

VILLAGE 21 INDEPENDENCE MENTOR (LIVE IN VOLUNTEER) NORTHERN REGION - PRESTON

At Anglicare Victoria our focus is on transforming the futures of children, young people, families and adults. Our work is based on three guiding pillars: Prevent, Protect and Empower.

We strive to create an environment where employees feel valued and rewarded.

By living the Anglicare Victoria values and actively fostering fairness, equality, diversity and inclusion, our people make Anglicare Victoria a truly great place to work.

So come and join us at Anglicare Victoria where there is a rewarding career ready for you in a dedicated, professional team where respecting each other; leading with purpose; working together; and creating a positive difference are valued, and learning and creativity are encouraged.



Position details

Position	Independence Mentor (Live in Volunteer)
Program	Village 21
Classification	Voluntary
Hours	Full Time
Hours per week	Live-in role
Duration	Minimum 12 months. Ongoing if desired.
Location	Northern Region - Preston
Reporting Relationship	This position is directly accountable to the Village 21 Key Practitioner
Effective date	February 2023

Overview of program

Village 21 is a new and innovative accommodation and support model, developed in partnership between Anglicare Victoria and Kids Under Cover. Village 21 is a cluster housing model which offers on-site housing and intensive support to young people aged 18-21 who have had an out of home care experience. The objective of the model is to ensure young people have a positive future and are skilled enough to be independent when they exit the service. Young people at Village 21 are provided with support via volunteer mentors who live on site (Independence Mentors). They also receive assistance, advocacy and education via the Key Practitioner, including 1:1 support and group workshops.

Young people are supported during their stay to develop a range of independent living skills, further develop or re-develop positive relationships with immediate and extended family and connections to the community, and continue participating in employment, education and/or training.

Position Objectives

1. Live on site at Village 21 with another Independence Mentor and up to 6 young people.
2. Act as a positive role model and provide informal support to the young people at Village 21.
3. Demonstrate independent living skills and foster these in the young people at Village 21.
4. Participate in the development of a positive group living environment.

The Independence Mentors will be supported with training and regular supervision/support sessions with the Key Practitioner. The Independence Mentors will also be provided with assistance to resolve any issues of concerns or conflicts that arise.


Key responsibilities

The key responsibilities are as follows but are not limited to:

1.	Act as a positive, mature and responsible role model to young people, demonstrating independent living skills, engagement in education/training/employment, recreation, self care and interpersonal behaviour.
2.	Provide informal support to the young people at Village 21, including providing advice, information and encouragement.
3.	Establish and maintain appropriate boundaries and rapport with young people who have experience trauma and/or homelessness.
4.	Be available for and participate in Village 21 resident meetings.
5.	Be in regularly contact with the Key Practitioner regarding any issues affecting residents or the operation of Village 21.
6.	Report any major incidents that occur after hours to the Anglicare Victoria After Hours team.
7.	Participate in regular supervision/support sessions with the Key Practitioner and maintain open and honest communication with program staff.

Key Selection Criteria

Independence Mentors are assessed on the following competencies:

 <p>Role Specific</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to ensure a safe environment that is free from abuse. 2. Ability to demonstrate a personal readiness and capacity to become a live in mentor. 3. Good understanding of willingness to learn about development and the impact of trauma. 4. Ability to promote positive development and independent living skills of young people at Village 21. 5. Ability to work as part of a team.
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Occupational health & safety (OHS)

Anglicare Victoria is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its employees and any other individuals present in our workplaces.

In achieving and maintaining workplace health and safety, Anglicare Victoria will apply best practice in OHS in accordance with statutory obligations at all times.

All Anglicare Victoria employees, contractors and volunteers are required to:

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety and for that of others in the workplace by working in accordance with legislative requirements and the company's OHS policies and procedures
- take reasonable care their actions or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of themselves and others
- cooperate with any reasonable directions, policies and procedures relating to health and safety in the workplace
- report all injuries, illness or 'near misses' to their Supervisor or Manager
- participate in relevant health and safety training based on roles and responsibilities
- as required, participate in the development and implementation of specific OHS hazard and risk management strategies.

In addition to the above, positions with supervision or management responsibility are required to ensure a safe and healthy work environment for all employees, clients, contractors and visitors. This can be achieved by ensuring all people are aware of and have access to OHS policies, procedures, training and reporting systems

Cultural Safety in the Workplace

Anglicare Victoria recognises the important and unique contribution Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees make by bringing their unique skills, knowledge and experience to the workplace. They also contribute important insight into how Anglicare Victoria can provide for and engage with Indigenous clients and communities more effectively.

Our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and Workforce Strategy outlines Anglicare Victoria's commitment to leading and facilitating sustainable employment, training, retention and career development opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders people.

Conditions

- This is a volunteer position with no salary.
- Rent and utilities are provided free of charge.
- Occupants of this position are subject to a satisfactory Criminal History Check prior to commencement and will be required to hold a current Working with Children card.
- The position requires the volunteer to live in the property for a minimum of five nights per week in order to meet the needs of the young people at Village 21.
- All volunteers participate in training and supervision.
- All volunteers of Anglicare Victoria are subject to a six month probationary period.

Acceptance of Position Description requirements

To be signed upon appointment

Employee

Name:

Signature:

Date:
