

1 Strategic vision



An inclusive ACT and region where no one lives in poverty.

2 Our values



- All people are treated with dignity and respect,
- The full realisation of human rights,
- Diversity and inclusion,
- Self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples,
- Inclusion of people experiencing disadvantage,
- A just and sustainable future for all.

3 Our purpose



- To influence Government policies to end poverty, discrimination and exclusion in the ACT,
- To create a trusted collective and inclusive voice, advocating for positive social and system change,
- To support and work with the community sector and ensure it has adequate resources and capacity,
- To walk alongside Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community organisations, communities and individuals to work towards the achievement of sovereignty, justice and self-determination for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

4 Strategic objectives



Objective one: Improved income, wellbeing, equity and inclusion outcomes for people in the ACT and region who are marginalised

- Prioritisation of equity by ACT government in service delivery and policy implementation,
- Improved housing outcomes,
- Fairer social security and financial assistance systems,
- A just transition to net zero emissions that reduces inequality and disadvantage and leaves no-one behind.

Objective two: A sustainable and empowered ACT community sector

- Funding that allows ACT community sector organisations to meet diverse community needs,
- Supporting innovation to grow and maintain a high-quality community sector workforce and investment to provide decent wages and conditions for workers,
- Increased cultural competency among all ACT community sector organisations,
- Improved and expanded community facilities.

Objective three: A well-governed, representative and effective ACTCOSS

- Strong recognition and leadership across ACT community on social justice issues,
- Values aligned with members,
- Relationships based on trust, transparency and collaboration,
- Clear and effective governance and operational systems,
- Active participation with, and influence in, the COSS network.

5 Principles for guiding decision making



Priority is given to:

- Positions rooted in human rights principles,
- Evidence informed positions,
- Positions that directly contribute to self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples,
- Positions focused on early prevention,
- Social justice in public policy design, delivery, and evaluation of outcomes,
- Positions reflecting broad consultation and collaboration with members and stakeholders,
- Systemic social justice issues where voices have been marginalised and need support to be amplified.