

ECO-JUSTICE ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY OFFICER

About Jesuit Social Services

Jesuit Social Services is a social change organisation working to build a just society where all people can live to their full potential. We do and we influence. We accompany people and communities to foster and regenerate the web of relationships that sustain us all – across people, place and planet; and we work to change policies, practices, ideas and values that perpetuate inequality, prejudice and exclusion.

Our Vision

Building a Just Society

Our Mission

Standing in solidarity with those in need, expressing a faith that promotes justice.

Our Values

- Welcoming – forming strong, faithful relationships
- Discerning – being reflective and strategic in all we do
- Courageous – standing up boldly to effect change

Our Purpose

We work to build a just society where all people can live to their full potential – by partnering with community to support those most in need and working to change policies, practices, ideas and values that perpetuate inequality, prejudice and exclusion.

Position details

POSITION TITLE:	Eco-Justice Engagement and Advocacy Officer
PROGRAM:	Office of the CEO
LOCATION:	Based in inner city Melbourne with travel as required
REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:	This position reports to the CEO Jesuit Social Services. This position doesn't have any direct reports
EFFECTIVE DATE:	November 2025

Position Purpose |

- Support JCAP Ecology Convenor and Ecological Delegates and ministries to drive and expand initiatives that advance climate and ecological justice efforts
- Advance ecological justice by driving/supporting strategic advocacy through participating in alliances and fostering collaboration across the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific (JCAP) aligned with global Jesuit priorities
- Champion inclusion by amplifying marginalized voices in shaping ecological responses |

Program Purpose

Eco-Justice Advocacy and Engagement

Jesuit Social Services is a Social Ministry within the Australian Province of the Society of Jesus. The Australian Province is part of the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific (JCAP), one of six regional conferences (geographical areas) that make up the global Jesuit network. The CEO of Jesuit Social Services is, currently, Secretary for Social Ministries for JCAP.

At the global, Conference and Province levels, ecological justice is a priority. This new role, working across JCAP to advance this priority, is situated in Jesuit Social Services which has a long history supporting marginalized communities – those most affected by social and ecological harm – and fifteen years deepening ecological justice practice including:

- Groundbreaking research through the *Dropping off the Edge* series (mapping local disadvantage across Australia and the intersection of social and environmental injustice)
- Establishment of the Centre for Just Places and its work with local communities and governments on integral ecology and responses to climate change
- Embedding ecological justice across all of Jesuit Social Services activities from eco-conversion, program responses and advocacy through to business processes
- Active participation in the Global Ignatian Advocacy Network since 2008 and, over the past year, the Jesuits for Climate Justice campaign.

This newly established position will work specifically to advance ecological practices and advocacy across JCAP and will sit within and be supported by the Jesuit Social Services team that works on ecological and climate justice locally. The role will report to Jesuit Social Services CEO/Secretary for JCAP Social Ministries.

Duties of the position |

Work with the JCAP Convenor for Ecology and Province Ecology Delegates across JCAP to support, elevate and coordinate, where appropriate, eco-justice advocacy efforts across JCAP ensuring the voices of marginalized communities are heard

Work with and support the JCAP Convenor for Ecology and Province Ecology Delegates to advance eco-justice initiatives by increasing awareness of local issues, linking activity to global Jesuit priorities, and promoting positive achievements

Build alliances within the Church, with other faith-based organizations and civil society across JCAP to strengthen ecological justice initiatives through collaboration and fostering communities of justice

Work with and support the JCAP Convenor for Ecology and Province Ecology Delegates to lead advocacy campaigns and initiatives to influence public discourse and policy on ecological justice

Work with JCAP communications team, and collaborate with Jesuit Social Services Ecological Justice team, to develop media releases, educational materials and policy submissions that support ecological justice work across JCAP

Work with and support the JCAP Convenor for Ecology and Province Ecology Delegates to ensure the voices of the marginalized across the Asia-Pacific are incorporated into global climate forums including COP31

Maintain open communication and collaborate with the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat in Rome and staff involved in the Jesuits for Climate Justice campaign

Key Selection Criteria

1. Tertiary qualification/s in a relevant field and/or demonstrated experience in advocacy and practice in contexts addressing ecological/environmental/eco-social justice
2. Strong ability to build networks and partnerships across diverse stakeholders, including faith-based and civil society organisations
3. Excellent communication and strategic engagement skills, with experience in campaign development and public influencing
4. Sound knowledge of contemporary policy and practice in relation to climate change, ecological justice and integral ecology principles, and their intersection with social justice
5. Proven capacity to work collaboratively across international networks and manage complex, multi-stakeholder projects
6. Ability to conduct oneself and undertake role responsibilities in a way which reflects and upholds the organisation's identity and ethos (as encapsulated in our purpose, vision, mission and values).
7. Capacity to engage in reflective processes that are aimed at strengthening and deepening a collective commitment to the organisation's identity and ethos.

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number and quality of advocacy initiatives and that impact on public discourse
2. Increase in eco-justice initiatives across JCAP that are clearly linked to global Jesuit priorities and visible across the global networks
3. Strengthened and new partnerships and alliances across JCAP, the broader Church and civil society organisations
4. Delivery of high-quality communications, including media releases, policy submissions and educational campaigns
5. Increase visibility and engagement of marginalized voices in ecological justice conversations at the local, regional and international levels.

Key responsibilities of Jesuit Social Services Employees

Our organisational identity and ethos:

The work of Jesuit Social Services is informed by Catholic Social Teaching and our Jesuit tradition of respecting the preciousness of each human being, walking with the disregarded, and caring for the earth.

All employees are responsible for:

Demonstrating an understanding of, and a capacity to uphold Jesuit Social Services' organisational identity and ethos (as encapsulated in our purpose, vision, mission and values) in the execution of their role responsibilities.

Service delivery/ Practice Framework

- Engage and build positive and constructive relationships with internal and external stakeholders and program participants
- Deliver services consistent with program guidelines, relevant legislation and funding agreements
- Communicate clearly with others
- Manage competing priorities in a high-volume work environment
- Fulfil the reporting and administrative requirements associated with the position
- Other duties as required.

Team work and supervision

- Work effectively as part of a team, contributing to group outputs and reflective practice
- Actively participate in regular supervision with the line manager, staff meetings and professional development opportunities.

Continuous Improvement and Professional Standards

- Demonstrate a commitment to own learning and development
- Commitment to risk management and continuous quality improvement processes
- Compliance with relevant legislation, Code of Conduct, policies and procedures of Jesuit Social Services

Diversity and Inclusion

- Demonstrate respect and acceptance of diversity at all times and provide culturally appropriate support to all including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and those who identify as LGBTQIA+
- Interact with staff, participants and other stakeholders in a manner that is inclusive, respectful and non-discriminatory

Mandatory Position Requirements

- Current National and International (where required) Police Check
- Current Employee Working with Children Check
- Proof of eligibility to work in Australia

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Jesuit Social Services takes child protection seriously; we undertake a range of checks and processes to ensure safeguarding of children, and you are required to meet the behavior standard outlined in our Code of Conduct.

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment are in accordance with the current Jesuit Social Services Collective Agreement and Jesuit Social Services Policy & Procedures, including the Code of Conduct.

There will be a requirement for some flexible hours of work to connect online with staff across the Asia Pacific region. Some international travel may also be required.

Employee Acknowledgement

I, _____ (please print name) acknowledge that I have read and understood the contents of this position description.

Employee Signature:

Date:

Position Description Approved by:

CEO

Position Description Review Date:

November 2027