



Position Description

Physiotherapist

Reports to:

- Therapy Program Manager

Direct reports:

- None

Location:

- Darwin

Award:

- HPSSA level 3, depending on background and experience.

Special Provisions:

- Sound physical fitness and personal resilience.
- Willingness to travel to remote communities (by light aircraft or 4WD).
- Ability to obtain and maintain NDIS Worker Screening clearance.
- Willingness to adhere to MJDF's and/or Government mandated vaccination policies and provide proof of compliance.
- Ability to obtain and maintain an NT class C manual drivers' license.

Summary of the position:

The MJD Foundation has recently established a dedicated therapy program, supporting people living with MJD in the NT access specialist multidisciplinary allied health care. We are an Aboriginal organization, providing flexible and culturally responsive care based on a strong foundation of enduring relationships. We aim to provide families living with MJD specialist care and support, working together to stay stronger for longer.

A central part of the vision of the program is working in partnership with MJDF clients and Aboriginal Community Worker staff to explore opportunities to learn from each other, sharing knowledge and values to work towards clients' goals.

As the sole physiotherapist within the therapy team, you will provide leadership and work as a member of the multidisciplinary team to design, deliver and evaluate strength based, evidence informed, holistic, person-centered therapeutic programs.

In addition, the role will provide support to the senior management team across core activities of the MJD Foundation (Education, Advocacy, Research, Clinical and Community Services).

Key Responsibilities:

- Work collaboratively as a member of a multidisciplinary team, in partnership with clients, ACWs and cultural advisors..
- Build strong relationships with MJDF clients, their families and the broader MJDF team

- Lead development and implementation of innovative, evidence informed, culturally responsive best practice care (individual and/or group) to families living with MJD and other conditions.
- Actively contribute to the development of professional knowledge and skills in therapeutic intervention for people living with Ataxia
- As required under the NDIS, produce rigorous clinical justifications for clients living with MJD to participate in best practice therapy.
- Conduct allied health client assessments, as required under the NDIS to clinically justify and prescribe Assistive Technology solutions for clients.
- Provide sufficient documentation of client interactions to satisfy NDIS and MJDF requirements.
- Facilitate meaningful, enjoyable activities to enhance quality of life and independent function.
- Be flexible and responsive to community needs and cultural expectations by providing holistic, culturally appropriate support to affected families on a flexible basis.
- Contribute to 'cycle of knowing' and implement the recommendations of MJDF research partners into therapeutic activities.
- Facilitate MJDF approved research projects/activities in consultation with Director, Research and Education and Therapy Program Manager
- Share your knowledge by providing education and training to staff, clients, families, carers, service providers and other organisations as appropriate including giving presentations to clinical staff and other service providers.
- Assist in the development of relevant documents, templates and programs in liaison with Therapy Program Manager and Director of Research, Clinical Services and Education.
- Provide regular feedback for senior staff to improve service delivery and health outcomes for people living with MJD and related disorders
- Participate in strategic program planning, program implementation and evaluation activities.

Selection Criteria:

1. Tertiary qualifications in Physiotherapy
2. Minimum of five years of experience working as a qualified therapist.
3. Clinical experience working with clients with neurological diagnoses and/or in rehabilitation settings, with demonstrated ability to independently apply professional knowledge and judgment when performing novel, complex or critical tasks.
4. Knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their communities and cultures from an historical and contemporary perspective.
5. A commitment to person and family centred practice and working within the MJD Foundation 'Our Way' approach.
6. Willingness to learn, be challenged and innovate in a unique work environment.
7. Commitment to multi-disciplinary and inter-sectoral working.
8. Ability to work both independently and as part of a (cross cultural) team.
9. Highly developed ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
10. Demonstrated experience with a range of computer software and good computer skills.

Desirable criteria

- Postgraduate training in neurological therapeutic intervention
- Experience in wheelchair prescription
- Understanding of the mechanisms and processes of Machado Joseph Disease.
- Knowledge of and experience working within the NDIS.
- Training, education or mentoring experience.