



**ST VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL**
MELBOURNE

ST VINCENT'S MENTAL HEALTH GRADUATE PROGRAM

Why work for St Vincent's Mental Health?

Are you looking for your next challenge with a value driven culture?

Are you inspired to contribute to a changing clinical landscape?

Do you want to work with a service that cares about their people?

We believe that people have the capacity to recover, reclaim and transform their lives and strive to support individuals on their recovery journey.

Employee benefits

- 0.8 EFT Contract
- Salary packaging
- Five weeks annual leave
- Staff GP health clinic
- Access to EAP
- Weekly supervision
- Supportive learning environment
- Rotations across different parts of the SVHM Mental Health Services
- Opportunity for ongoing employment upon successful completion of graduate program
- Opportunity to work in the heart of vibrant Fitzroy

Clinical Rotations

St Vincent's Mental Health provides inpatient, community, and specialist mental health care across a range of sites,

To ensure you maximise your learning and consolidate your skills, graduates rotate worksites across adult acute, community, and aged mental health. All graduates complete a rotation on one of the wards of the Adult Inpatient Service (AIS).

On each rotation you will be allocated a preceptor to support and assist you in that particular clinical area. Our Clinical Nurse Educators also provide direct support and supervision.

Graduate positions

- 13x positions for Mental Health recruited via PMCV for January start
- 4x positions for the Blended Mental Health & Emergency Department stream recruited via PMCV for January start
- 7x positions for Mental Health recruited via direct applications for May start

Application dates:

Applications for all streams open **5th of June** and close **7th July 2023** (in line with PMCV Computer Match)

Interviews for May intake will take place after PMCV applications have closed.

Study Requirements

The Mental Health Graduate Year contains over 20+ study days on a range of topics to support you to become a well-rounded clinician.

- Supporting consumers who use substances
- Recovery Model of Mental Health Care
- Physical Health
- Shift-Leading
- Mental Health Act (2014)
- Motivational Interviewing
- Working with suicide and self-harm
- And many more!

The academic component of the graduate program comprises of 4x assessments, 2x case presentations and clinical competencies. Each assessment is tailored to your place of work and is relevant to your career growth and clinical skills.

Upon successful completion of the program, you will receive recognition of prior learning (RPL) when you enrol into post-graduate diploma in mental health nursing in the following year.



St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne

6 July 2020 · 🌐

"I have always had a real passion for helping people, especially those most disadvantaged and I have had a longstanding interest in psychology as well.

"That's why I chose mental health and I found St Vincent's the right fit for me.

"There are no silly questions and it doesn't matter who you ask – everyone is willing to help."

—Emma Barvich, Mental Health Graduate Nurse



*Serving, Seeing, Striving for
something
greater*



St Vincent's Mental Health Education Team

I started my career with St Vincent's Mental Health as a graduate and have moved throughout the service into ANUM and senior clinician positions, and am fortunate enough to work in the education department.

A graduate year is a time of immense change and identity formation. You develop skills that you didn't know existed, form lifelong relationships with colleagues and are privileged to walk alongside consumers within their recovery journeys.

Our goal as an education team is to provide a safe space for our nursing staff to grow and learn, enabling our staff to reach their full potential as mental health clinicians.

- Marcie

Education Team Leader

Previous St Vincent's Mental Health Graduate Nurse



Tom

Senior Psychiatric Nurse



Ash

Nurse Educator



Priyanka

Nurse Educator



Wendy

Nurse Educator



Andie

Nurse Educator



Miki

Nurse Educator



Ash

Nurse Educator



Claudia

Grad Support Nurse

Want to know more?



Interested in joining our Mental Health Graduate RN Program or our Blended Mental Health & Emergency Department Program in 2024?



MHTrainingEducation@svhm.org.au



Phone: 03 9231 2194

We will be holding two information sessions



Face-to-face: Tuesday 20th of June 2023

1630hrs – 1730hrs

Microsoft Teams : Wednesday 28th of June 2023

1630hrs – 1730hrs

To RSVP to our information sessions or for more information, please contact the Mental Health Education Team

We look forward to hearing from you!

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WHY CHOOSE ST VINCENT'S MENTAL HEALTH GRADUATE PROGRAM?

Our mission

Taking to heart our mission of service of the poor, St Vincent's Health Australia reaches out to some of the most vulnerable people in the Australian community including those from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, people living with mental illness, people experiencing addiction, people who are socially and financially disadvantaged especially those experiencing homelessness, people in prison with respect to their health care needs, refugees and asylum seekers.

Our values

- **Compassion**
- **Justice**
- **Integrity**

For those entrusted to our care it is:

- Provided in an environment underpinned by our Mission and Values.
- Holistic and centred on the needs of each patient and resident.
- High quality, safe and continuously improved to ensure best practice.
- Innovative and informed by current research, using contemporary techniques and technology.
- Delivered by a team of dedicated, appropriately qualified people who are supported in the continuing development of their skills and knowledge.
- Committed to a respect for life within the tradition of Mary Aikenhead and the Sisters of Charity.



I chose MH nursing mainly because I come from a background where there's a lot of stigma around it and have seen people lose their lives to treatable and preventable mental health conditions.

What I love about MH is its focus on the person as a whole rather than on their illness. Once you get to know someone more, you're in a better position to help them help themselves.

It's been amazing working at St Vincent's because of the support everyone gives you, you feel like you're already part of the team from your very first day!

Rumbi, 2021 Graduate

I have many personal family experiences with mental illness, and I understand the support needed for not only the consumer, but the support system and family around them as well. Secondly, I have always felt that I have a passion for building therapeutic relationships with consumers, this is a skill I can use and build on, which I enjoy doing. I couldn't have asked for a better education team to support me through my grad year, I have really enjoyed myself and appreciated how much I grown and learnt over the past 12 months.

