



Western Australian Council of Social Service Strategic Plan 2012-2015

*Ways to make
a difference*

WHO WE ARE

The WA Council of Social Service (WACOSS) is a peak membership based council of community service organisations and individuals.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WACOSS acknowledges that we work across the lands of the Indigenous Peoples of Western Australia and respects the continuing cultural connections and Traditional Owners of this country.

VISION

Our Vision is an inclusive, just and equitable society.

MISSION

We advocate for social change to improve the wellbeing of Western Australians and to strengthen the community services sector that supports them.

VALUES

Our Values are our guiding principles that express who we are, shape the way we approach our work and provide an underlying framework for our decision making and actions.

At WACOSS we value:

Collaboration – Working collaboratively with our membership, the community services sector and the national COSS network, together with our stakeholders and strategic partners.

Human Rights – The promotion and protection of human rights that respect the inherent value and dignity of all Western Australians.

Ethics – Our commitment to the highest standards of ethics and integrity.

Recognition – Providing recognition of the quality and value of the work undertaken by our staff and our members to civil society in WA.

Innovation – Striving for continuous quality improvement and new ways of working to achieve our mission.

Indigenous Cultures – Acknowledging the unique strengths of and disadvantage experienced by WA's Indigenous people.

Diversity – The strengths and unique needs of our diverse population and sector.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1 Advocate for social change that promotes the wellbeing of all Western Australians, particularly disadvantaged & vulnerable people

2 Strengthen the capacity of a diverse & sustainable community services sector

3 Support and promote a diverse membership of WACOSS

4 Enhance WACOSS as a sustainable workplace and organisation

KEY OUTCOMES

- WACOSS advocates for social policy change that supports disadvantaged and vulnerable people.
- WACOSS promotes policies and practices across tiers of government and the community sector to improve services to those experiencing disadvantage and vulnerability.
- WACOSS is recognised as a respected leader and commentator on social issues in Western Australia.
- WACOSS regularly engages with the Western Australia Government on social policy issues.
- WACOSS regularly engages with other industry stakeholders on social policy issues.

- WACOSS is a consultative organisation that seeks to work collaboratively with its members and sector stakeholders to lead and sustain social change.
- WACOSS builds the organisational capacity of WA's social services sector to deliver improved services to those experiencing disadvantage and vulnerability.
- WACOSS collaborates, networks and builds relationships to provide a cohesive whole-of-sector response to social issues.
- WACOSS engages with and promotes peak organisations to provide collaborative responses to social issues.

- WACOSS membership represents WA's diverse social services sector.
- WACOSS is viewed as representing the social services sector and its members in its engagement with government and industry on social policy issues.
- WACOSS members actively support advocacy activities that promote social change.
- WACOSS members feel they are a valued, supported and active part of the Council.

- WACOSS staff enjoy working in a rewarding work environment that offers fair remuneration, professional development opportunities and job satisfaction.
- WACOSS is an organisation of choice for people aspiring to make a difference.
- WACOSS is a financially viable organisation with a sustainable income stream and accommodation.
- WACOSS is a model workplace in the sector with sound governance arrangements, high quality management practices and delegated authority that empowers staff and improves operational efficiencies.

