailto:mconroy@agpn.com.au)

**By Mail:** PO Box 4308 Manuka ACT 2603

**Applications close:** Friday 12 February 2010

For further information please contact Liesel Wett on 02 6228 0800 or [lwett@agpn.com.au](mailto:lwett@agpn.com.au)

Website: [www.agpn.com.au](http://www.agpn.com.au)



## **PRIDE: Our values in action**

Our values guide the way in which we work together – internally and externally – for the greater benefit of AGPN, the General Practice Network, and the health and well being of the people of Australia. We act and relate with **PRIDE** in all that we do.

- **Passion:** we are passionate about our purpose and the contribution we can make to improve the health and wellbeing of the Australian community through the General Practice Network. This is demonstrated in the way we approach our day to day, and longer term, tasks and responsibilities.
- **Respect:** recognises the value and dignity of every person who associates with us. It is our responsibility to treat all with whom we come into contact with justice and compassion no matter what the circumstances, and we are prepared to stand up for what we believe and challenge behaviour which is contrary to our values.
- **Integrity:** demonstrates that we are open and honest in the way we deal with each other and with others, that we accept responsibility and differences of opinion, are willing to share information and knowledge, and display loyalty and commitment in our roles.
- **Daring:** recognises that we act with courage, that we are willing to take or seek out risks in the interests of the overall good of the organisation and those we are here to serve, and that we are bold and adventurous in our ideas, our approaches, and our execution of actions.
- **Excellence:** recognises we are responsible for ensuring a high performing organisation which has a focus on continuous improvement and quality; developing the skills, competencies and talents of those who work for AGPN; caring for the environment; and handing on a sustainable legacy to those who come after us.