



<b>Position Title</b>	Mentoring Mums Volunteer
<b>Program</b>	Client Services
<b>Employment Status</b>	Volunteer
<b>Position reports to</b>	Key Worker; Volunteer Coordinator
<b>Location</b>	Local Government Areas of Banyule, Nillumbik, Darebin and Whittlesea

## HISTORY

Kids First (formerly known as Children's Protection Society - CPS) was founded in 1896 and is one of the oldest and most experienced independent child welfare organisations in Victoria. The Agency holds a unique place in the history of Australian child protection.

Kids First is an evidenced based, dynamic and diverse independent and voluntary child and family services organisation with no political or religious affiliations, governed by a Board of community members, servicing vulnerable children, young people and families.

With offices in Heidelberg, Rosanna, Thomastown and Wollert, Kids First provides a range of services across metropolitan Melbourne and in regional Victoria including The Orange Door, family support, sexual abuse counselling and prevention program, fathers support services, family violence services, child and family centres and evidence and competency based professional development across all of the aforementioned domains.

For further information regarding our services, visit our website [www.kidsfirstaustralia.org.au](http://www.kidsfirstaustralia.org.au).

### OUR VISION

All children and young people thrive in resilient, strong and safe families and communities

### OUR PURPOSE

Kids First supports the well-being and development of children and families by providing early education and care, therapeutic healing to recover from abuse and neglect and family strengthening services.

### OUR VALUES

Children and families are central to the work that we do, and our values **HEART** embody this and drive our passion to create brighter futures for them.

- **Hope** – We believe that change is possible and achievable
- **Empowerment** – We build on people's strengths and support their ability to make positive changes in their lives
- **Accountability** – We are open and transparent in everything we do
- **Respect** – We value all people
- **Trust** – We act in an ethical, inclusive, professional and open manner

**ROLE PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of the Mentoring Mums Volunteer position is to provide a supportive relationship for socially isolated, vulnerable women who are either pregnant or caring for infants or children up to and including primary school age. The volunteer is required to 'walk alongside' the mother and support her to develop her parenting. This position sits within the Client Services team, and will complement the goals and case plan of the client.

**REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS**

- Volunteer Coordinator
- Kids First Key Worker

**CORE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Build a caring relationship with the mother through empathic listening and providing supportive conversation.
- Encourage mothers to link in with community supports for example Maternal Child Health Nurse, playgroups or mother's groups.
- In line with the family's Care Plan developed in collaboration between the family and their Kids First Worker, actively seek to improve mothers' parenting skills and enhance their strengths. This should be done utilizing strategies articulated in the Family Care Plan and as agreed with Kids First Worker.
- Provide positive constructive feedback and encourage development
- Visit mothers and infants/children in their home and accompany them on outings.
- Provide role modelling and support for mothers particularly with regards to play and interaction with her child/children and routines that support child wellbeing and development
- Participate in supervision with designated Kids First worker
- Report concerns or issues arising from the visits to the Kids First worker particularly when issues of safety for child or mother are apparent.
- Commit to approximately 2- 4 hours per week during business hours for a minimum of 12 months
- Attend the training course as part of induction
- Maintain confidentiality on all issues relating to families and children

**CAPABILITY PROFILE – Key Selection Criteria**

<b>Formal Education</b>	Nil required. A background in social work, nursing, teaching or related field is desirable.
<b>Skills and Experience</b>	Experience in bringing up children and an interest in working with women who are vulnerable and isolated within the community.
<b>Other Key Selection Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good communicator &amp; listener who is reliable &amp; understanding</li> <li>• Ability to establish and maintain relationships with people at all levels</li> <li>• An understanding and capacity for working with diversity</li> <li>• Robustness and resilience, and a level of maturity that supports independent practice</li> <li>• Comfort with flexibility in volunteering arrangements</li> <li>• A good understanding of or willingness to learn about Aboriginal culture, values and protocols and a demonstrated capacity to work in a culturally informed and respectful manner.</li> </ul>

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Aileen Ashford**  
**Chief Executive Officer**