

Ovarian Cancer Senior Social Worker

- *Improve the psychosocial wellbeing of people with ovarian cancer*
- *Excellent Melbourne-city location*

Position Description

POSITION PURPOSE

This Ovarian Cancer Social Worker will be responsible for support of people during their ovarian cancer experience from diagnosis to end of life who are needing support with significant psychosocial and practical issues.

Location:	Queen Victoria Women's Centre, Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
Reports to:	Director of Operations, Support Services
Direct Reports:	Nil
Position Type:	Part-time 0.8EFT (30.4 hours per week)
Fixed Term Contract:	12 months

BACKGROUND

Ovarian Cancer Australia (OCA) is the leading national body for ovarian cancer in Australia. Founded in 2001 by a group of people personally affected by ovarian cancer, our vision *is to save lives and ensure that no person with ovarian cancer walks alone.*

We work to ensure that:

- People with ovarian cancer have a strong voice
- All people with ovarian cancer have access to best practice diagnosis, treatment, information and support
- A vibrant and growing national ovarian cancer research effort in Australia informs practice and translates into improved quality of life and survival.

Our values: We listen: We are inclusive: We are courageous: We act with integrity

For more information please visit www.ovariancancer.net.au.

WHAT DOES THE POSITION INVOLVE?

Each year in Australia, approximately 1700 people are diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and more than 1,000 die from the disease. Ovarian cancer has an extremely poor prognosis and has the lowest survival rate of any female cancer. In Australia, the overall five-year survival rate for people diagnosed with ovarian cancer is 48%. People impacted may experience poor quality of life and outcomes and Ovarian Cancer Australia has a range of programs supporting them and their loved ones. The main programs include a helpline, the Teal Support Program, psychosocial services, support groups and information resources.

This role will form part of the OCA psychosocial services providing psychological support to people impacted by ovarian cancer across Australia, primarily using telehealth.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Support People Impacted by Ovarian Cancer:

- Comprehensive psychosocial assessments of clients, including families, carers and significant others
- Risk assessments, and comprehensive interventions, for child abuse and neglect, family violence, intimate partner violence, elder abuse, sexual abuse and exploitation
- Provides counselling to people with ovarian cancer and their families who reach out to OCA
- Effectively and routinely communicates with people and their families to provide them with a better understanding of their health and to facilitate successful health outcomes.
- Communicates and collaborates with primary care and specialty providers in support of optimal health outcomes and provides referral where needed.
- Provides education and self-management support as it relates to managing the person, their illness and their emotional wellbeing.
- Facilitates successful collaboration resulting in high consumer satisfaction levels.
- Maintains confidentiality of information in accordance with organisational policies.
- Monitor the person's progress
- Works closely with the support services team
- Group facilitation
- Provision of brief bereavement counselling and interventions

Develop, implement and monitor new support programs including:

- Coordinates the development, piloting and evaluation of new programs to address identified needs or services gaps;
- Identifies strategies and approaches to build and sustain successful pilot projects.
- Implements and monitor the integration of newly established programs into the suite of OCA's support activities.
- Identifies and develops partnerships and funding opportunities that will enable the development of innovative programs or their ongoing sustainability once successfully piloted.

Stakeholder management:

- Manage both internal and external relationships. Key external relationships are with the relevant local treating teams, GPs and community psychological supports.
- Represent Ovarian Cancer Australia in a professional capacity at relevant meetings, committees and conferences.

Reporting, evaluation and accountability:

- Maintain the Customer Relationship Management (CRM). Database to record all case management related activities, in accordance with privacy guidelines.
- Regularly review program data, compile reports, identify areas for quality and service improvement and initiate appropriate quality improvement activities.
- Contribute to evaluation data collection as relevant to areas of responsibility and collate information into routine and ad hoc reports for Senior Leadership Team, Board, and funding bodies.
- Maintain current knowledge of advances in ovarian cancer, supportive and palliative care and methods of program delivery.

General:

- Work in collaboration with the organisation's teams to support projects, campaigns and other Ovarian Cancer Australia activities.
- Work collaboratively with other Ovarian Cancer Australia staff to optimise the promotion of the Teal Support program.
- Contribute to the development of Ovarian Cancer Australia and Support Program strategy and planning.
- Contribute to the culture of decision-making including initiative, cooperation, collaboration and shared accountability.
- Other duties as directed.

EXPERIENCE, SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Tertiary qualifications in social work.
- Registered member of Australia Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) or other appropriate professional body.
- At least five years' experience in working in psychosocial support of people with cancer.

KEY SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

1. At least five years' experience working counselling people with cancer.
2. Excellent knowledge of the psychosocial impacts of cancer and wide knowledge of other practical/psychological/social support services relevant to people with cancer.
3. Experience in guiding people with cancer in navigating accessing government benefits and other practical supports.
4. Excellent communication skills particularly in working within a health care team.
5. Experience in community engagement with consumers and professional stakeholders.
6. High level IT and computer literacy across MS office suite.
7. Demonstrated capacity to work proactively and strategically.
8. Strong alignment with Ovarian Cancer Australia's values.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications must include:

1. A covering letter addressing the above key selection requirements.
2. A current curriculum vitae or resume.

Please email applications to:

Cyril Dixon
Director of Operations, Support Services

Email: careers@ovariancancer.net.au

Closing date for applications is Thursday 16th December, 2021

Don't delay - apply today!

We will be shortlisting and interviewing as we receive applications and may appoint the right candidate ahead of the closing date. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.