



Position Description

Position Title:	Nutrition and Health Promotion Officer
Location:	Alice Springs (travel to other parts of the Northern Territory to be expected)
Tenure:	Full time 38 hours per week, fixed term 12 month contract, part time will also be considered
Classification:	SCHCADS Modern Award Level 3 (depending on qualifications and experience)

Background

The Children's Ground is a First Nations organisation. The Children's Ground Approach is designed and delivered through the leadership of First Nations people. We are committed to systems change to ensure dignity, justice and equity for all children and families. Our work focuses on national reform as well as evidencing a new way of working. The Children's Ground Approach is a whole of community, whole of life approach. We privilege First Nations knowledge systems and practice. Over the course of a generation, led by local expertise, we create and deliver an integrated system that is centred on learning, development and wellbeing that responds to the child and their family through the key transition points from pre-birth to young adulthood. Our approach recognises the cultural, social and economic strength of our communities. We build on this over a generation to ensure a future for our children and grandchildren that gives them freedom, opportunity and rights to their culture and identity.

Children's Ground is working to create a different future for children, families and communities in Arnhem Land and Central Australia. Children's Ground is inspired by families and communities and they are involved in how we design and deliver all activities.

Children's Ground has ten principles that guide us all in how we do all our work:

1. Start early with the little ones
2. Stay with them and grow with them until they are big
3. Work with everyone
4. Use and celebrate people's ability and strength
5. Connect everything – health, learning, family and life
6. Always think about old ways and new ways of doing things
7. Expect and deliver the best
8. Child, family and community led
9. Whole of community, in community
10. Culturally safe

Children's Ground is Australian designed with First Nations people. It is a whole of community, whole of life approach. Children's Ground works with a community over the course of a generation, led by local expertise, vision and intelligence. Together, we create and deliver an integrated system that is centred on the learning, development and wellbeing that respond to the child and their family through the key transition points from pre-birth to young adulthood. Our approach recognises the cultural, social and

economic strength of communities and builds on this to equip children for opportunities locally, nationally and globally.

We are about creating a different future for children, families and communities experiencing the greatest levels of disadvantage and inequity in Australia. Our first priority is walking with and supporting First Nations communities.

Our integrated systems work collectively towards achieving short and long term outcomes through longitudinal monitoring and evaluation to highlight that we collect data and have embedded evaluation.

Position Summary

The position will be working in a multi-disciplinary health team in the delivery of the Children's Ground Approach, working under the Family Health and Wellbeing Framework – *Health in the Hands of the People*. The Health and Wellbeing platform aims to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for children, their families and the broader community. This includes recognising, respecting and privileging local cultural knowledge systems and practices, and the agency of First Nations people.

The position will work with the learning and wellbeing team by providing on the ground early years health promotion activities, as well as planning for and working with children and families around nutrition and health promotion within and outside early learning sessions.

Key Relationships

Reports to: Head of Health & Wellbeing

Key Internal liaison: Director & Deputy Director, Central Australia Region; Learning and Wellbeing team; Community Development and Wellbeing team; Director, Research and Evaluation; Director, People and Culture; Children's Ground staff

Key External liaison: Service organisations in Alice Springs

Key Responsibilities

1. Delivery of the Children's Ground Family Health & Wellbeing Model – Health in the Hands of the People

- Under the guidance of the Children's Ground Family Health and Wellbeing Framework – *Health in the Hands of the People* - contribute to improving the health and wellbeing outcomes for children, families and communities.
- Work with children and families within early learning (on country, at the central hub and local community centres) and outside learning sessions, including home/community visits and other outreach strategies, bringing a particular focus to optimal nutrition and health promotion.
- Work with First Nations staff and family members in each location to support the delivery of health and wellbeing information and support in first language and support local cultural knowledge, life and lore.

2. Provide guidance, support and share knowledge with Nutrition team members

- Support the Nutrition team in their responsibility to deliver healthy and nutritious meals at CG-CA (Children's Ground – Central Australia), ensuring continuous improvement of staff, resources and meal delivery.
- Provide professional advice, support and ideas to the team as required, to assist with ordering food, preparing menus, planning and provision of interesting and healthy meals.
- Ensure food safety standards are maintained in food storage, preparation and provision. This includes high standards of cleanliness and regular sanitisation of equipment and includes delivery of meals while on country.

3. Local community agency and respect for local cultural knowledge and life

- Meet regularly with local First Nations people and elders to discuss local aspirations; this will inform the directions and responsibilities of the role.
- Liaise with local First Nations people in relation to activities to ensure active promotion of local cultural knowledge and practice.
- Support communities with food security initiatives including food gardens, food storage and preparation solutions, advocacy and support.
- Encourage and support all First Nations families, valuing their ideas, strategies and aspirations.

4. Program Design, Standards and Implementation

- With the team, provide outreach family nutrition, health and wellbeing promotion to service the region with access available to all families.
- Provide advice and recommendations to Children's Ground regarding nutrition and health promotion needs in the community and within the central CG hub.
- Support the development of family-based health and wellbeing support plan, and individual child learning and wellbeing plans.
- Support the delivery of Early Years learning – both on country and in hub sites.

5. Operational systems and standards

- Ensure Children's Ground Policies and Procedures are followed.
- Ensure compliance and standards meet the needs of CG and the security of information for consumers.
- Complete all data collection requirements and contribute to monitoring and evaluation processes as requested.

6. Information and data systems, monitoring and reporting

- Ensure user data and information is being recorded to meet the monitoring and evaluation needs of the Family Health and Wellbeing team and the Early Years learning team.
- Help develop resources including videos, books, papers, menus, nutrition education/training manuals etc. in collaboration with or guided by First Nations staff and community members.
- Maintain confidential, organised and up-to-date files relating to people.
- Prepare reports as requested.

7. Relationships

- Liaise with local health organisations and service providers to coordinate regular health promotion activities for each community.
- Develop and maintain relationships with key partners, including local organisations
- Maintain strong joint working relationships across Children's Ground operations
- Represent Children's Ground in meetings as requested

8. Contribute to Children's Ground

- Be a positive, innovative member of the Children's Ground team.
- Contribute to strategic planning, organisational development, management work plans & policy formation. Engage with local languages by learning basic words/phrases and using them in interactions with First Nations people.
- Support a strong, connected, respectful and supportive organisation.
- Participate in professional development programs offered by Children's Ground.
- Undertake other tasks as requested to support the delivery of Children's Ground in the Central Australia Region.

Work Health and Safety

This role will may require working regularly in outdoor conditions, sitting, standing and moving around in outdoor settings, including getting in and out of motor vehicles and remote location work.

Key Selection Criteria

- Experience working within Health Promotion/Nutrition
- Knowledge of food safety standards
- Strong people skills – teamwork, communication
- Ability to work in a flexible team environment
- Current full driver's license
- Current OCHRE card (or willingness to obtain)

Desirable Attributes

- Experience working with First Nations families
- Qualifications in Nutrition/Health Promotion or similar
- Experience working with children
- Experience in resource development/facilitation/training