



NSW State-Wide Workforce Development Project

19 November 2012

Essential research is needed to map the NGO human services sector in NSW and identify workforce needs before sensible and workable strategies can be developed to improve workforce development.

NCOSS Pre-Budget Submission *Building Fairness First: Social and economic priorities for a fair and sustainable community: 2013-14 State Budget*, calls on the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet to consider a State-Wide Workforce Development Project.

8 July 2008

The development of a state-wide industry plan for the sector was a priority recommendation in the last NCOSS Pre-Budget Submission to the NSW Government.

This recommendation was not funded this year. While other jurisdictions are comprehensively investing in building the capacity of the sector, notably Queensland, Tasmania and Victoria, NSW is seriously lagging behind.

The need for a whole of sector and whole of Government strategic approach to the sustainability and growth of the sector is a bedrock issue and NCOSS remains optimistic that this requirement will also become a priority for the NSW Government.

To date a fairly standard response from various Government agencies and Ministers has been to cite the 'capacity building initiatives' that are already underway across some programs and Departments, in particular their own. These sector development projects within Departments make a really valuable contribution to NGOs within those funding streams, but they do not constitute a strategic approach to industry planning or begin to address the common structural issues facing the sector.

We need sector-wide policies and actions that ensure the sector is an attractive employment option now and in the future, as well as actively enabling regulatory and funding frameworks that support the growth and efficiency of community services in NSW.

Downloads

***Download:** NCOSS Pre-Budget Submission 2013-14: [Building Fairness First](#), pps 25-26

***Recommendation**(June 2008): [An Industry Development Plan for the NSW non-government human services sector](#)

***NCOSS News article**(June 2008):[Industry planning: Joining the Dots... One at a time](#)