

NATIONAL NFP SUMMIT 2026

THE SECTOR THAT SUSTAINS AUSTRALIA: THE WAY FORWARD ↗



➔ 2026 Program & Lineup

Welcome to Country



Keynote Address

National Perspective on the Role of NFP Sector in Productivity, Reform & Australia's Future

The Hon. Dr Andrew Leigh MP

Assistant Minister for Productivity, Competition, Charities and Treasury



Is the NFP Blueprint a Breakthrough?

Rob Sturrock, Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS)

In 2022, the Federal Government asked the NFP sector to develop a 10-year roadmap for its own future. After almost two years of intense work and consultation, the Not-for-Profit Sector Development Blueprint was officially presented to the government in 2024. But what has happened since then? In this session, Rob will explore the Blueprint as an organising framework for systemic reform and sector transformation. Rob will argue that the Blueprint is in fact not just sitting on a shelf, but a plan in motion within both sector and government, and with all NFP acting as its custodians.



The "F-Word": Funding Reform that Matches Reality

A/Prof Rick Macourt, First Nations Economics

This session will unpack how current funding approaches can unintentionally reproduce the very inequities they aim to address, grounded in radical honesty, cultural insight and sharp humour. It will also explore what genuine reform could look like: long-term investment, trust-based partnerships, community-led decision-making, and funding models grounded in self-determination, cultural authority and shared accountability.



Inaugural National Not For Profit Oration

Violet Roumeliotis AM & GAICD

The inaugural Oration offers a broader reflection on leadership, legacy and to elevate the national conversation about the NFP sector beyond questions of funding or policy to recognise the deeper role the sector plays in Australia's civic and social life. The Oration creates space to step back and consider the bigger picture and reflect on the place of community leadership in the Australian story.



The Future Speaks: Insights from the NextGen Leadership Assembly

Satara Uthayakumaran & NextGen Leaders

The day before the Summit, a group of emerging leaders will gather for the Next Generation Leadership Assembly to explore the future of Australia's human and social services sector. This session brings their voices and living experience into the room. Expect honest reflections, fresh thinking and a glimpse into how the next generation sees the opportunities, risks and responsibilities facing our sector.



The "C-Word" Reclaimed: Collaboration as Strategy

Maria Dimopoulos AM, Settlement Council of Australia

Lasting social change is built through connected ecosystems rather than isolated interventions. This session explores how collaboration, grounded in intersectionality, shared power and social justice, can transform fragmented responses into collective influence, shaping policy, strengthening communities and delivering systems change that no single organisation can achieve alone.



COL-LAB: The Collaboration Accelerator

Amplify Alliance Australia

The Collaboration Accelerator (COL-LAB) session will harvest and distil the Summit's collective learning on how the NFP sector can keep reshaping the system. Together, we will create a concrete sector agenda for support, infrastructure and collaborations that Amplify Alliance and delegates can legitimately champion, because it has been co-distilled rather than invented in isolation.



BEN VASILIOU

MC



DEBRA CERASA

CEO, Amplify Alliance Australia



CARMEL CROUCH

Chair, Amplify Alliance Australia