



DATA FOR POLICY SUMMIT

Tuesday 15 August and Wednesday 16 August 2023
Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton, ACT



Life Course Centre

ARC Centre of Excellence for Children
and Families over the Life Course

lifecoursecentre.org.au

WELCOME TO THE 2023 LIFE COURSE CENTRE DATA FOR POLICY SUMMIT

About the Life Course Centre

The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course is a national research centre investigating the ways in which deep and persistent disadvantage endures within families and across generations.

We generate evidence-based research to develop new knowledge, technology and practices to benefit those living in, or at risk of, disadvantage. Bringing together a multi-disciplinary network of researchers and partners throughout Australia and internationally with a shared focus on addressing entrenched disadvantage, the Centre aims to:

- Identify the drivers of deep and persistent disadvantage
- Develop and trial new and innovative solutions in policy and practice
- Build capacity across academic, government and non-government organisations
- Develop data, methods and infrastructure
- Destigmatise disadvantage.

About Data for Policy

The Life Course Centre has played a leading role in shaping administrative data access in Australia through our ongoing Data for Policy initiative. Our focus on leveraging administrative data for research and policy can be traced back to the start of the Life Course Centre in 2014, when we held the inaugural Data for Policy Summit. This is our sixth Data for Policy event.

We are well placed to continue to play a key role in bringing together relevant stakeholders, undertaking proof-of-concept projects, identifying new data directions and strategies, identifying new sources of data and enhancing evidence-based policy outcomes to improve the lives of those living in social and economic disadvantage.

Our Sponsors

The Life Course Centre would like to thank our Program Sponsors, the Australian Government Department of Social Services, and the Paul Ramsay Foundation. Through their generous support we are able to bring together a wide range of policy makers and practitioners committed to developing the effective use of data to help reduce disadvantage in Australia.



Australian Government

Department of Social Services



The Data for Policy Planning Committee

The Life Course Centre would like to acknowledge the members of the Data for Policy Planning Committee, who shaped the program and were generous in reaching out to their colleagues and contacts so that we could secure a wide range of highly expert speakers.

Marion Bennett, Mission Australia

Marilyn Chilvers, NSW Government Department of Customer Service

Tim Crosier, Australian Government Department of Social Services

Myra Geddes, Goodstart Early Learning

Luke Hendrickson, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Matthew James, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Day One

Tuesday 15 August 2023

08:30–09:00 **Arrival and Registration**

09:00–09:45 **Welcome to Country**

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Janeen Baxter, Director, Life Course Centre

Opening Speaker

David Gruen, Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Statement from Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Minister for Social Services

09:45–10:45 **SESSION 1: The Future of Data**

FACILITATOR: **Francis Mitrou**, Telethon Kids Institute and Life Course Centre

Michael Smedes, Chief Data Officer and General Manager, Statistical Infrastructure, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Matthew James, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Gemma Van Halderen, Chief Data Officer and Group Manager, Data and Evaluation Group, Australian Government Department of Social Services

10:45–11:00 **Morning Tea Break**

11:00–11:30 **Data and Evaluation: A Match Made in Policy Heaven**

Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP, Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury

11:30–12:30 **SESSION 2: Government Data to Inform Policy and Practice**

FACILITATOR: **Wojtek Tomaszewski**, The University of Queensland and Life Course Centre

Gayle Milnes, National Data Commissioner, Office of the National Data Commissioner

Toby Hall, Director, Insights and Customer Outcomes, NSW Better Outcomes Lab, Customer, Delivery and Transformation, NSW Department of Customer Service

Merran Butler, Director, Statistical Analysis, Data Governance and Research, Family and Community Services Insights, Analysis and Research, NSW Department of Communities and Justice

Kate Miller, Coordinator Science and Partnerships, Population Health Research Network

12:30–13:30 Group photo followed by Lunch Break

13:30–14:30 **SESSION 3: NGO Program Data for Evaluation**

FACILITATOR: **Simon Smith**, The University of Queensland and Life Course Centre

