



Gungahlin Uniting Church

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Family and Young People's Ministry Facilitator

EMPLOYER PROFILE

The Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) is a uniquely Australian Christian organisation that began in 1977 with the union of the Congregational, Methodist, and Presbyterian movements. It is one of the largest religious organisations in Australia. Each state across Australia has a Synod, with associated governing councils and boards. The Synods are drawn together through the National Assembly.

The Uniting Church holds a core conviction that providing pastoral and spiritual care is a fundamental responsibility, offered unconditionally to all, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, race, socioeconomic status, or background.

Gungahlin Uniting Church is an open and inclusive community. We are a multicultural and multigenerational congregation, welcoming people from different countries, cultures, traditions, ages, genders, gender identities, abilities and viewpoints, as we experience life and God together as part of our Christian faith.

We have developed a Family and Young People's¹ Ministry strategic plan, informed by our commitment to "Growing Young"² which has created energy, momentum and growth in this ministry, enthusiastically supported by the congregation. We are seeking a facilitator to lead us in the next exciting stages of this ministry.

ABOUT THE ROLE

Gungahlin Uniting is seeking an experienced and passionate facilitator to lead the next stages of our Family and Young People's ministry. Responsibilities of the role includes:

- guiding the expansion of our family and young people's ministry
- empowering and inspiring the next generation of faith leaders
- supporting and mentoring volunteers
- creating new spaces for worship and church
- supporting exploration of faith and build discipleship and
- forging relationships across generations and cultures, Presbytery and the community.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The facilitator will work with the Family and Young People's Ministry team to implement Gungahlin Uniting's Plan. This plan takes a staged approach, with implementation over several years.

¹ "Young people" refers to people in the first third of their life. "Families" refers to families of children and youth.

² <https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/resources/growing-young/>

Details of the key responsibilities are provided below. Which responsibilities are prioritised will depend on the experience and qualifications of the successful applicant, consistent with Uniting Church benchmarking guidelines.

1. Expanding and developing the family and young people's ministry at Gungahlin Uniting church

- Supported by the Family and Young People's Ministry team, work closely with Church Council and the Minister to ensure family and young people programs and activities align with Gungahlin's strategic direction by:
 - Building on existing programs, develop and facilitate safe and engaging programs for young people and their families.
 - Engage young people in the co-design of programs.
 - Ensure all family and young people's programs are welcoming, relevant and inclusive of people from different cultural backgrounds, supporting our church's multicultural background.

2. Developing faith and discipleship pathways and identify potential leaders

- Implement a leadership development program that mentors and develops our next generation of leaders amongst youth and young adults, equipping them to contribute to the life of the church by:
 - Supporting young people to explore faith and grow in discipleship, leading to confirmation, service, and witness in the community.
 - Helping young people to understand the Bible and to apply it to their lives.

3. Mentoring and developing family and young people's ministry volunteers by:

- Recruit, mentor and build capacity of volunteers by working "with" rather than "for" them, fostering empowerment and shared responsibility while avoiding "burn-out"
- Identifying resources to support volunteers in their roles
- Developing succession planning for key volunteer roles within ministry teams.

4. Developing family friendly creative and innovative worship spaces by:

- Exploring innovative and creative worship spaces, encouraging participation across generations, and inspiring Gungahlin Uniting to become a contemporary, courageous and faith-filled congregation.
- Encouraging Gungahlin Uniting's engagement in social justice issues through worship, discussion, advocacy and action
- Preaching and/or leading worship services from time to time

5. Engaging with the community

- Enhancing Gungahlin Uniting's young people's community outreach by:
 - Promoting collaboration, connection and deeper relationships with other Uniting youth ministries across Canberra
 - Supporting Pulse camps
 - As part of the final stages of Gungahlin's ministry plan, work alongside community partners to raise our service mission and further support Gungahlin young people and their families.

6. Contributing to intergenerational growth of Gungahlin Uniting

- Contribute to building a warm and inclusive environment that values the presence and contributions of young people and their families.
- Guiding the congregation in strengthening intergenerational relationships with one another.

In addition, specific responsibilities also include:

- Participating in regular team meetings, including Church Council
- Reading and understanding the Basis of Union, and having a preparedness to work within the polity and ethos of the Uniting Church in Australia

- Abiding by the policies and procedures of the Uniting Church in Australia Synod of NSW and the ACT.
 - Having a genuine willingness to embrace challenges as they arise and to work flexibly in support of the overall key objectives of the Uniting Church in Australia.
 - A willingness to work a flexible schedule when required.
 - Following policies and procedures that safeguard children and vulnerable people and uphold workplace health and safety
 - Participating in maintaining a safe working environment for both you and others in the workplace
 - Undertaking additional duties as directed by Gungahlin Uniting Church Council
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KEY RELATIONSHIPS

INTERNAL

- Minister
- Gungahlin Uniting Church Council
- Gungahlin Uniting Church “Growing Young” team (provides strategic support)
- Gungahlin Uniting’s Creative Worship team
- Church members and those involved in programs and activities for young people

EXTERNAL

- Other Uniting churches within Presbytery and their young people leaders
- Presbytery, Synod
- Canberra-based Pulse team member
- Other external organisations as required

SELECTION CRITERIA (Key Skills & Experience)

- Has a vibrant Christian faith and commitment to the values and ethos of the Uniting Church.
- Ministry/pastoral experience with young people
- Ministry or other relevant qualification consistent with UCA benchmarking guidelines (desirable).
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment and independently with minimal supervision.
- Ability to build relationships with people of all ages, especially young people and their families, but also across generations to build support and commitment.
- Ability to develop leadership capacity and skills of young people and volunteers.
- Highly effective interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills, including good computer skills.
- Highly effective organisational and time management skills.
- Capable of leading a congregation in intergenerational worship, including preaching.
- Is eligible (or willing to become eligible) for commissioning as a lay Pastor within the UCA (desirable).

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

The successful applicant will also be required to:

- Undergo a Criminal History check prior to commencing
 - Hold, or will obtain prior to commencing, an ACT Working with Vulnerable People’s card
 - Has the right to work in Australia
 - Hold a first aid qualification, or is willing to obtain upon commencing in the position.
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NOTE: As this role involves pastoral duties, fringe benefits may be provided to the staff where the person meets one of the following descriptions:

- *Ordained as a minister or deacon (i.e. minister of religion); or*
- *A student at a theological college undertaking a course in order to become a minister of religion; or*
- *Listed on the Register of lay ministers of the Uniting Church and admitted/commissioned to hold authority on doctrine or religious practice.*

ROLE OVERVIEW

Classification: Award Free – level based on experience, qualifications and responsibilities

Employment Type: Full time

Appointing Body: Gungahlin Uniting Church Council

Report Line: Gungahlin Uniting Church Council Supervisor

Direct Reports: Nil

Created by: Gungahlin Uniting Church Council

Position Holders Name:	
Date:	
Signature:	