



Lesley Chenoweth
and Daniela Stehlik

FACING THE
CHALLENGES OF SOCIAL
WORK IN AUSTRALIAN
RURAL AND REMOTE
COMMUNITIES

Juggling the demands of practice

Social Work Studies

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Facing the Challenges of Social Work in Australian Rural and Remote Communities: Juggling the demands of practice

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COLLECTION

Social Work Studies

EDITION

1st edition

MARKET

College/higher education
and Professional and
scholarly

This course reading...

- Emphasizes the concept of drawing on collective resilience and showcasing strength based practice.
- Offers increased confidence in a community-focused practice, implying that readers will gain practical insights and strategies.
- Highlights the specific challenges of social work in rural and remote communities.
- Ideal for educators and students in social work programs, disability studies, and social work practitioners.

How do social workers navigate the unique challenges of serving rural and remote communities?

Facing the Challenges of Social Work in Australian Rural and Remote Communities explores the unique experiences and obstacles of living and working in rural and remote areas of Australia. This book delves into the difficulties posed by long distances, limited services, and insufficient support for vulnerable people and families within government policies and services that are developed in urban contexts. Social workers in these areas face similar struggles in accessing services, compounded by recruitment and retention challenges, practice limitations, and ethical dilemmas as they navigate being both part of and outside the community.

Despite these challenges, small communities often demonstrate collective resilience during crises, such as natural disasters. This resilience provides opportunities for social workers to strengthen and build community capacity through a deeper appreciation of place, identity, and strengths-based practice. This book draws on decades of authors' experiences and first-hand accounts that promote strength-focused practices that go beyond enhancing resilience to fostering flourishing communities.

Ideal for educators and students in social work programs, disability studies, social work practitioners, community development programs, and rural and remote education courses.

Lesley Chenoweth, Professor Emeritus at Griffith University, a social work educator, researcher and policy activist in fields of disability, community development and collective impact. **Daniela Stehlik**, an experienced social scientist, explores sustainability, social cohesion, and women's energy in driving community flourishing in Australia.

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