

LAURA CLARKSON

Walking alongside people in struggle



Social change catalyst guiding vulnerable people to build their resilience in the face of crisis. A vivacious Social Worker blending trauma-informed care with strength-based strategies to better manage complex day-to-day living. An intuitive communicator fostering a sacred environment where individuals feel psychologically and physically safe, cared for, and supported. Celebrated for ushering individuals and families to set in motion lasting, positive change.

SOCIAL IMPACT AT A GLANCE

5 Years

Palliative Care, Mental Health & Social Work Practices

500+ Clients

Guided in making lasting, positive change

Specialised Expertise

Homelessness & Community Outreach

AREA OF EXPERTISE

- Social Work Case Management
- Solution-Focused Perspective
- Client Engagement
- Social Inclusion Initiatives
- Case Review and Conferences
- Psychosocial Assessment
- Strengths-Based Practices
- Trauma Informed Care
- Multidisciplinary Casework

QUALIFICATIONS

- Master of Social Work** • Griffith University 2014
- Bachelor of Applied Social Science** • Australian College of Applied Psychology 2012

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

- Member** • Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW)

PROFESSIONAL TRAJECTORY

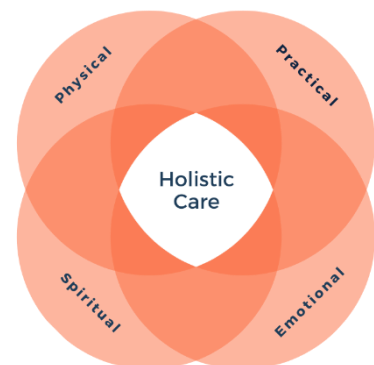
Palliative Carer & Advocate | Self Employed

Jul 2020 - Present

Scope: In-Home Primary Carer

Shaped end of life and palliative care of a loved one living with brain cancer. Coordinated around-the-clock symptom management, emotional, spiritual, and practical support to enhance life quality and comfort. Instrumental in bridging the gap between hospital discharge, ongoing care, and community connectedness.

- **Secured the first palliative care bathroom in Australia** by breaking the bias against life-limiting illness.
- **Guided three adolescent children through dark times** by prioritising self-care and healthy boundaries.
- **Developed an advanced care plan**, carefully articulating wishes for care, dignity, and independence.
- **Built a supportive network**, uncovering end of life planning practices and legal considerations.
- **Advocated for families** experiencing cancer to gain better access to NDIS funding and support.



Case Manager | Company Name

Oct 2015 – Jul 2020

Scope: Specialist Homelessness Service • 15 On-Site Caseload • 10 Community Houses • 5 Outreach Support

Recruited to tackle homelessness within a crisis accommodation service. Orchestrated best practice case management for women aged 18 to 92 years through assessment, outreach, and engagement. Instrumental in partnering with clients to develop their capacity to live, act independently, and connect with community.

- **Spearheaded critical incident response** to suicide, violence and assault, ensuring safety of women and children, precision risk management system recording, and reporting to service agencies.
- **Delivered better care outcomes for over 200 clients** by collaborating with social workers, community organisations, allied health providers and service agencies.
- **Fostered a supportive culture** by guiding twenty employees to apply theory to practice through engaging inductions, personalised training, plan reviews, and critical incident debriefing sessions.
- **Developed a comprehensive resource system in 3 months** through observation of case worker rhythms and evaluation of existing operations and processes.

Homelessness Phone Support | Company Name

Apr 2015 – Oct 2015

Scope: Homelessness Triage Service • 100 Client Interactions Per Week

Scouted to prioritise and match vulnerable people to housing and support services. Facilitated engaging phone support enabling adults and families to access accommodation, case management services, advocacy, and connection with specialist services. Instrumental in giving hundreds of people a brighter future.

- **Responded to a high call volume**, recommending services reflective of person-centred practices.
- **Recognised for exceptional leadership**, seconded to a Program Coordinator role within the first 39 days.
- **Enhanced compliance rating by 22%** through accurate maintenance of the client management system.
- **Led a men’s refuge program**, creatively engaging with thirty clients through immersive experiences.

INDUSTRY LICENCES & CERTIFICATES

Working with Children Check

First Aid Certification with CPR

National Police Check

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Policy Development & Process Optimisation Lead • Company

2022 – Present

Bridging the gap between program development and community participation.

Pastoral Care • Company

2000 – Present

Facilitating emotional, social and spiritual support across Gold Coast religious communities.

EARLY CAREER SUCCESS

Company Director • Company

2007 – 2014

Accelerated property sales by 125% in 12 months by building a playbook for repeatable growth.

Director • Company

2000 – 2005

Founded a talent marketing service to amplify the personal brands of fifty aspiring actors.

Actress • Company

1996 - 2005

Unleashed imagination and curiosity in diverse settings, including theatre and short films.

Resume Strategy

Laura engaged me to assist with her return to the workforce after providing end of life care for her husband. Laura desired a new career opportunity where she could make a positive impact in the community, either as a social worker, palliative carer, or social change advocate. Initially, Laura was concerned that employers wouldn't consider her due to the two-year absence from the workforce.

My goal was to create a resume that highlighted the fearless and amazing things Laura accomplished while caring for her husband. I also wanted to give readers a taste for her diverse early career experiences as well as her voluntary contributions within the local community.

Colour Scheme: Based on colour psychology, I chose a navy and orange colour scheme to evoke feelings of purpose, trust and optimism.

Resume Header: Personal brand tagline developed to illustrate Laura's innate gifts of walking alongside people in struggle.

Diagram: The Venn diagram represents Laura's holistic approach to her husband's palliative care – practical, physical, spiritual and emotional.

Language: Australian English

Document Size: A4