

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – Residential Youth Worker

### About the role.

#### 1. What does it mean to work with children in care at Uniting WA?

As a Residential Youth Worker in the Children and Young People team at Uniting WA, you'll help provide a stable and nurturing home environment and emotional support, mentorship and guidance to children and young people living in Out of Home Care (OOHC).

Specifically, you'll work with children and young people who are unable to remain with their biological families and are being supported through Uniting WA family group homes.

#### 2. What does Out of Home Care (OOHC) mean?

Out of home care (OOHC) refers to care arrangements made by the Department for Child Protection for children to live outside of their own family home. This can include foster care, family group homes and transitional high needs care.

#### 3. What is a Family Group Home?

Family Group Homes provide a stable, nurturing home environment that supports children and young peoples' physical, emotional and social needs.

As part of the Family Group Home team, you work as part of a care team with other professionals – and in some circumstances with the child's family – to ensure the child's needs are well understood and responded to at home, at school and in all other aspects of their life.

#### 4. What are the key responsibilities and duties of a youth worker at Uniting WA?

As a Residential Youth Worker at Uniting WA, it is your responsibility to offer emotional support, mentorship and guidance, and provide a stable and nurturing home environment for children in need. You'll also assist children with educational and extra-curricular activities, advocate for their rights and wellbeing, and help them build a sense of belonging and community.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Maintenance of children's daily routines
- Transport children to and from school, recreational activities, appointments and community activities
- Preparation of healthy daily meals
- Support children's physical and emotional wellbeing
- Maintain daily case notes and ensure support plans are followed.

## **5. What qualifications, skills and experience are required for this position?**

Qualifications you'll need as a Residential Youth Worker include:

- Current Senior First Aid Certificate
- Current National Police Clearance
- Current Working with Children Check
- Child Protection Record Screening Check
- Current WA Driver's Licence.

While previous experience working with children and young people in OOHHC would be an advantage, it's not the most essential thing we look for.

We're looking for people who are passionate about making a life-changing difference to the lives of vulnerable children and appreciate that it's not always easy, but remain committed because the outcome is worth it.

## **6. What is the typical day-to-day work like for a youth worker in this role?**

A day in the life of a Residential Youth Worker starts with a handover from your fellow team members.

You'll transport the children you support to and from school as well as sports and recreational activities, other outings and family contact appointments.

While the young people you support are at school, you'll start meal planning for the day and week ahead and identify activities for the children to engage in.

Regular support plan reviews for each child help ensure that you're supporting young people to achieve their goals.

On more difficult days, you might help a young person regulate their emotions. You will be supported in the role by a passionate care team, therapeutic coach and committed colleagues who are all striving for best practice outcomes for the children we support.

## **7. Is this a full-time or part-time position, and what are the typical working hours?**

Residential Youth Workers at Uniting WA are employed on a permanent full-time or part-time basis. Rosters are, more often than not, based on a Residential Youth Worker being rostered on for a total of seven (7) sleepovers within a fortnightly period.

Typical working hours on a sleepover roster involve a carer waking with the household, resting during natural down time (for example, while young people are at school), and retiring for the day once young people are settled for the evening.

## **8. What onboarding and/or training programs are provided for new Residential Youth Workers?**

Uniting WA prides itself on its employee on-boarding experience and the ongoing development of all team members. You will be fully supported to obtain and refresh any accreditations required for the role, and you'll also have regular opportunities to access Uniting's annual training calendar and workshops.

## **9. What kind of support and supervision will be provided to Residential Youth Workers on the job?**

Residential Youth Workers will receive regular support and guidance from their peers, on-demand support from a specially trained Therapeutic Coach and monthly supervision sessions with a skilled Case Worker.

## **10. What are the benefits for this position?**

- 6 weeks Annual Leave
- Salary Packaging
- Paid Parental Leave
- Volunteer leave
- Health and Wellbeing benefit.

Learn more at <https://unitingwa.org.au/join-the-team/>.

## **11. Are there opportunities for career advancement or professional development within the team?**

Absolutely! Our Children & Young People team are proud to share the culture of ongoing learning and development in all our team members' journeys.

We have several care team members who have stepped up from roles such as Residential Support Worker to Residential Youth Worker, as well as Residential Youth Worker to Case Worker (to name a few).

## **12. How can I apply for this job, and what is the application process like?**

Applications for the role are being accepted via registrations of interest to attend our upcoming **Assessment Centre on Wednesday 15 November (4pm to 6pm)**.

Following your registration for the Assessment Centre, you will be contacted by someone in our People Services team to progress your application.

**About the Assessment Centre – see next page**

### **13. What is the Assessment Centre and how will it run?**

The Assessment Centre will run from 4pm to 6pm at our Inner City Hub in East Perth on Wednesday 15 November.

It's a fun, collaborative evaluation and recruitment process which sees you undertake a number of activities – in both individual and group settings – to get to know the team at Uniting and determine your suitability for a Residential Youth Worker role.

### **14. What do I need to bring with me to the Assessment Centre?**

If you have them, please bring these items with you:

- Completed Candidate Declaration Form
- Working with Children Check
- National Police Clearance
- Proof of qualifications
- First Aid Certificate.

### **15. What if I can't attend the Assessment Centre?**

If you're unable to attend the Assessment Centre on Wednesday 15 November, please discuss this with our team when they contact you following your registration for the Assessment Centre.

### **16. What's happens after the Assessment Centre?**

At the completion of the Assessment Centre, you will be advised if your application will progress to the next stage of the recruitment process.