

## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK

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

#### About the Limestone Coast Local Health Network

The Limestone Coast Local Health Network (LCLHN) covers a large geographical area which consists of the Upper and Lower South East and extends all the way to the Victorian border.

The LCLHN has 6 Hospitals and three Commonwealth Funded Residential Aged Care facilities. Community Health services also provide Country Health Connect outreach services across the region. It services a resident population of approximately 66,000. Services provided within LCLHN include accident and emergency, day and inpatient surgery, aboriginal health, obstetric services, community health and aged care services.

The main health hub for the area is in Mount Gambier with other facilities located nearby in Bordertown, Kingston, Millicent, Naracoorte and Penola. The health services of the LCLHN 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 for Registered Nurses look like in the Limestone Coast Local Health Network?

The LCLHN 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 LCLHN 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 LCLHN 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. TPPP Operating Theatre positions in the LCLHN will be available at Mount Gambier and Millicent. Theatre experience is available with possible negotiation in Naracoorte however this is not a specific program across the entire year.

There is a local health network approach to management of the program and education days are scheduled with TPPP participants from LCLHN.

**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 time 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

### Combined Registered Nurse and Registered Midwife TPPP

If you are also a new Registered Midwife and interested in a combined Registered Nurse and Registered Midwife TPPP Naracoorte and Mount Gambier are pleased to offer this program. The combined program gives graduates new to both the nursing and midwifery professions support as they start their careers. A separate application for the combined RN/RM TPPP can be submitted via the Registered Midwife TPPP application portal which will be available mid July 2020.

#### For more information about the Combined RN/RM Program contact:

**Carol Salmon**

Nurse & Midwife Education Facilitator

[carol.salmon@sa.gov.au](mailto:carol.salmon@sa.gov.au)

### The Limestone Coast Local Health Network will be offering TPPP RN positions in the following health services:

#### 1. Naracoorte Health Service

Naracoorte Health Service has 80 Beds including 39 acute beds and 41 aged-care facility plus 6 Day Surgery Chairs, 4 Chemotherapy Chairs, Accident & Emergency and Theatre suite with 180 theatre sessions per annum. Naracoorte Health Service also has an average of 150 births per year from 37 weeks. Private pathology, Bensons Radiology with CT Scan are located on site.

Contact: Pam Schubert, DON/M

Email: [pam.schubert@sa.gov.au](mailto:pam.schubert@sa.gov.au)

#### 2. Bordertown Memorial Hospital

This is an 83-bed facility, including 21 acute and 62 aged-care bed facility, Day Surgery Unit with 6 Chairs, and a 24/7 Accident and Emergency Department. Bordertown applicant has the option to complete a rotation in Mount Gambier.

Contact: Jennie Jacobs, EO/DON&M

Email: [jennie.jacobs@sa.gov.au](mailto:jennie.jacobs@sa.gov.au)

#### 3. Kingston Soldier's Memorial Hospital

This is an MPS with 10 Acute and 32 Aged-Care beds with a 24-hour Accident and Emergency Department. The Kingston/Robe MPS applicant has the option to complete a rotation in Mount Gambier.

Contact: Jennie Jacobs, EO/DON&M

Email: [jennie.jacobs@sa.gov.au](mailto:jennie.jacobs@sa.gov.au)

#### 4. Mount Gambier & District Health Service

Mount Gambier & District Health Service has 107 acute beds including Midwifery, 6 Mental Health Beds, 4 Dialysis chairs, 22 Emergency Treatment Beds, 6 Chemotherapy chairs, 4 theatres, 12 Day Surgery chairs, Pre-admission and Consulting clinics. SA Pathology and Benson Radiology are located on site with CAT scan, MRI, Ultrasound & general radiology available. The Maternity Paediatric Unit has an average of 500

births per year, with specialist obstetricians and paediatricians and a level 4 nursery taking babies from 34 weeks gestation.

## Rotations

**Mount Gambier applicants are required to complete a rotation in one of the smaller health units. This can be one of the following units, but is subject to change:**

### 1. Mount Gambier Private Hospital

17 acute beds – collocated on the Mt Gambier & District Health Service site.

### 2. Millicent & District Hospital and Health Service

25 acute beds & 60 Commonwealth funded nursing home beds and includes a theatre suite with 3 day surgery chairs and a 24 hour Accident and Emergency Department

### 3. Penola Soldiers Memorial Hospital

Six Acute and 36 Aged-Care beds with a 24-hour Accident and Emergency Department.

For more information for **Mount Gambier, Millicent, and Penola:**

Contact: Miriam Bayes - TPPP Program Coordinator

Mt Gambier & District Health Service

Tel: 08 8721 1521 or Email: [Miriam.bayes@sa.gov.au](mailto:Miriam.bayes@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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.***