



Sue Leahy
Principal Consultant

Sue is an experienced evaluator and policy analyst, with specialist experience within the human services sector.

Sue has recently joined ARTD from the NSW Department of Community Services, where she was responsible for managing wide-ranging program evaluations, including large-scale multi-year projects.

Sue has held senior roles in evaluation and strategic review within the NSW Government and higher education contexts. She has managed large whole-of-government reviews and evaluations and has developed policy and strategic frameworks.

She has delivered a number of evaluation-related papers in Australia, and has published in Australian and international peer-reviewed journals.

Certificates III and IV
Business Excellence Evaluation
Australian Quality Council
(2002)

Graduate Diploma Social
Science (Human Resource
Management) Southern Cross
University (1994)

Bachelor of Arts (Social
Science) La Trobe University
(1984)

Member of the Australasian
Evaluation Society

Evaluation Management

As Manager of Evaluation at the NSW Department of Community Services, Sue was responsible for the Department's annual program of evaluations. Sue led internal evaluations, managed a number of externally-conducted evaluations, and provided expert evaluation advice on whole-of-government evaluations. She has been responsible for liaising with stakeholders, reviewing draft reports and recommending improvements, and working with Evaluation Steering Committees and Working Groups. Evaluations which Sue has led or managed have included:

- *Intensive Family Based Service (IFBS)*
- Project management for the large scale evaluation of *Brighter Futures*, a flagship early intervention program that provides targeted support to vulnerable children and their families in NSW
- Development of the *Aboriginal Families Study*, a component of the broader large scale *Brighter Futures* evaluation, designed to provide a robust examination of the experiences and outcomes for Aboriginal families in the program
- Policy for *Responding to prenatal reports*
- *e-reporting* pilot
- Design and oversight of the *Aboriginal Care Circles Project* evaluation
- Managed the evaluation of *Toomelah/Boggabilla Child Protection Project*
- Expert evaluation advice for evaluations NSW Interagency Guidelines for Child Protection, *Two Ways Together*, *Families NSW*, *Child Protection Watch Teams*, *Better Futures*, *Indigenous Triple P*.

Policy development

Sue has considerable experience in policy development for the human services and justice sector. She worked for the Performance Development Division of the NSW Premier's Department for four years, and was Assistant Director of that Division during 2005. In this role, Sue led special reviews and evaluations including:

- Evaluation of *Youth Partnership with Arabic speaking communities*, for which Sue was awarded the 2004 NSW Premier's Award for its strategic contribution to community building
- Review of *Inter-Agency Agreements with the NSW human services sector*, which resulted in a set of principles and guidelines for cross-agency work

She also managed performance reviews for the Cost and Quality of Government, including *Provision of Legal Services in NSW*, *Attorney General's Department* and *State Records Authority*.

Higher education strategy

Sue has ten years experience in the higher education sector in the areas of strategic planning and review and student equity and diversity. Sue led the strategic review function at UTS where she developed an organisational review framework and played a key role in a large-scale strategic review of the University's academic and organisational profile. She was responsible for managing and reviewing the student equity program, including a state-wide access scheme. Sue's role also included research, development and review of equal opportunity policies.