

Northwest Mentoring Officer

Position Description

Position Title	Northwest Mentoring Officer
Reports to	Mentoring Coordinator
Position Type	Part-time, 0.2 FTE/1 day per week, 12-month contract
Function	To facilitate, with the support of the Mentoring Coordinator, Fostering Hope's Mentoring Program in the northwest of the state, to provide carers an extra level of support as they care for kids in care. This includes the recruitment, matching, and ongoing support of mentors and mentees.
Award/Remuneration	SCHADS award, level 3
Location	Northwest of Tasmania
Level of Responsibility	Works under the direction of the Mentoring Coordinator and in accordance with Fostering Hope policy and procedures. Expected to exercise initiative, discretion and professional judgement through service delivery and the within program guidelines, with the supervision of the Mentoring Coordinator.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

- Required to provide a satisfactory Schedule 1 National Police Check no older than 6 months, have a Working with Vulnerable People card (Employment) and a current drivers licence.
- Adherence with all Fostering Hope's conditions of employment, policies and procedures.
- Required to undertake ChildSafe Coordinator Training prior to working directly or indirectly with children/young people or provide proof of having already attained said training.
- This position is mandated by law to report all current concerns about the safety, welfare and wellbeing of a child.
- Be a Christian
- Have experience mentoring and working with vulnerable people.

PRIMARY TASKS:

- Recruitment of new mentors in northwestern Tasmania.
- Oversee the screening process for all northwestern mentors.

- Facilitate logistics of training days, training will be delivered by the Mentoring Coordinator and the Executive Officer. There is a possibility of being trained up in delivering some of the mentor training in the northwest.
- Matching mentors and mentees in northwestern Tasmania.
- Ongoing support and equipping of mentors in northwestern Tasmania.
- Develop and maintain relationships with fostering/kinship families in Northwestern Tasmania.
- Alongside the Fostering Hope Northwest Coordinator, engage with fostering/kinship families in northwestern Tasmania regarding mentors being able to support the children in their homes with compassion and kindness.
- Communication and promotion of the mentoring program, with the Fostering Hope Northwestern Coordinator, to Christian audiences in northwestern Tasmania, depending on the incumbent this could involve public speaking but isn't required to.

COMPETENCIES / SELECTION CRITERIA:

The incumbent will possess demonstrable competency, knowledge, understanding and/or skills in the following areas:

1. Experience in mentoring, or awareness of mentoring skills and dynamics.
2. Excellent people skills, developed listening skills, ability to facilitate and empower others' growth.
3. Experience in working with children and teenagers, particularly vulnerable people or groups.
4. Some knowledge and/or awareness of the Out of Home Care sector is an advantage but not essential.
5. Excellent written and oral communication skills, including computer literacy skills.
6. Strong administrative, organisational and time management skills.

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

Relevant mentoring tertiary qualifications or demonstrated experience deemed to be the equivalent.

ABOUT FOSTERING HOPE:

Vision: Fostering Hope exists to reflect Christ's love by supporting at-risk children, and those who care for them.

Mission

1. To offer hope to children by giving them a vision of life beyond their current circumstances.

2. To encourage Australian churches to respond to the urgent and God given mission of fostering in their community, and to inspire and invite Christians to open their homes to at-risk children.
3. To provide regular and ongoing prayer, support and training to those who are caring for at risk children.

FOSTERING HOPE'S VALUES ARE:

1. **Faith-based:** As Christians, we believe each of us are rescued by God and adopted into His family and then encouraged to live like Jesus. Jesus' example was one of loving and accepting the vulnerable and powerless and we seek to do the same. We commit to prayer and hold onto our faith in all our work. We are open about our faith foundation and recognise the potential of individual Christians and church communities to make a difference.
2. **Child-focused:** children and young people are the reason we do our work. Childhood is a time of developing, learning, and joy and only happens once. It is a time when we need protection and love from adults in our lives. We are passionate about finding the best possible home for every child who needs one, where they will find belonging, hope, and an opportunity to thrive. We believe vulnerable children can thrive in out of home care when we listen to their voices and are trauma-informed in our care.
3. **Community-empowering:** We value community for children who enter care and for carers. When children are removed, they are also removed from their communities and we work with carers to build a community around the children in their home. Caring for vulnerable children is not easy and carers need communities of other Christian carers and their church community for spiritual and practical support.