



Position Description for Volunteer Mentors with Aunties and Uncles Queensland

Title

Volunteer Mentor

The organisation

Aunties and Uncles Queensland (A&U) is an early intervention and prevention program helping vulnerable and disadvantaged children aged 1-11 years, within the greater Brisbane and Gold Coast areas.

The Aunties and Uncles program delivers practical support to referred families by linking children with a volunteer aunt and/or uncle, who fulfils the role of a positive mentor in the child's life through the provision of a stable, nurturing and caring relationship over a minimum of 12 months.

Purpose of the role

To develop a nurturing mentor relationship with a child aged between 1 and 11 years. The aim of the program is to promote purposeful, voluntary relationships in which a volunteer mentors a child to develop a positive sense of self, connect with the community, experience stability and the benefits of an extended family. Mentors commit to spending quality time with a child two days per month, or to a level that is appropriate for the child, their family and the volunteer, for a minimum of 12 months.

Responsibilities

- To commit and spend two days a month, for a minimum one year, mentoring a child.
- To develop a mutually co-operative, non-judgemental, supportive and fun relationship with a child.
- To act as a positive role model and encourage new experiences, opportunities and focus on building and encouraging self-esteem.
- To encourage a child to reach their potential by identifying and achieving goals.
- To build mutual respect including a child's dignity, right to privacy and instil trust.
- To maintain positive relationships with the parent/guardians and respect their privacy.
- To consider the safety of the child and establish clear and appropriate boundaries in line with Aunties and Uncles Queensland Policies and Procedures.
- To abide by Aunties and Uncles Queensland Code of Conduct
- To maintain regular contact with their program Coordinator regarding the progress of the link and participate in ongoing training and link reviews.

Aunties and Uncles Queensland

PO Box 570, Paddington QLD 4064 • First Floor, Lavalla Centre, 58 Fernberg Road, Paddington 4064
 Email: enquiries@auntiesandunclesqld.org.au • Phone: (07) 3367 8002 • www.auntiesandunclesqld.org.au
 ABN: 27 055 840 045 (DGR Endorsed) • Donations over \$2 are tax deductible

- To seek guidance from their coordinator when ethical dilemmas arise.

Qualifications and Experience

- No formal qualifications are required, though previous mentoring experience and experience with children is helpful.
- Willingness to obtain/verify a Blue Card through the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (free of charge to volunteers).
- Willingness to undergo and provide Aunties and Uncles Queensland with access to a personal National Criminal History Check (at a cost to the applicant of \$25).
- Willingness to undergo the Aunties and Uncles Queensland selection process, including interviews and reference checks and if successful, to continue to participate in support and review processes.

Selection Criteria

- Be over the age of 18 years and able to commit two days per month to a child for a minimum of one year.
- Have a genuine interest in the wellbeing of children.
- Have a caring, non-judgemental attitude, the willingness and ability to develop a long term relationship with a child and act as a positive role model.
- Willingness to uphold the A&U values of respect, care and compassion, dependability and professionalism.
- Drivers who will transport the child in their vehicle are required to have a valid driver licence. It is recommended that full comprehensive car insurance be obtained and that the laws regarding car seats for children up to 7 years of age be met.

Reporting Structure

Aunties and Uncles Queensland volunteers report to their designated Coordinator.

Remuneration and Benefits

This is a volunteer position and as such there is no formal remuneration. Mentoring offers many opportunities for mentors to be challenged and rewarded on a personal level as well as providing a greater understanding of the community in which they live.

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