



## Youth Advocacy Centre Inc

4/162 Petrie Terrace, Petrie Terrace, Brisbane 4000

[admin@yac.net.au](mailto:admin@yac.net.au)

07 3356 1002

### Youth Legal and Court Support Worker (full time)

To be considered for the role, you must send your:

- CV or resumé including the names and contact details of at least two referees

#### AND

- confirmation of the **Prerequisites a) - d)** listed in the box below
- responses to the **Selection Criteria numbered 1-9** (not to exceed 4 A4 pages in 10 point Arial font in total – length is not an advantage). Where the requirement is for a “demonstrated” skill or experience, you should provide an example of something you have done which shows this. It will help you to read the information about YAC and the role and responsibilities of the position on pages 2-4.

By email to: [admin@yac.net.au](mailto:admin@yac.net.au)

Deliver to: 4/162 Petrie Terrace, Petrie Terrace, Qld 4000

To be received no later than **6.00pm Monday 21 January 2019**.

#### Selection Criteria

##### Prerequisites

- a. A minimum Cert III tertiary qualification in a relevant Human Services qualification **OR** at least five (5) years' work experience in youth work related roles.
- b. Possession of a current Working with Children Blue card or eligibility to obtain a Blue Card from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian.
- c. Possession of a clean driver licence
- d. Demonstrated understanding and experience of the youth justice system and court processes.

##### Essential

###### **Demonstrated:**

1. Demonstrated excellent interpersonal skills and oral communication skills
2. Demonstrated sound understanding of outreach support work with young people, client centred, strengths based, trauma informed practice
3. Demonstrated ability to undertake brief assessments and referrals for young people's support needs (accommodation, income, education/training, family, substance use and mental health etc)
4. Demonstrated cultural capability, particularly in engaging and working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, families and communities, but also peoples of CALD background, LGBTIQ young people and young people with a disability
5. Self-motivated with demonstrated ability to work with minimal supervision and manage own time efficiently.
6. Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with team members and external stakeholders
7. Excellent record keeping skills including proven competence using computer programs (Word, QHIP).

##### Highly desirable

8. Being an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person or having strong positive relationships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in and around Cairns.

##### Desirable

9. Knowledge of the child protection system.

## Information for Applicants

### **About the Youth Advocacy Centre Inc (YAC)**

YAC is a well-respected, specialist community legal and social welfare agency for young people 10-18 years who are involved in, or at risk of involvement in the youth justice and/or child protection systems, and/or are homeless or at risk of homelessness in an area from Caboolture to Beenleigh and Ipswich to Redland Bay.

YAC has been working with young people for nearly 40 years and has expertise in the youth justice system, both from a legal and social welfare perspective, and has provided bail support services from the Sunshine Coast to the Gold Coast for nearly 15 years.

For more detail about YAC and its programs, please see the Annual Report for 2017-18 at [https://www.yac.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/YAC0025-Annual-Report-2018\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.yac.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/YAC0025-Annual-Report-2018_FINAL.pdf)

### **About Youth Empowerment to Independence (YETI)**

For over twenty years, YETI has delivered high quality services to young people in Far North Queensland. YETI is a place-based not for profit non-government organisation focussed on the needs of vulnerable population groups including: young people with poly drug use issues; young people with comorbid mental health issues; homeless and transient young people; young people with involvement in the criminal justice and child safety systems; young people with disabilities (including dual disability issues); and young people with a lack of connections to family and community.

For more detail about YETI and its programs please see <http://www.yeti.net.au/>

#### **Youth Legal and Court Support Worker (full time, 2 years)**

**Classification:** Queensland Community Services and Crisis Assistance Award 2008 Level 5

Applicants should note:

- the position is based at YETI's office at 3 Winkworth Street, Bungalow, Cairns
- travel in and around Cairns is required for this position across (vehicle is provided)
- the role involves working with young people and families with significant and complex issues. YAC supports the wellbeing of its staff who are encouraged to access regular supervision, including external supervision if staff consider that is appropriate.
- staff must be able to work autonomously and as part of a small team

there is an expectation that staff will be reliable and punctual, both within the office and in responding to young people and their families, and support diversity and respect in the work place and their practice.

#### **Purpose**

To support the aims of the Cairns and Yarrabah Youth Bail Support Service (CYYBSS) through focused assistance to young people attending Cairns Childrens Court and in relation to their legal needs and interests. The Youth Legal and Court Support Worker (YLCS Worker) will be based in Cairns with Youth Empowerment to Independence (YETI), working alongside its bail support team.

CYYBSS is funded by the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women to provide bail support services to young people aged 10 – 17 years who are at very high risk of being remanded into custody because they:

- are alleged to have committed an offence and are seeking bail, but are at high risk of remand without support
- have been granted bail but require support to meet the conditions of bail
- are remanded in custody due, in part, to lack of stable accommodation or positive support in their community

- The young person may be living in the community or remanded in custody.
- Service delivery may include the family of the young person, the young person's peers and significant community members.

YETI has sub-contracted the role of YLCS Worker to the Youth Advocacy Centre Inc (YAC). YAC is a Brisbane based community legal and social welfare agency for 10-18 year olds who are involved in, or at risk of involvement in, the youth justice and/or child protection systems, and/or are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

### **Role and responsibilities**

Provide information and support to young people about the court process, particularly for those new to the process

- Attend Cairns Childrens Court on Wednesdays and Fridays and provide pre-court appearance and post-court appearance support to young people attending
- Generally monitor the court waiting space to support a calm environment and the wellbeing of the young people who are present
- Be an engagement mechanism for, and a link to, the YETI Bail Support program
  - Provide on the spot assessments in relation to a young person's needs
  - Provide information and facilitate appropriate referrals to bail support services at YETI (such as accommodation/tenancy, alcohol and substance use support, education, training and employment programs, family support services, accessing Centrelink, mental health problems) or other organisations where appropriate
- Follow up young people after court date in relation to any referrals made on the day
- Liaise with YJSC and legal practitioners in supporting young people attending court and legal appointments eg through transport
- Attend police interviews as a support person where appropriate and link young people to legal assistance
- Be the liaison point for police in relation to the arrest of young people and link to legal and bail support
- Support young people in court where appropriate
- Provide information to the court on behalf of CYYBSS where appropriate
- Develop and maintain positive relationships with court staff, security staff, youth justice staff and other stakeholders as appropriate to assist the smooth delivery of the role and the best support to young people.