


The logo for Foyer Foundation, featuring the word "foyer" in red and "foundation" in grey, with a cluster of red dots of varying sizes to the right.

foyerfoundation

Are you the
Government
Relations and
Advocacy Lead
we're looking for?

A young man with glasses and a denim jacket with a white shearling collar is making a peace sign. He is wearing a lanyard that says "THE EQUALITY PROJECT". The background is a purple wall with the text "welcome to BETTER TOGETHER" and a rainbow flag graphic. A sign in the background says "spread." and "1.0".

welcome to

BETTER
TOGETHER

August 2023

Government Relations and Advocacy Lead

Role summary

We want a future where young people are seen for their talents and are empowered to realise their ambitions, no matter what challenges they face in life.

We're in an exciting phase of growth in the Foyer movement across Australia, moving from 11 to 50 Youth Foyers by 2030.

The purpose of this role is to lead our government relations and advocacy efforts to grow the support for and investment in Youth Foyers, so that more young people can thrive.

We're looking for someone who can build strong and credible relationships with both Federal and State levels of governments and convene state-based advocacy efforts that bring together young people, service providers, and potential investors.

You will drive the development of our government relations and advocacy strategy, identifying key stakeholders, tactics and milestones. You enjoy being in the detail, crafting policy and budget submissions and analysing the political and policy landscape. You are someone who can organise people and organisations to advocate with a shared strategy and consistent messages for greater impact.

This role spans our government and advocacy efforts with the Federal Government and State and Territory Governments, with 50% of the role focused on Queensland given current demand for more Foyers in this jurisdiction.

The Government Relations and Advocacy Lead role is:

- 0.8 FTE, 12 month contract *(with opportunity to extend)*
- \$130-\$150k pro rata (negotiable based on experience) + superannuation + salary packaging
- Queensland-based *(NSW candidates will be considered if they have a depth of Qld experience)*
- Reports to the CEO
- Travel will be required
- Flexible/remote work practices supported
- Works closely with Director of Innovation and Design, Communications Manager and FoyerInvest partners and funders

About us



We empower young people who experience crisis to unlock thriving futures.

Through the Youth Foyer approach, 16-24 year olds at risk of or experiencing homelessness are provided with a safe and stable home for up to two years, with integrated learning and work supports.

Youth Foyers are more than a solution to homelessness. During a critical transition point in a young person's life, Foyers give residents the opportunity to take charge of their futures, achieve independence and realise their aspirations in learning, work and life.

There are 11 accredited Youth Foyers in Australia today. We have a bold ambition for 50 Youth Foyers by 2030 with over 37 communities working hard to establish new Youth Foyers right now.

The Foyer Foundation enables the Youth Foyer movement in Australia to grow its reach and impact. We are a non-profit organisation that brings together a diverse network of young people, Foyer operators, service providers, philanthropists, government and business partners to unlock thriving futures for more young people in Australia.



Under One Roof is our national campaign to grow the Foyer movement in Australia.

We are evolving our core operations to support this growth and enable collaboration across the Youth Foyer network. The Foyer Foundation is a small and multi-skilled core team at the heart of a national network of collaborators, investors, contractors and service providers.

We believe in the talents and potential of every young person, creating the space for young people to lead and champion the change they want in their communities and across Australia.

The national role we play is focused on:

- Growing the **impact** of the Youth Foyer movement by enabling communities to establish high quality Youth Foyers, supporting Foyer learning and development, and building the national evidence base
- Upholding the **integrity** of the Youth Foyer model through a robust accreditation process
- Enabling **innovation** in the Youth Foyer approach
- Building the case for **investment** in Foyers at scale and channeling funding towards communities and young people living in Youth Foyers.
- Centring **young people at the heart** of our operations, strategy and decision-making through intergenerational leadership and elevating their voices



What we are
looking for



Your key responsibilities

1. Strategy, planning and execution

- Work with key team members and our partners to develop advocacy strategies and execution plans, employing strong project management skills to deliver
- Ensure FoyerInvest and key partners are aligned and equipped with what they need to deliver on strategy and key milestones in a collaborative way
- Work with Director/CEO to establish government relations and advocacy budget and implement processes to manage activities within budget
- Contribute to National FoyerInvest and Foyer Foundation strategy planning and workshops

2. Government Relations

- Develop and maintain relationships with Government stakeholders, including monitoring and managing the relationships and communications and representing the organisation as required
- Provide strategic advice on government relations strategies and responses to federal and state and territory government policies, initiatives and political agendas, supporting CEO and key partners to engage government as such
- Identify and map key stakeholders within Federal and priority states/territories, maintaining a database of key stakeholders and contacts
- Manage key government visits by the CEO and other key partners or Foyer network representatives
- Facilitate the co-development of key submissions and responses to government such as upcoming State and Federal Budget Submissions and the National Housing and Homelessness Plan, taking a lead on policy writing and ensuring key partners and content experts are appropriately engaged
- Maintain the role of primary point of contact for Government, Ministerial and Parliamentary activities

3. Advocacy

- Develop and manage Foyer Foundation and FoyerInvest advocacy messaging in partnership with Director, Communications Manager and key partners, including writing key communication pieces including media releases, responses to government, submissions, reviews, inquiries and policy proposals.
- Research, develop and articulate a policy position for Foyer Foundation and FoyerInvest, and undertake research and networking to identify suitable opportunities to influence policy
- Develop plan for Foyer Foundation and FoyerInvest to promote Foyers, our evidence base and our advocacy strategy with Governments in the lead up to critical milestones such as budget and key policy decisions
- Work with Director of Innovation and Design to ensure young people are at the heart of our advocacy
- Build relationships within the youth and homelessness and housing sector to encourage other sector players to contribute to the advocacy agenda

4. Convening

- Convene and facilitate the FoyerInvest Queensland Working group, coordinating and facilitating meetings, supporting collaborative environment and establishing processes to enable objectives and execution of strategy
- Develop collateral to support the efforts of the QLD Working Group, and leverage these for other State working groups
- Support State/Territory working groups to convene and progress their state based strategy
- Ensure connection and alignment between States/territories and Federal government efforts

Key selection criteria

- 3+ years experience in Govt Relations and Advocacy roles
- 1+ years experience in leadership role in any sector
- Demonstrated understanding of the Australian Government and public policy landscape, and/or media
- Strong relationships and demonstrated experience working with Queensland Government
- Excellent written and verbal communication / presentation skills
- Proven ability to build strong relationships, manage multiple stakeholders and communicate effectively with diverse audiences - communities, corporates, philanthropists and government
- Strong facilitation and ability to establish effective collaboration dynamics in diverse groups
- Ability to work as part of a team whilst demonstrating autonomy and responsibility for individual priorities
- Ability to work at both strategic and operational levels, with excellent project management
- Strong digital capabilities

Additional requirements

- Police check
- Working with Children Check
- Candidates must be eligible to work in Australia

We strongly encourage Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples to apply.

The Foyer Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, age, citizenship, marital or family status, disability, gender identity or expression, veteran status or any other legally protected status. Please let us know if we can make the recruitment process more accessible to you.

Your mindset

- You believe every young person deserves a thriving future
- You respect and value the perspectives of young people who are at risk or have experienced homelessness, and are prepared to work effectively with young people and create the space for them to lead
- You respect and value First Nations peoples and culture, as a First Nations person and/or an ally
- You are comfortable in a complex environment, staying focused on outcomes and adapting your approach as needed
- You are collaborative, valuing and respecting relationships within our team and with our external partners
- You take initiative and solve problems
- You have a high attention to detail