



## **Job description: Community Practice Lead, Our Town Initiative**

**Location:** Adelaide preferred

**Employment status:** 3 year fixed term, with opportunity to extend

**Terms:** 0.8 (4 days per week)

**Salary band:** \$85- 100k pro rata dependant on successful applicant's experience

*We encourage applications from all backgrounds, communities and industries, and are committed to having a team that is made up of diverse skills, experiences and abilities. We welcome applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, mature-age people and people with disability, regardless of sex, sexuality or gender identity.*

### **Who we are**

The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (TACSI) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation working across Australia. We partner with communities and organisations to put people at the heart of shaping their lives and society. Together, we tackle big social challenges and build the conditions for social innovation.

### **Our Town initiative**

Our Town is a collaboration between Fay Fuller Foundation, Clear Horizons, The Australian Centre for Social Innovation and six rural communities in South Australia. The six communities are funded for 10 years by the Fay Fuller Foundation to drive community led responses to mental health and wellbeing. TACSI's role is focussed on supporting social innovation capacity building in towns through regular coaching and connecting the towns by supporting a community network.

## What's the role?

You will lead the design and facilitation of social innovation capability building activities with the aim of supporting communities to create, test and lead community-led initiatives to improve wellbeing.

You will be responsible for the social innovation coaching of 2-3 of the six Our Town communities, as well as supporting reflective practice amongst TACSI staff who coach the remaining Our Town communities.

This role is leading the coaching and capability building work across the town network, so coaching expertise is a must. The role requires you to support rural Our Town teams in developing and growing mindsets for social innovation and supporting towns along their innovation journey, so social innovation experience is critical.

The role requires you to have strong community-based experience navigating complex systems (eg. environment, culture, social health, housing, education, employment) and a trauma-informed practice that means you're comfortable working side-by-side diverse communities to enable community led, local change.

Planned and purposeful (Covid safe) travel to these communities will be required at certain times of the year.

## Key Responsibilities

- Lead the coaching practice in the TACSI Our Town initiative team
- Coach and build the capability of 2-3 Our Town community teams
- Model community-led practice excellence
- Align with and model key program practice principles guiding this work: modelling mentally healthy practice, learning through change, community led and owned, and seeing and acting on the big picture
- Initiate and embed learning into the initiative, supporting peers to grow their practice, confidence and capability
- Initiate and maintain working knowledge of emerging trends in community led innovation and social impact nationally and internationally
- Maintain and grow stakeholder relationships
- Work in close partnership with the initiative core partners, in order to maximise outcomes, learning and influence

- Develop and nurture relationships with communities, people with lived experience, organisations and institutions that are important forces in achieving the purpose of this work
- Challenge, contribute and share learning with the broad initiative team including leads and funders
- Create formal and informal networks that support sector connections and offer channels for learning exchange
- Be a strong ambassador for TACSI's brand, purpose, work and learning

## **What you'll bring to the role and TACSI**

You have a genuine energy, passion and commitment to working in the social sector and on society's most important challenges. You demonstrate empathy and self-care to both those you serve and also your colleagues and peers. You have excellent interpersonal skills, high levels of emotional intelligence, and an ability to work within a dynamic sometimes ambiguous day to day environment. You have an unrelenting belief that people are the experts of their own experience. This comes through in your work and the way in which you influence those with power.

You bring rich practice in working with people with lived experience to imagine, design and implement solutions that work for them and a broader community. Your experience may include practice in co-production, co-design, community development, social/frontline practice from your previous professional and/or lived experience. You hold a learning and imaginary mindset that can adjust, be creative, adapt and contribute to the community-led ambition of this work. You can handle uncertainty and change, and can lead others through it, getting your head around complex and uncertain situations, seeing associations and explaining them to others. You feel aligned with the Our Town Principles- in demonstrating these in your own practice and supporting their development in Our Town communities.

All of this, you do with humility, humour and an ability to inspire and influence. You have a practical and outcomes-oriented approach and you can put ideas into practice. You set challenging and realistic goals with clear measures of success.

## **Working at TACSI**

TACSI is a fast-paced environment where people from diverse disciplines, ages and experiences come together to tackle complex social issues and build the conditions for social innovation – all while helping each other learn and grow.

Working with TACSI offers a unique opportunity to deepen and broaden your skills, create a positive impact in people's lives, and learn from the rich knowledge and experience of our network.

As a team, we all share a deep and genuine commitment to seeing more people, in more ways, thriving across their lives. Few other organisations offer the opportunity to pioneer and refine a new way of creating positive social change. You'll be able to put your name (alongside your colleagues) to the creation, implementation and scale of new solutions and approaches that enable people to live their best life.

We also offer:

- Flexible work practices in a genuinely supportive environment.
- Dedicated time for professional development and learning.
- A professional development allowance.
- A bright and spacious office in the central city of Adelaide.
- A cosy workspace in the city of Sydney.
- Recognition program for positive feedback.
- A welcoming team with a sense of fun!