

About Southern Community Welfare

See www.scw.org.au

Southern Community Welfare (SCW) is a community based, non-profit, harm prevention organisation. Since its inception in 1995 it has provided professional, innovative, therapeutic services to families and individuals.

SCW provides programs that address the areas of suicide prevention, deliberate self injury, eating disorders, depression, child abuse, loss and grief, family breakdown and parenting skills. It is our commitment to care, equip, empower and offer hope to those in our community who are struggling in these areas. Our staff of professionals help find ways to effectively meet today's challenges within your family, the workplace and the community.



Where to find us

The Southern Community Welfare entrance is found at the back of Gymea Baptist Church,
2-4 Tea Gardens Avenue



How to contact us

Phone: 9545 0299

Fax: 9521 6252

Email: admin@scw.org.au

Web: www.scw.org.au



Dr. Steve Dawson Clinical Psychologist



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*Caring, Equipping,
Empowering, Hope*

Background

Dr Steve Dawson (Ph.D. Clin.Psych) is a clinical psychologist of over 25 years experience who has a special interest in the assessment and treatment of ADHD and learning disability in children, adolescents and adults. His assessments are state of the art and evidence based. His treatment emphasises working around the difficulties in attention, memory and executive function often present in these conditions. He also has an interest in anxiety disorders, depression and issues facing men including separation/ divorce. He has many years experience in the use of cognitive behaviour therapy, insight oriented psychotherapy and, more recently, mindfulness based cognitive therapy.

Following a first degree, Steve completed a Graduate Diploma in Science (Psychology) at the Australian National University, gaining First Class Honours. He then worked as a psychologist for some years in Canberra before later completing a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Wollongong, graduating in 1994. He worked in full time practice for several years before combining private practice with 5 years part-time work as a clinical neuropsychologist at the Canberra Hospital and NSW Brain Injury Service based at St. John of God Hospital Goulburn. In 2006 he joined the University of Canberra where he lectured in the postgraduate program in clinical psychology for 3 years, also spending time as director of the Psychology Clinic and overall director of the program. While working as an academic he continued his private practice in clinical psychology.

As an academic his clinical research focussed on disorders such as ADHD, dyslexia, anxiety and obsessive compulsive disorder. In early 2009 Steve moved to Sydney to join Southern Community Welfare and also the Mindcare Centre in Broadway. From August 2010 Steve he has worked solely with Southern Community Welfare but maintains close links with the Mindcare Centre.

Steve has maintained a strong interest in assessment and management of

- ADHD along with
- Learning Disability (including dyslexia),
- Asperger's Syndrome,
- behavioural and emotional issues in children and adolescents.

With the adult population Steve also has a strong interest and long background in treating adults for:

- ADHD, Asperger's Syndrome.
- depression, anxiety
- men's issues, including separation/divorce,
- work related stress

Steve received early training in behaviour therapy, psychodynamic psychotherapy and, in later years, in cognitive behaviour therapy including mindfulness based cognitive therapy. He also conducts neuropsychological assessment (all ages) related to traumatic brain injury and stroke as well as dementia, learning difficulty, and psychiatric illness.

Referrals

The Medicare Rebate is available for 6 and up to 12 sessions per calendar year where you or your child/teenager is referred by a GP, as part of a Mental Health Care Plan (item 2710).

Psychiatrists or Paediatricians can also refer by writing a standard referral letter. Under Medicare, 6 sessions are available followed by a review by the referring doctor; up to another 6 sessions (or another 12 in exceptional circumstances) are then available with the Medicare Rebate.

Please note that some assessment can be conducted within the 6 sessions but this does not include a full neuropsychological, personality or vocational assessment. For such assessment services it may be possible to make a claim through your private health insurance provider.

Fees

Fees are payable at the time of consultation. A sliding scale is available for those on a low income and bulk billing is available in exceptional circumstances (usually when the family's sole income is a pension).

Practice Hours

Steve's hours at Southern Community Welfare are from Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5.30pm. Sessions usually start on the ½ hour e.g. 8.30, 2.30 and last 50 minutes.
