

Bob Fenwick Memorial Mentoring Grants Program 2011/12

Bob Fenwick was a mental health nurse who was tragically killed in a work-related incident at Bloomfield Hospital, Orange NSW, in January 2011. In recognition of Mr Fenwick's long service to mental health nursing and the important role he played in mentoring less-experienced mental health nurses, the Bob Fenwick Memorial Mentoring Grants Program 2011/12 has been developed. The Program aims to encourage experienced mental health nurses to mentor less-experienced colleagues, for the betterment of mental health service provision in NSW. Program funding is provided by NSW Health and administered by New South Wales Nurses' Association.

Who can apply?

Applicants must:

- be currently registered nurses working in a public mental health service in NSW, mental health nurses with less than 2 years experience working in rural or remote services will be given priority
- have in principle agreement from their own organisation to participate
- be able to complete the mentorship experience in early 2012
- develop a plan identifying the mental health experiences sought through the placement
- articulate their objectives in undertaking the mentorship and how these relate to current employment and career goals.

How are grants awarded?

- up to 20 grants will be awarded
- priority will be given to applicants with less than 2 years experience, who work in rural or remote public mental health services in NSW
- the Program Steering Committee will determine 2011/12 successful grant applications
- successful applicants will be personally notified and awards announced in January 2012.

What will each mentoring grant include?

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to:

- work with a mentor in a Local Health District (LHD) other than their own for up to 5 consecutive days.
- be matched to a mentor to pursue employment and career goals. Mentors have been identified in each LHD and will be matched to applicants based on experiences sought
- be placed with the assigned mentor, in a service or facility which can offer the experiences sought, including but not limited to an inpatient mental health unit, a community-based service, Specialist Mental Health Services for Older People or an emergency department
- have their accommodation, meals and local travel expenses paid on a per diem daily rate
- have air/rail transport to the placement location paid
- have their position back-filled to a total of \$1500 (paid directly to the employing LHD)
- The hosting LHD will also receive a small contribution to assist with the mentoring costs.

Note Continuity and terms / conditions of employment will be maintained throughout the placement by the LHD which is the usual employer, not the host organisation.

How is selection made?

Selection will be undertaken by the Program Steering Committee after considering formal Expressions of Interest (EOI). The EOI form should include the following information:

- education and work history
- an outline of mental health areas of interest sought through the placement
- benefits of the experience to your employment/career goals
- benefits of the experience to the mental health service.

Priority will be given to Mental Health Nurses with less than 2 years mental health experience working in a rural or remote services.

Program Promotion

The program will be promoted through nursing journals, mental health and nursing organisations and notification to the Local Health Districts.

How do I apply?

- Applications must be made on the official Expression of Interest form of the Bob Fenwick Memorial Mentoring Grants Program.
- Forms can be requested from the Program Manager or downloaded from the NSW Nurses Association website www.nswnurses.asn.au
- The grants must be expended in the year following application eg 2011 successful applicants will undertake the placement within the first half of 2012.

Applications open 11 October 2011 and close 30 November 2011.

Completed Expressions of Interest can be sent to:

The Program Manager
Bob Fenwick Memorial Mentoring Grants Program
NSW Nurses' Association
50 O'Dea Avenue
WATERLOO NSW 2017

or

email to: mhmgrant@nswnurses.asn.au

or

fax to: (02) 9662 1414

Please direct any enquiries regarding the Bob Fenwick Memorial Mentoring Grants Program to the Program Manager on:

Metro: (02) 85951234
Rural: 1300 367 962

Please note if you are a Senior Mental Health Nurse or Clinician interested in becoming a mentor through the program please contact the Program Manager for details on how to get involved.



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Information Booklet