Marion Bennett, Executive, Practice, Evidence and Impact, Mission Australia

Myra Geddes, General Manager, Social Impact, Goodstart Early Learning

Marsha Reid, Outcomes Lead, Anglicare WA

Anne Hampshire, Head of Research and Advocacy, The Smith Family

14:30–15:30 **SESSION 4: Place-based Data Approaches**

FACILITATOR: **Mark Stevenson**, University of Melbourne and Life Course Centre

Tim Reddel, Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland

James Vecchio, Australian Government Department of Social Service

Bronwen Clark, Executive Officer, National Growth Areas Alliance

Kerry Nice and **Sachith Seneviratne**, University of Melbourne and Life Course Centre

15:30–16:00 Afternoon Tea Break

16:00–17:00 **SESSION 5: The Use of Data for Research**

FACILITATOR: **Steve Zubrick**, Telethon Kids Institute and Life Course Centre

Chris Hatherly, Chief Executive Officer, Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia

Deborah Cobb-Clark, The University of Sydney and Life Course Centre

Sharon Stuart, Branch Manager, Data Strategy Branch, Data and Evaluation Group,
Australian Government Department of Social Services

Mark Western, The University of Queensland and Life Course Centre

18:30 Dinner Event

Day Two

Wednesday 16 August 2023

08:30–09:00 **Arrival and Seating**

09:00–09:30 **Welcome**

Janeen Baxter, Director, Life Course Centre

Opening Speaker

Travers McLeod, Chief Executive Officer, Brotherhood of St Laurence

09:30–10:30 **SESSION 6: Closing the Gap**

FACILITATOR: **Sangeetha Chandrashekeran**, University of Melbourne and Life Course Centre

Sharif Deen, Head of Secretariat for the NSW Coalition of Peak Organisations

Catherine Andersson, Assistant Commissioner, Closing the Gap Review and Reporting Group, Productivity Commission

Jessica Hartmann, Branch Manager, Evaluation Branch, Empowerment and Recognition Group, National Indigenous Australians Agency

Abdullah Mamun, The University of Queensland and Life Course Centre

10:30–11:00 **Morning Tea Break**

11:00–12:30 **SESSION 7: Early Years Investments**

FACILITATOR: **Hayley Christian**, Telethon Kids Institute and Life Course Centre

Myra Geddes, General Manager, Social Impact, Goodstart Early Learning

Rhyan Bloor, Assistant Secretary, Data and Delivery Support Branch, Early Childhood and Youth Group, Australian Government Department of Education

Juan Larrañaga, Policy and Portfolio Manager, Minderoo Foundation

Keisi Cheung, Manager, Data Strategy, Data, Analytics and Performance, Early Childhood Outcomes, NSW Department of Education

Sharon Goldfeld, Murdoch Children's Research Institute and Life Course Centre

12:30–13:30 Lunch Break

13:30–14:30 **SESSION 8: Housing and Homelessness**

FACILITATOR: **Stephen Whelan**, The University of Sydney and Life Course Centre

Gabrielle Phillips, Senior Executive, Housing and Specialised Services Group,
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Rachel Christie, National Manager, MA Centre for Evidence and Insights, Mission
Australia

Mathew Ling, Research and Evaluation Lead, Neami National

Caroline Speed, National Research and Policy Lead, National Growth Areas Alliance

14:30–16:00 **SESSION 9: Disability**

FACILITATOR: **Nick Glozier**, The University of Sydney and Life Course Centre

Jennifer Poehl, Director, Data and Reporting, Australia's Disability Strategy,
Australian Government Department of Social Services

Natasha Shahidullah, Acting Branch Manager, NDIS Finance and Performance,
Australian Government Department of Social Services

Paul Hardcastle, Executive Director, National Disability Data Asset, Australian
Government Department of Social Services

Louise York, Group Head, Community Services Group, Australian Institute of
Health and Welfare

Suzanne Poynton, Director, Research and Evaluation, NSW Government Bureau
of Crime Statistics and Research

16:00 **Summit Wrap-up and Close**

Janeen Baxter, Director, Life Course Centre

Afternoon Tea and Opportunity for Informal Discussion

Notes and contacts

The Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course (Life Course Centre) is administered by The University of Queensland and has nodes at The University of Western Australia, The University of Melbourne and The University of Sydney.



Australian Government
Australian Research Council



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