

## Australian Psychological Society | Candidate Profile | 2026 Board of Directors Election

*All candidate information is supplied by the candidate*



**Name: William Campos**

**Candidacy: General Director, Division of Colleges, College of Clinical Psychologists**

### **CANDIDATE CAPABILITY RESPONSES**

#### **Demonstrated interest in working across various professions for the psychological health and wellbeing of the Australian community**

I have demonstrated a sustained commitment to improving psychological health and wellbeing across clinical, community, government, digital health and not-for-profit settings. As CEO of Independent Community Living Australia, I lead a NSW-based community organisation providing psychosocial disability, mental health, suicide prevention, homelessness, housing and lived experience workforce services across multiple locations. This role requires active collaboration with government departments, Local Health Districts, community managed organisations, peak bodies, clinicians, lived experience leaders and funders. My broader career has included senior leadership roles with NSW Health, WentWest Western Sydney Primary Health Network, Community Options Australia and the Transcultural Mental Health Centre, where I worked across primary care, acute and subacute mental health, refugee and asylum seeker support, commissioning, clinical governance and workforce development. Through this work, I have consistently sought to bridge professional disciplines and service systems to improve access, quality, integration and outcomes for individuals, families, carers and communities experiencing vulnerability.

#### **Extensive and current knowledge of, and good standing within, the APS and psychology**

My professional focus has consistently been on building partnerships across psychology, health, social care, disability, education, housing, digital health and community services. My LinkedIn profile describes my mission as developing proactive and innovative approaches to care that enhance the mental health and wellbeing of individuals, families, carers and communities in need. This interdisciplinary commitment is reflected in my work as a clinical psychologist, social researcher, CEO, non-executive director and adviser. I have worked with GPs, psychiatrists, allied health professionals, school principals, teachers, counsellors, government agencies, digital health experts, community organisations and lived experience representatives. I have also contributed to national and state mental health reform through advisory roles with the National Mental Health Commission, the NSW Mental Health Commission, the Australian Digital Health Agency and workforce-related reviews. These roles have strengthened my belief that psychology has an important leadership role in connecting disciplines, influencing systems and ensuring that psychological knowledge contributes meaningfully to the wellbeing of the Australian community.

**Demonstrated understanding of the role of a Non-Executive Director of a NFP company limited by guarantee**

I understand that a Non-Executive Director of a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee has a responsibility to act in the best interests of the organisation, exercise independent judgement, uphold fiduciary duties, contribute to strategy, oversee risk, support good governance and ensure the organisation remains focused on its purpose and members or beneficiaries. My understanding is grounded in formal governance training, including completion of "The Role of the Director" through the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and practical governance experience across multiple organisations. I am currently a Non-Executive Director of the Mental Health Coordinating Council and have previously served as a Non-Executive Director of Independent Community Living Australia and Family Drug Support. I have also held governance and leadership roles as President of Helplines Australia, founding member of the National Helplines Association of Australia, and Company Secretary at Community Options Australia. These experiences have reinforced the importance of respectful board dynamics, sound stewardship, transparency, accountability, financial sustainability, risk management and strategic oversight in mission-driven organisations.

**Effective leadership of membership teams or organisations that demonstrate a strong, values-based culture**

I have led membership-based, community-based and values-driven organisations across the mental health, psychosocial disability, helpline, primary health and not-for-profit sectors. As CEO of Independent Community Living Australia, I oversee a workforce of approximately 130 staff across 21 locations, supporting people with complex mental health needs, psychosocial disability, homelessness and housing challenges. This requires a clear values-based culture grounded in dignity, recovery, inclusion, safety, collaboration and service quality. Earlier in my career, I served as President of Helplines Australia and was a founding member of the National Helplines Association of Australia, contributing to national collaboration and best practice in telephone and online counselling. My LinkedIn profile also notes my founder and President role with Helplines Australia and my leadership of the APS e-Psychology Interest Group. Across these roles, I have focused on building teams and networks that are mission-led, professionally accountable and committed to improving outcomes for people and communities. My leadership style is collaborative, system-focused and anchored in shared purpose.

