[Phone: 0434 962 465] | [Email: leonie@brenleealliedsupport.com.au]

Professional Profile

Australian First Nations Mental Health Accredited Social Worker with extensive experience across government, non-government, and private practice. Skilled in governance, strategic leadership, and advocacy, with a proven record of representing members as President of the AASW Queensland Branch Management Committee (2022–2024). Brings a strong generalist practice background spanning child protection, Indigenous affairs, disability, family law, mental health, and community services. Committed to transparency, accountability, and ensuring member voices are at the centre of decision-making.

Governance and Leadership Experience

President, Queensland Branch Management Committee (BMC), AASW

Nov 2022 - Oct 2024

- Provided governance oversight and leadership for the Queensland Branch.
- Championed member engagement, transparency, and representation.
- Advocated for Branch input into state and national policy, ensuring members' voices were heard on key professional issues.
- Strengthened governance practices through accountability, consultation, and ethical leadership.

Panel Family Consultant, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

Current – Self-employed in private practice

• Appointed to prepare Family Reports for the Court, requiring impartiality, professional ethics, and governance of sensitive processes.

Professional Experience

Private Practice – Principal Social Worker

Current

- Provides counselling, psychometric assessments, supervised contact services, and family support.
- Delivers independent social work services across disability, mental health, education, housing, homelessness, and family law.

Federal Government - Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet (Indigenous Affairs)

- Coordinated programs and initiatives supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Contributed to policy development and cross-agency governance processes.

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NDIS - Rural and Remote Local Area Coordinator

- Supported individuals and families in accessing and navigating NDIS services.
- Ensured inclusive and culturally responsive service delivery.

Child Protection Roles - Queensland & New South Wales

- Undertook statutory child protection work across two states.
- Gained expertise in safeguarding, risk assessment, and inter-agency governance.

NGOs - Mission Australia; Mercy Family Services

- Delivered generalist social work services in diverse community settings.
- Advocated for families experiencing disadvantage and vulnerability.

Key Skills and Competencies

- **Governance & Accountability:** Experienced in Board-level governance, policy oversight, and ethical stewardship.
- **Strategic Leadership:** Ability to set long-term vision while addressing immediate member and community needs.
- **Advocacy & Policy Development:** Strong background in influencing state and national policy across child protection, education, health, disability, and justice.
- **Member Engagement:** Committed to building inclusive, responsive, and transparent processes.
- Cultural Awareness & First Nations Leadership: Grounded in lived experience as a First Nations woman, dedicated to truth, respect, and reconciliation.
- Generalist Practice Expertise: Skilled across disability, mental health, housing, family law, and community wellbeing.

Education & Accreditation

- Accredited Mental Health Social Worker (AASW)
- Graduate Diploma in Counselling]
- Bachelor of Social Work

Professional Affiliations

- Indigenous Allied Health Australia Member
- National Disability Practitioners Member
- Child Protection Practitioners of Queensland Member
- Pacifica Congress (Family Law Association) Member