Field Psychologist (Wellbeing)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Emergency Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>Outside standard business hours, deployments during emergencies involving travel and stays away from home, including in other states/territories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Varies (emergency activations within Australia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Supporting our people working in our Services and Programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Role purpose**

The Field Psychologist role is undertaken by a registered psychologist through a partnership with the Australian Psychological Society (APS). They provide (pro bono) expert psychological skills and knowledge, in a non-clinical or counselling setting, to support the Red Cross workforce on deployment in the field.

Field Psychologists work within the Red Cross incident management structure, deployed to the field (e.g. evacuation centres, field operations hubs), to join teams of Red Cross emergency services people and provide expert support and guidance for their wellbeing while involved in Red Cross activities. They monitor conditions that may impact wellbeing, making referrals and recommendations to effectively manage the wellbeing of the Red Cross workforce.

**Role responsibilities**

Specific responsibilities will vary depending on the needs of the emergency operation, and will be made clear in the briefing for each deployment.

- Apply professional psychological capacities to support the wellbeing of Red Cross people
- Provide advice and guidance to Red Cross workforce on how to monitor and manage stress and wellbeing
- Act as an escalation point for Red Cross people to flag wellbeing needs to the Red Cross incident management structure
- Participate in daily briefings and Red Cross team meetings, to offer and provide support as needed for the work being undertaken
- Liaise with key roles in the Red Cross incident management structure to ensure that the wellbeing of Red Cross people is appropriately supported
- Where appropriate, provide professional psychological support, advice and guidance about referrals for mental health care, to particularly distressed members of the public
- Assess, manage or de-escalate complex situations with members of the public
- Draw on clinical skills for more complex situations, while operating in a non-clinical or counselling setting
Knowledge, skills and experience

- Knowledge and skills in Psychological First Aid
- Comprehensive understanding of the roles of psychologists in a disaster context
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and act with discretion
- Ability to provide relevant support and information to allow others to make decisions and improve their own situation

Certification and learning

- Registered psychologist with APS
- APS Disaster Practice Certificate is desirable
- Other relevant qualifications, skills and/or experience in human psychology, telephone counselling, or mental health support
- Maintain own professional indemnity and personal accident insurance

General conditions

We act always in accordance with the Australian Red Cross Code of Conduct and Child Protection Code of Conduct

We are a Child Safe organisation and all volunteers are required to comply with relevant State and Territory legislation requirements

We comply with the Red Cross Workplace Health and Safety management system

We demonstrate skill, knowledge and behaviour to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in a culturally respectful way

We may be required to assist the organisation on occasion, in times of national, state or local emergencies or major disasters

In all activities, our volunteers are guided by the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

- Humanity
- Impartiality
- Neutrality
- Independence
- Voluntary Service
- Unity
- Universality