Mental Health is a passion of mine and I feel privileged to even play a small part in helping people in this area.

Mickayla, 2021 Graduate



Messages from past and present graduates



I didn't always know that I wanted to be a nurse, but I did know I was passionate about mental health. After my mental health placement at St Vincent's, I realised pretty quickly that it was my goal to work here. The education team and the staff are exceptionally supportive and I have enjoyed coming to work every day since I started. In this role you will support and care for people who are some of the most vulnerable and some of the most stoic people you will meet. It is a privilege to work alongside them.

The transition between student and work life can be daunting but working in at a place that supports and nurtures you to become the best nurse you can be, makes the

experience much less frightening.

If you are considering a career in mental health and wish to work in an environment that is supportive and works as a collective, then I strongly encourage you to apply for St Vincent's Mental Health Graduate Program.

Zoe, 2023 Graduate

As an international student, I have come from a background where people consider mental health as a "Taboo" or generally something that they don't like to talk about. That is why I was inclined to learn more about mental health issues and assist people in their pathway of recovery.



From the first day at St V's, I felt supported and part of the team. There were regular checks on the grads on the floor and weekly supervisions to provide guidance for the best nursing practice. The education team provided confidence to overcome challenges and supported all year around with all the queries or concerns regarding the academic workload. The learnings that I had in St V's will assist me in delivering optimal care that can improve quality of life for people experiencing mental health issues.

Bharat, 2022 Graduate

I was lucky enough to complete my placement at St Vincent's AIS in my second year and ever since then I couldn't wait to return as a staff member. During every shift, I felt fulfilled by the opportunities to demonstrate empathy and understanding, for many people who may have previously lived with very minimal supports.

I personally always felt that St Vincent's staff worked incredibly hard to deliver the most person-centred care possible, with a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm behind them. For me, it was a simple decision to choose St Vincent's as my first preference for a graduate program, as the values of the service so closely aligned with my own.



Mia, 2023 Graduate

Throughout my graduate year so far, I have felt that I have a great amount of support to assist me in my transition to becoming a mental health nurse, as well as many opportunities for continuing education. I couldn't be more thankful to be learning alongside a diverse, caring and passionate graduate group, with the guidance of an experienced and approachable education team. Despite this career presenting challenges at times, there is such strong purpose in this work and the difference you can make to the quality of so many individuals' lives. I can easily say that I am excited about the learning opportunities that lie ahead and the potential to grow within this organisation, both personally and as a professional, whilst sharing my love for my job with those I work with and mentor.

I wanted to be a mental health nurse because I enjoy having the opportunity to connect with people on a deeper level.

I have the opportunity to build a strong foundation of skills that allow me to work in a recovery based model and help support people in their recovery.

The team is so supportive there's always people around that you can ask questions and get support from, it's a really great working environment.

Nick, 2020 Graduate



Messages from past and present graduates



I chose to become a mental health nurse because I wanted a career which was rewarding, challenging and would make a difference to patients and to the wider community. I care about helping others and I am passionate about helping those with mental illness to reach their individual recovery goals with compassion, patience and a willingness to be a part of their journey without prejudice, judgement or bias. I chose St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne because it is diverse, offers a wide range of experiences and provides a continuum of care. It is a place I know is dedicated to patient centred, family centred, recovery centred care and who go above and beyond to advocate for and provide exemplary care to their patients.

I feel extremely lucky and privileged to have had the support, training and guidance the mental health education team has provided. I have had the opportunity to work in multiple areas of mental health during my rotations and learnt something different from some amazing staff and patients at each one. In this last year I have grown not just as a registered nurse but as a person.

- Sheena, 2021 Graduate

I have found myself extremely lucky to learn under such an amazing team. I was able to really learn practical steps on how to become an amazing clinician. This is largely due to the structure that is put on ground in the education department and how committed every educator was in ensuring that we get the best learning.

The reflective sessions and supervision were avenues to really learn from the senior clinicians and colleagues. The wide range of education sessions were instrumental in shaping our practice.

- Ola, 2020 Graduate



I have already consolidated and expanded on so many important skills in mental health nursing, including mental health assessments, verbal de-escalation, and building strong therapeutic relationships. However, my skills in caring for patient's physical health have also improved in assessing and caring for deteriorating patients. Already, this graduate program has put me on track to become a nurse capable of effectively caring for patients holistically.

I have not only enjoyed the graduate program because of its effect on my development as a nurse, but also because of the support that is provided to developing staff. The culture here is one of respect and encouragement, and allows you to ask questions when you need to, seek support, and engage effectively with the multidisciplinary team. I have always felt like a valued part of the team.

If you are considering a career in mental health nursing, I encourage you to follow that instinct. You will grow so much as an individual and as a clinician.

- Sam, 2022 Graduate



When I started my nursing degree I knew that mental health nursing might be an option, but I was unsure. When I came to St Vincent's Mental Health for placement I left knowing that mental health nursing was what I wanted to do. A lot of my interest in mental health comes from my family members' lived experience. This has been a huge motivator for me wanting to work in collaboration to improve the health outcomes for consumers in a recovery-focused, holistic approach

As a graduate nurse, I've been made to feel really welcome. The team I work with are supportive, approachable and there has been no such thing as a silly question. When I've needed help, education staff have always made sure that I get the guidance and support I need, with clinical tasks, on-going education and support for my own well-being.

- Mark, 2023 Graduate





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A FACILITY OF ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA

**Thinking about applying?
Visit our Graduate Recruitment website!**

