



**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
- 2x positions for Mental Health / Emergency Department recruited via PMCV for January start (TBC)
- 5x positions for Mental Health recruited via direct applications for May start

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 · 🌐

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"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
Nurse Educator

Previous St Vincent's Mental Health Graduate Nurse



Jo
Senior Nurse

Patrick
Nurse Educator

Ash
Nurse Educator

Priyanka
Nurse Educator



Kristina
Nurse Educator

Maddie
Nurse Educator

Michael
Nurse Educator



Want to know more?

Please get in touch with us via email or phone, or attend one of our information evenings.



MHTrainingEducation@svhm.org.au



Phone: 03 9231 2194



We will be holding two live online information and Q&A sessions on the 8th and 24th of June from 4—5pm.

Please email

MHTrainingEducation@svhm.org.au

to register and a link will be forwarded to you.

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**
- **Excellence**

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 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

"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



Messages from past and present graduates



I feel extremely supported as a grad, and I'm so glad I got the position with St V's. The entire team are very welcoming, very supportive during shifts, are always checking in on grads to see if we are okay and offering advice, to debrief, or assisting us in best practice. I am still learning that mental health nursing is a team role, in the sense that we all step in to help each other, to keep everyone optimally cared for and to keep the shift running smoothly. It's so refreshing to have a team that works this way, and you feel very supported as a grad as you aren't "thrown into the deep end" so to speak. There is a lot of respect for everyone in the team, regardless of your position and new grads are encouraged to be a part of the team by everyone.

- Dea, 2021 Graduate

I wanted to be a mental health nurse as I had exposure to the hard working and caring nature that the mental health nurses at St Vincent's possess, and realised this represented the type of nursing care I wanted to provide. I left every day of placement, feeling fulfilled when building therapeutic relationships - that's when I knew for sure that mental health nursing was for me.

I was nervous about the work load, the assignments and whether the staff would welcome me. I'm happy to report that my nerves were for nothing: every staff member, from the amazing education team to the fantastic staff on the ward, are keen to help and educate, all while being so patient and kind. I could not have asked for a better place to spend my grad year. I cannot wait to continue growing as a mental health nurse here at St Vincent's.



- Shannon, 2021 Graduate



Like most of us, I was strongly drawn to the nursing profession due to an innate and deep-seated desire of wanting to help and care for people when they are most vulnerable.

Once my heart was sold on mental health nursing, I knew I wanted to be part of a strong and supportive program, within a service that upheld my values. The grad year at St Vincent's mental health is challenging and confronting but you are set up to succeed, develop strong therapeutic and de-escalating skills, and are empowered to navigate whatever challenges arise, within a supportive team. It delivered by an exceptional education team, driven by passion, compassion, integrity and vast clinical experience. The education team at St Vincent's has gone above and beyond to support us graduates to develop strong foundations to build a strong and rewarding career as a mental health nurse.

- Mel, 2021 Graduate

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





<https://www.svhm.org.au/careers>