

Position Description:

Lifestart Plus - Therapist



Role Title: Therapist	Department or Function: Service Delivery
Reports to: Children's Services Manager	Location: Itinerant

ROLE PURPOSE

To provide professional services to children who are eligible to receive funding provided through the Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) and Better Start initiatives.

General Responsibilities

Staff are required to:

- Comply with Lifestart and FaHCSIA standards for service provision (individualised and family-centred).
- Be responsible to the Children's Services Manager (CSM).
- Liaise with the Branch Manager regarding use of rooms and resources.
- Use strategies that have been proven to be effective for children eligible for this service.
- Communicate effectively with families regarding their priorities and concerns.
- Access interpreters where needed after consultation with the family and the CSM.
- Work independently to contact families and arrange appointments in consultation with Lifestart Plus Co-ordinator (LPC)
- Ensure that all appropriate documentation is signed by the family.
- Provide all completed documentation to LPC within one week of appointments.
- Provide the family with information about related services on request
- Develop skills and knowledge to ensure continued professional improvement.
- Actively promote Lifestart Plus Services within the organisation and to external agencies.

Therapists will:

- Develop an Individual Treatment Plan (ITP) in consultation with the family.
- Consult with Lifestart staff and other services to discuss the child's ITP.
- Document program goals and outcomes that are clear to families.
- Monitor, record and evaluate each child's progress.
- Provide a report to the family as required.

Essential Competencies:

- Degree in Speech Pathology / Occupational Therapy / Physiotherapy
- Eligible for membership of the appropriate professional body
- Practical experience in paediatrics
- Experience working with children with ASD and other disabilities
- Experience working with families of children with disabilities
- Private Motor Vehicle and current Drivers Licence
- Ability to work independently or as part of a team
- Basic IT Literacy

Desirable Criteria

- Experience in Family Centred Practice
- Demonstrate understanding of augmentative communication practices
- Hanen training
- PECS training
- Interest in providing services utilising new technology

Approved by: Suzanne Becker, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 10 June 2011