



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY WORKER

Willoughby Uniting Church is looking for an energetic and creative Children & Youth Ministry Worker to join our team and congregation. We are seeking a passionate Christian leader to support the existing program and its volunteers, and to develop and promote new ways for young people to become involved in the Church and to deepen their understanding and faith of God.

Willoughby Uniting Church – Employer Profile

Willoughby Uniting Church is a warm and vibrant congregation whose mission is to live in the good news of God's love and forgiveness, and to pass on Jesus' invitation to enjoy this immense love. Together we strive to build connections and community, within the worshipping congregation, our local community, and the wider world.

Willoughby Uniting Church has an existing ministry program to children and families within the Church and our local community. On Sunday mornings we have 15-30 young people from toddlers to junior high school who attend Kids Church lessons. During the week our Little Creators playgroup sessions, and Vibe our after-school program, are strong and growing. Our annual winter holiday program Creative Kids is popular in the community.

Position Available

- Position:** Children & Youth Ministry Worker.
- Hours:** Flexible, full time & negotiable. Includes Sunday mornings.
- Location:** Willoughby Uniting Church, 10-12 Clanwilliam St, Willoughby NSW.
- Reports to:** Minister in placement.
- Support:** The position will be a member of, work with, and be supported by, the Children and Family Ministry Team.

Responsibilities

The Children and Youth Ministry Worker role involves planning, leading and coordinating the children and youth ministry program at Willoughby Uniting Church (and potentially future partner congregations) with the support of the Children and Family Ministry Team.

The core responsibilities of the role are to:

- Enable children and youth in the Church and community to have an opportunity to learn, follow and understand the Christian faith.
- Support and work with families to grow in faith together.

- Provide leadership, direction and organisational oversight for the children and youth ministry programs
- Identify / develop curriculum and resources to engage with children and youth, and to equip leaders of the ministry program
- Provide support and development to children and youth leaders / volunteers

It is expected that the role will maintain and expand the following existing activities:

- Kids Church:** Provide leadership oversight to the Sunday youth, Kids Church and Creche programs. This includes coordinating, encouraging and assisting volunteer leaders, recommending curriculum resources, and leading a class.
- Youth Group:** The Church has an emerging youth group for which a youth program needs to be developed.
- Little Creators:** Support running of the Monday and Tuesday playgroups. Seek to develop relationships between parents / carers and the Church.
- Scripture:** Participate in the teaching of Scripture in local schools, and seek to develop connections into the ministry program.
- VIBE:** Coordinate and lead the Wednesday after-school program. Develop and enhance the program to be vibrant, engaging and sustainable.
- Creative Kids:** Contribute to the preparation and running of the winter school holiday program. Provide leadership and engage with the children and their families.
- Family Social:** Participate in the semi-regular family-friendly social activities and invite families from the community to attend.

Competencies & Experience

Essential:

- Has a strong personal Christian faith and sound knowledge of Scripture.
- Has experience working with and being a strong leader to children and youth.
- Has experience developing and leading engaging and creative Christian faith programs.
- Is able to build relationships with children, youth and families within and outside the Church community.
- Is a team player who has the inter-personal skills to work in a team ministry setting, and is able to lead teams consisting mainly of volunteers.
- Has good English communication skills and is able to work in a cross-cultural community.
- Has personal skills in administration, time management, and planning.

Desirable:

- Has relevant qualifications in a discipline related to education, ministry or youth work.
- Has an understanding of child developmental and behavioural challenges, and positive management strategies.
- Has experience with Church or community based family or children's activities.
- Demonstrates an ability to network, develop relationships, and build community.
- Has experience in the use of music, drama, or art.

Role Requirements**The successful candidate must:**

- Have an enthusiasm for, and commitment to Willoughby Uniting Church's children and youth ministry program, and a commitment to the role of the Church in the community
- Read and understand the Basis of Union and have a preparedness to work within the polity and ethos of the Uniting Church in Australia as described in the Basis of Union.
- Must hold and continue to hold a working with children clearance issued by the Office of the Childrens' Guardian.
- Must hold and continue to hold an entitlement to work in Australia.
- Abide by the discipline processes as set out in the Constitution and Regulation of the Uniting Church and the Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice adopted by the National Assembly as they relate to ministerial practice.
- Abide by the requirements of the Uniting Church Regulations in relation to the lay specified ministry of Pastor.
- Demonstrate the core competencies determined by the Ministerial Education Commission as essential for all persons that exercise the lay specified ministry of Pastor.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Please provide a covering letter outlining your interest in the role, a resume of relevant experience, and the contact details of two (2) referees.

Please send to Rev Ingrid Robertson at either:

- 12 Clanwilliam St, Willoughby NSW 2068
- office@willoughbyuniting.org.au

Phone enquiries 9415 2100.