



PERSONAL

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Biomedical Science
(University of Queensland, 2001)
Bachelor of Science, Honours Physiology
(University of Queensland, 2002)
Doctor of Philosophy, Epidemiology
(University of Queensland, 2005)



Emily is an experienced evaluator and policy analyst who designs, collects, and interprets high-quality evidence to improve outcomes for vulnerable people. She has deep strategic knowledge of the Australian public sector, working alongside government agencies to design, implement and evaluate large, complex social policy initiatives. Emily is motivated by helping her clients to use research and evaluation methods to get to know their customers better, deliver a tailored intervention, and achieve better outcomes. Her ability to build rapid rapport, synthesise complex information and balance stakeholder perspectives means she is an in-demand strategic facilitator and trusted advisor to the executives of government agencies.



I am so lucky to do work that is intellectually stimulating and meaningful, with clients who are motivated to 'do better' social policy that improves outcomes for vulnerable people.

EMILY VERSTEGE

DIRECTOR



POLICY AND SYSTEM DESIGN

With a focus on meaningful consultation, Emily works with governments and NGOs to design systems and policies that support social change. Emily is motivated to support clients to overcome the challenges of working within dynamic socioeconomic and public health contexts to understand and influence systems to achieve social change.

- » **Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW** (NSW Department of Communities and Justice, in progress): Assessing the individual and collective impact of the suite of six service improvement initiatives in social housing using a quasi-experimental design and drawing on linked administrative data, program data and extensive community consultation.
- » **Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027** (Department of Communities, Housing and the Digital Economy, in progress) Working with the Institute of Social Science Research at the University of Queensland to design an evaluation framework, and to use the framework to evaluate the Department's progress against Action Plan 1. The project includes a review of the Department's Residential Tenancies Response and Homelessness Response to COVID-19.

EVALUATION AND REVIEW

Emily believes evaluation processes are enormously valuable learning opportunities. Emily approaches evaluation from the perspective of service through learning, working to design evaluations that answer important questions for social policy.

- » **Evaluation of the Co-Location Pilot** (Attorney-General's Department, in progress): A systems evaluation considering the benefits of co-locating policing and child protection officers to support information sharing and improve outcomes for children in the Family Law system.
- » **Evaluation of Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court** (Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General, 2019): A quasi-experimental approach to understand which participants demonstrate outcomes across QDAC outcome domains, and the contexts and mechanisms perceived to drive or inhibit change.
- » **Evaluation of Southport Domestic and Family Violence Court** (Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General, 2019): The evaluation will be conducted over 20 months through four overlapping phases, covering implementation, social and economic impacts and outcomes.
- » **Trial of Functional Family Therapy Child-Welfare (FFT-CW)® and SafeCare® in Queensland** (Queensland Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women, 2019): A mixed-method evaluation testing the effectiveness of two early intervention models, using survival analysis of child protection outcomes data.
- » **Opportunity Pathways Review** (NSW Department of Communities and Justice, in progress) A rapid, statewide review drawing on qualitative and quantitative performance data to determine the risks to program sustainability in the post-COVID environment.