

Information for applicants for Community Leader L'Arche Brisbane

Salary: SCHADS Award 6.1 negotiable on experience and qualifications (plus Super 9.5% and 4 weeks leave loading)

L'Arche Australia supports local Communities to live the Identity and Mission of L'Arche. At L'Arche we celebrate people with intellectual disabilities and build circles of support that enable people to fully live their lives. We go beyond supporting people's basic needs. It is this focus on building relationships and cultivating a sense of belonging that makes us different than other models of support. L'Arche communities hold in balance four elements:

1. Community
2. Service.
3. Spirituality.
4. Outreach.

Our 55-plus years of experience has shown L'Arche that each element has an important role to play. L'Arche Communities are connected through L'Arche Australia to the International Federation of L'Arche around the world who share this common philosophy and approach while reflecting and celebrating the ethnic, cultural and religious composition of the areas in which they exist.

The Brisbane Community: L'Arche Brisbane was founded on the 17th March, 2003

The community includes two supported households in the suburbs of Carina and Morningside. Community members have connections to a variety of religious and social networks across Brisbane. We are committed to living the L'Arche Identity and Mission journey together. In Brisbane we are living L'Arche in shared living, inviting people to spaces of hospitality and creating places of belonging for people who live in their own tenancies:

- We also create “houses of welcome”. In these spaces we welcome people for a coffee, a meal or stay the day to work together or for a few nights.
- We go to people's homes to spend time with them when there is a need or sometimes just for fun!
- The whole Community usually gathers monthly when we celebrate, pray, sing and reflect on our experience of life. At other times, we celebrate our togetherness with a shared meal, social outings and birthdays.
- Once a year, we have a weekend away to a place of beauty. This allows us to spend more time with each other and to work on our relationships with each other.
- Smaller clusters within the Community share holidays or go on Pilgrimage with other members of L'Arche Australia (see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H73vVYqcQI4>)
- We are particularly connected with the families of the people with intellectual disability in our Community. We recognize that ageing parents and siblings who are supporting and loving their sons, daughters or family member with an intellectual disability often live a hidden life of anxiety and exhaustion. We are committed to building relationships with the families of our members with intellectual disability.

- We are supporting our members with intellectual disability to connect with services that enable them to have a good life.
- In addition to maintaining our current community, we are working towards having some more of our members with intellectual disability come and live with us.

Current goals

The Community has a current Mandate 2020-2024. These are:

Go Deeper (Healing) – Claim and integrate our core values

Go Out (Re-grouping) – Engage with people, other groups, communities and society

Go In – Improve our well-being and our Federation.

The Position Description indicates the following points:

- Acknowledge the Community as one of faith, welcoming people of all faiths, provide leadership to fellow community members and people in paid roles, in fulfilling the L’Arche Identity & Mission while adhering to its Charter and values.
- Develop and implement innovative programs to enhance Community life.
- Develop and manage the delivery of high-quality disability support services to core members and their families in line with the requirements of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
- Coordinate and facilitate community gatherings and attract people to join the Community.
- Structure workload responsibilities and duties to incorporate a rhythm of life that builds your community member relationships through an active presence in households.
- Under the broad direction of the Board, ensure the efficiency and viability of the organisation, and in particular:
 - Support the Board in developing and implementing the strategic plan,
 - Develop, implement and report on the business plan and budget approved by the Board,
 - Support the community to develop the Community Mandate,
 - Lead and support staff in delivering programs and activities, and in participating in the life of the community.
- Work with the Deputy National Leader, Community Council and members of other L’Arche communities to support the growth of community and spiritual life in L’Arche more broadly.
- Ensure that all Community’s activities comply with L’Arche rules, policies and procedures and with the law.
- Undertake other activities to advance L’Arche’s Identity and Mission, at the request of the Board.

Personal attributes. The Community Leader will:

- Possess high ethical standards, are trustworthy and maintain confidentiality.
- Have a commitment to building connections with people with and without an intellectual disability.
- Demonstrate diligence and self-motivated.
- Work flexible hours

Application process: Please provide a:

- CV (must include full employment history, education, qualifications).
- Covering letter addressing the Desirable Qualities selection criteria

Due date: 5pm AEST, Wednesday 28th July, 2021. Email applications to Claire Lawler, Deputy National Leader, L'Arche Australia at: deputy@larche.org.au. The L'Arche Brisbane Discernment team will consider all nominations and applications and shortlisted applications will be interviewed with final approval made by the Board of Directors

