

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position title	Board Director		
Employment status	Volunteer	Commitment	3-5 Hours Per Month. Board meetings are currently held on Wednesdays every 2 nd month.
Salary	N/A		
Reports to:	Chair, StreetSmart Australia Board		
Location:	Melbourne, Australia or Remote		

Overview

The Directors of StreetSmart Australia are collectively responsible for the governance and strategic direction of the organisation. As a member of the Board, you will provide stewardship, oversight, and advice to help ensure the organisation remains mission-aligned, financially sustainable, and compliant with its legal and ethical obligations.

StreetSmart is governed by a skills-based Board committed to strong financial stewardship, social justice, and practical support of a small and dedicated team. As a grant-making and community-focused organisation, our Board Directors plays a vital strategic role in ensuring sustainability, integrity, and impact.

Key responsibilities:

Governance & Compliance	• Ensure the organisation complies with statutory and regulatory obligations, including those related to ACNC registration, Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status, and charitable fundraising laws. • Contribute to effective governance practices, including Board evaluation, risk management, and financial oversight.
Strategic Oversight	• Contribute to the development and monitoring of StreetSmart's strategic plan, ensuring alignment with mission, values, and community impact goals. • Identify emerging risks, opportunities, or trends in the external environment and bring insights from your sector or lived experience. • Support the CEO and staff in navigating key strategic decisions, including those related to growth, impact, and sustainability.
Financial Stewardship	• Oversee financial reporting and performance at a governance level, ensuring that funds are used effectively and transparently. • Review and approve annual budgets, audited financial statements, and major investments or financial commitments.
Fundraising & Thought Leadership	• Champion StreetSmart's mission and campaigns within your networks and communities – especially with potential partners, philanthropy and the wider public. • Where appropriate, support the organisation's fundraising efforts through introductions, storytelling, thought leadership, or participation in events and campaigns. • Uphold our advocacy and thought leadership goals by promoting awareness of the structural drivers of homelessness and housing insecurity.

Community Connection and Impact

- Provide insight into the needs, voices, and priorities of communities affected by homelessness, either through personal experience or sector knowledge.
- Ensure that the organisation's approach to grantmaking is equitable, community-informed, and aligned to impact.
- Respect and centre the voices of lived experience in decision-making and program strategy, such as grant-making and campaign development

General Support

- Serve as a strategic partner to the CEO in areas of expertise and provide occasional hands-on support if needed
- Support internal capacity-building in areas of expertise, if required (e.g. technology and data, digital activity, marketing, fundraising, sector engagement, government engagement, legal and people matters)

Attributes and Selection Criteria

- **Mission and Values Alignment:** Deep commitment to the mission of StreetSmart Australia and our values of equity, community, and innovation. A passion for social justice and community-led impact.
- **Strategic Leadership:** Experience in organisational strategy, planning, or governance. Ability to think long-term, assess external trends, and help guide strategic priorities in a small, impact-focused organisation.
- **Fundraising and Marketing:** Understanding of fundraising, partnerships, or philanthropic giving and the role of marketing/digital activity to support this work. Willingness to support fundraising and marketing activity through networks, introductions, storytelling, or campaign participation.
- **Community Development or Social Impact:** Experience in grassroots or place-based initiatives, social services, or housing/homelessness programs.
- **Lived Experience or Sector Insight:** Personal experience of homelessness, housing insecurity, or systemic disadvantage is warmly welcomed and supported. Alternatively, experience working within the housing, homelessness, or social services sector.
- **Grantmaking or Impact Measurement:** Understanding of grantmaking principles or philanthropic program delivery, including assessing community need, strategic fit, and measurable impact.
- **Risk and Governance Awareness:** Familiarity with not-for-profit governance responsibilities and risk management. Experience on Boards or committees is desirable, especially within small-to-medium organisations.
- **Financial or Business Acumen:** Experience or literacy in financial management, budgeting, or business planning—particularly useful in strategic discussions and decision-making.
- **Not-for-Profit Sector Experience:** Experience working in or supporting not-for-profit or community organisations, especially those with lean teams or grassroots funding models.
- **Collaboration and Communication:** High ethical standards, sound judgment, and the ability to contribute respectfully and constructively to Board discussions. Comfortable working with diverse perspectives and supporting the CEO and team.

StreetSmart Australia is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ people, people with lived experience, and culturally and linguistically diverse people are strongly encouraged to apply. We are happy to adjust our recruitment process to support accessibility needs.

Last updated July 2025