POSITION DESCRIPTION - REMOTE AREA NURSE

Title	Remote Area Midwife (‘RAM’)

Responsible To	Clinic Manager

Location	Amengernternenh Community, Utopia, NT

Position Type	12 month limited term contract full time (38 hours p.w.)

Total salary	$131,402 p.a.(including all loadings and superannuation)

POSITION SUMMARY

The Remote Area Midwife works as part of a small clinical team including a GP, other RANs and Aboriginal Health Workers, to provide high quality primary health care services to clients both in the clinic and in the community as required. This position has a particular focus on maternal and child health (antenatal and postnatal).

COMMUNITY & ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

The Urapuntja Health Service is based in the Amengernternenh Community, Utopia Homelands and situated on the Sandover Highway some 280 km north east of Alice Springs. Utopia Homelands is a region comprised of 16 Outstation communities spread out over some 3230 square km of desert. Urapuntja Health Service Aboriginal Corporation (‘UHSAC’) developed from many years of negotiations by Aboriginal people to have their own health service.

UHSAC is an Aboriginal community controlled health service with a Board of Directors which is elected from and by the community at the Annual General Meeting held each year. The Directors meet regularly to discuss issues and make decisions relevant to the Health Service. There are approximately 900 people who are mainly Anmatyerre and Alyawarra speakers in the service area. Distances to the outstations vary from 5 to 100 kms from the clinic.

Further information about the Utopia Homelands and the Urapuntja Health Service may be found via this link.

HEALTH SERVICE TEAM

The Remote Area Midwife works as a member of a small clinical team which includes visiting medical specialists, Aboriginal Health Workers and other RANs to provide a broad range of health services to community members. The RAM is expected to work collaboratively with all other members of the
health service team to ensure client outcomes are maximised. At times the RAM works under the supervision of the Medical Officer and/or the Clinic Manager. At other times the RAM is required to work with limited assistance and supervision. All staff are accountable to their line manager for the quality of the care they deliver.

Each RAN/RAM is responsible for a designated portfolio of duties (e.g. immunisations, chronic disease management, women’s health etc). This position has a particular focus on maternal and child health (antenatal and postnatal).

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

This position reports to the Clinic Manager. No positions report to this position.

CHALLENGES & CONSTRAINTS

This position is situated in a remote location in an Aboriginal Community where, as an employee of the AHCAC, the RAM is expected to be sensitive to the cultural values of the community in which she works and lives. The RAM is expected to conduct herself at all times in a manner that reflects this understanding. A substantial level of personal resilience is needed to live and work effectively in an isolated area.

Regular travel by 4WD over unmade roads is a feature of this position.

ON-CALL EMERGENCY ROSTER

Participation in the after-hours on-call emergency roster is an additional feature of this position. An allowance of 24% on the base rate is paid throughout the year for participation in the roster.

DUTIES OF THE POSITION

1. Provide professional evidence-based midwifery and general primary health care services in consultation with Aboriginal Health Workers, Registered Nurses and visiting medical specialists as required and according to the CARPA Standard Treatment Manual and the Minymaku Kutju Tjukurpa Women’s Business Manual.

2. Develop and deliver antenatal education and/or classes to mothers and support persons.

3. Identify gaps and work collaboratively with service providers and local community groups to deliver relevant and appropriate maternal and child health programs.

4. Develop and deliver health programs with an emphasis on chronic disease management and prevention and STI treatment and participate in opportunistic and community screening activities.

5. Perform consultations with community health program clients including the provision of basic physical examination and advice on the treatment and management of clients’ health problems.

6. Provide health promotion advice and education to clients.


8. Collect and enter required client data accurately and in a timely manner into the Communicare system.

9. Coordinate the evacuation of patients transferring to Alice Springs Hospital including liaison with DMO and RFDS, provision of emergency care until evacuation, transport of patient to airstrip and handover of patient care.
10. Assist other health staff requiring community, cultural and/or linguistic assistance with clients where culturally appropriate.

11. Undertake any other duties at the request of the Clinic Manager which are considered relevant to the position and are consistent with the level of classification.

12. Maintain the privacy and dignity of clients at all times.

**TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT**

Participate in on-going training and provide on-the-job training for less experienced RNs/AHPs.

**WH&S**

The RAM is expected to work safely to protect herself and others from injury and to follow all WH&S instructions.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. Provide a high quality and professional level of care and work ethics at all times.

2. Work within strict confidentiality guidelines, ensuring all client and organisational information is kept secure.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

**Essential**

1. Already registered to practice (unrestricted) as a Registered Midwife with the Nursing & Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA), Australian Health Practitioners Regulatory Agency (AHPRA).

2. Recent experience and a minimum of three years post-registration experience in antenatal and postnatal services, birthing, plus planning, providing management and evaluation of maternal health services within an Indigenous primary health care setting.

3. Excellent communication skills, in particular the ability to communicate sensitively in a cross-cultural environment.

4. A demonstrated understanding of the principles of primary health care, the issues affecting the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal communities, and a demonstrated capacity to effectively deliver primary health care services.

5. A willingness to take cultural advice from Aboriginal staff.

6. Demonstrated capacity to work successfully in a small team with minimal supervision.

7. Understanding of the legal and ethical issues for staff and clients in a primary health care setting.

8. Current unrestricted NT Drivers Licence or ability to obtain one and the ability to drive a manual vehicle.


**Desirable**

1. Experience in delivering a women’s health program in a remote setting.

2. Experience in using a Patient Information and Recall System.

3. Experience working in the area of Indigenous Primary Health and/or working with remote Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal organisations and groups.

4. NT Certification—About Giving Vaccines

**APPLICATION DETAILS**
Applications must include a written response to the Selection Criteria as outlined above, a CV and contact details for two referees.

Your job application and other documents should be submitted electronically to Claire Thomson at email:

claire.thomson7@bigpond.com

For further information or to discuss the position contact Claire on (08) 8339 4650