

RIVERLAND MALLEE COORONG LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK (RMCLHN)

2021 Transition to Professional Practice Program (TPPP) for Registered Nurses

About the Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network

The Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMCLHN) consists of 12 health units (acute and residential care) and incorporates Country Health Connect Riverland Mallee Coorong.

RMCLHN provides quality health services across the Riverland Mallee Coorong Region of South Australia, supporting the population of approximately 66,000. Riverland Mallee Coorong residents have access to a wide range of health care services in a number of locations. These services include Accident and Emergency, Day and Inpatient Surgery, Aboriginal Health, Obstetric Services, Community Health, and Aged Care services.

The main hubs for the area are Riverland General Hospital and Murray Bridge, with other facilities located at Berri, Barmera, Waikerie, Loxton, Pinnaroo, Lameroo, Karoonda, Mannum, Taillem Bend and Meningie. These health services vary in size and function and offer a broad and challenging range of surgical, medical, maternity, aged care, theatre, accident and emergency and outpatient services.

What does the TPPP look like in Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network?

The RMCLHN Transition to Professional Practice Program (TPPP) provides new graduates with:

- Support and guidance in their first year of practice as a Registered Nurse (RN)
- Experience working in a country setting that assists participants to become resourceful, flexible and adaptable - a great start and solid foundation for your nursing career

The RMCLHN TPPP program aims to support the newly qualified Registered Nurses to consolidate and develop skills and knowledge reflected in high quality nursing practice. The transition program is evidence-based, developed by rural nurses and midwives and informed by the practical experience of our rural and regional workforce.

Differences in location, size/type of health unit will make each Registered Nurse experience in their first year unique. These opportunities enable development of the skills required for a 'rural generalist' RN. This may include surgical, medical, maternity, aged care, theatre, accident and emergency and outpatient services. A RMCLHN TPPP incorporates practice support, clinical time allocated to enhance learning supported by an online learning platform and a minimum of four professional development/study days.

Opportunities exist for clinical rotation to specialty areas within the larger health services. Some sites may offer opportunity to work across health units. Opportunity for full or part time positions within this program is available, and should be discussed with the relevant site prior to application.

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The health unit contact person will be able to answer questions about the TPPP at their site including information about:

- Start dates – most programs commence between January and March although there may be some programs which commence later
- Whether the position is full or part time
- What experiences that particular site can offer and whether clinical rotations are available
- Whether the program includes rotations to more than one health unit
- The TPPP with a speciality focus e.g. perioperative, aged care
- The local community, transport, accommodation and the local area

The Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network will be offering TPPP RN positions in the following health services:

1.Barmera Hospital

This is an 80-bed residential care facility. This facility is complemented by an acute hospital ward which undertakes some A&E till 1800 hours from Monday to Friday.

Contact: Shellie Humphries, DONM

Tel: 08 8588 0400 or Email: shellie.humphries2@sa.gov.au

2.Loxton Hospital Complex

22 hospital beds including: acute medical, surgical, maternity services, and 24 hour Accident and Emergency service. Attached to it is a 58-bed residential facility.

Contact: Merridee Seiboth, DON

Tel: 08 8584 8555 or Email: Merridee.seiboth@sa.gov.au

3.Renmark and Paringa Hospital

17 hospital beds including: acute medical, surgical, and Accident and Emergency (0800 till 1800 Mon- Fri). Attached to it is an 89-bed residential facility.

Contact: Kelli Ramm, EO/DONM

Tel: 08 8580 4100 or Email: kelli.ramm@sa.gov.au

4.Riverland General Hospital

38 hospital beds including: acute medical, chemotherapy, rehabilitation, renal, surgical, maternity services, Inpatient mental health unit and a 24-hour Accident and Emergency service.

Contact: Sally Shannon, DONM

Tel: 08 85802405 or Email: sally.shannon@sa.gov.au

5. Waikerie Health Service

This is a 26-bed hospital, which includes acute medical, surgical, Accident and Emergency and maternity services. Attached to it is a 42-bed Multi-Purpose Service facility.

Contact: Murray Dalglish, DONM

Tel: 08 8541 0555 or Email: murray.dalglish@sa.gov.au

Comments from 2019 TPPP Registered Nurses:

“Above all, this has been an amazing learning curve”

“I think the TPPP program is really well thought out, and I have not experienced any problems with my TPPP. It is a good experience and a good start to help enter workforce as a nurse.”

“I have really felt so privileged to be part of the TPPP Program, it has been so very nice to feel like I was valued enough to be given this foundation for my career.”

“The TPPP has been an invaluable opportunity, I’ve learnt so much and grown into the role.”

Where to get more information?

Applicants are encouraged to attend one of the following information sessions:

Face to Face

Room 2, Glenside Campus, 226 Fullarton Road

Thursday 2nd July, 2020: 11:00am – 13:00pm

Due to Covid-19 restrictions – places are limited at the face to face sessions. Up to 4 sessions will run on this date. Please ensure you RSVP to the email below to book your session.

For applicants located in rural areas or on rural placement, the information session will be repeated via Microsoft Teams. Please register your interest in participating with the Rural Support Service Clinical Development Team via email Health.RSSClinicalDevelopment@sa.gov.au to receive a link to participate.

Further information contact:

Rural Support Service Clinical Development Team

Health.RSSClinicalDevelopment@sa.gov.au

We are continually working to increase opportunities for TPPP positions in the health services.

Please check the SA Health TPPP updates section for news of any change as to where TPPP positions are offered.