**Experience in, or a thorough understanding of, advocacy expectations and engagement of the community and all APS members**

I bring extensive advocacy experience across mental health, psychosocial disability, digital health, homelessness, suicide prevention and psychology. As CEO of Independent Community Living Australia, I engage regularly with government agencies, funding bodies, Local Health Districts, community organisations, peak bodies, clinicians, carers and people with lived experience to advocate for improved access to services and better outcomes for vulnerable Australians. My advocacy experience extends to advisory roles with the National Mental Health Commission, NSW Mental Health Commission and Australian Digital Health Agency, where I have contributed to policy discussions and system reform initiatives. Earlier in my career, as an Authorised Clinician with the NSW Children's Court, I provided independent psychological assessments in matters involving child protection, family conflict and legal proceedings. This role required me to advocate for children's best interests while remaining impartial, evidence-based and respectful of all parties involved. These experiences have provided me with a strong understanding of balanced advocacy, stakeholder engagement and the importance of representing diverse perspectives while maintaining integrity and professionalism.

**Ability and/or aptitude to act as an ambassador for the APS in the community and in government settings**

Throughout my career I have represented organisations, professional groups and communities across government, health, mental health and social service sectors. As CEO of Independent Community Living Australia, I regularly engage with Ministers' offices, government departments, Local Health Districts, funders, peak bodies and community leaders on issues affecting mental health, psychosocial disability, housing and homelessness. I currently contribute to state and national discussions through my involvement with the National Mental Health Commission, NSW Mental Health Commission and Mental Health Coordinating Council. As an Authorised Clinician with the NSW Children's Court, I was required to present complex psychological findings in a balanced, objective and accessible manner to legal professionals, families and decision-makers. This experience strengthened my ability to communicate psychological expertise to diverse audiences while maintaining professional credibility and impartiality. Combined with my long-standing APS membership, College of Clinical Psychologists membership and previous leadership of the APS e-Psychology Interest Group, I believe I can effectively represent the profession and act as a credible ambassador for the APS.

### **Demonstrated ability to constructively resolve conflict**

My professional career has involved working in highly complex environments where differing perspectives, competing priorities and sensitive issues must be managed constructively. As a clinical psychologist, executive leader and Non-Executive Director, I have developed a collaborative approach that focuses on understanding interests, maintaining respectful dialogue and achieving outcomes aligned with shared objectives. One of the most influential experiences in developing this capability was my work as an Authorised Clinician and Child Psychologist for the NSW Children's Court. In this role, I conducted independent assessments involving child protection, family disputes and legal proceedings, often engaging with individuals and families experiencing significant conflict and distress. I was required to remain impartial, listen carefully to diverse viewpoints, evaluate evidence objectively and provide professional recommendations that prioritised children's wellbeing. In executive leadership roles, I continue to apply these skills when resolving organisational, stakeholder and governance issues. My focus is on building trust, understanding different perspectives and achieving respectful, evidence-informed outcomes that preserve professional relationships while addressing the issues at hand.

### **Demonstrated ability to conduct fair, respectful and ethical interactions with fellow Board members, the CEO, APS members and relevant stakeholders**

Fair, respectful and ethical conduct has been central to my work as a clinical psychologist, CEO, Non-Executive Director and government adviser. I have held governance roles with the Mental Health Coordinating Council, Independent Community Living Australia, Family Drug Support, Helplines Australia and national and state advisory bodies. These roles require confidentiality, integrity, constructive challenge, respect for diverse perspectives and commitment to collective decision-making. My clinical background has also shaped my professional conduct. I have been registered as a clinical psychologist and I have worked across child and family assessment, refugee and asylum seeker mental health, primary care, suicide prevention, disability, education and community-based services. My experience as an Authorised Clinician with the NSW Children's Court reinforced the importance of procedural fairness, impartiality and ethical decision-making. In this role, I was entrusted to provide independent psychological assessments in matters involving children and families, often within highly sensitive and contested circumstances. This required maintaining professional boundaries, managing confidential information and ensuring that all interactions were respectful, objective and evidence-based. In executive and board environments, I aim to collaborate, be transparent and respectful. I understand the importance of distinguishing governance from management, supporting the CEO while maintaining appropriate oversight, and engaging members and stakeholders.

## **CANDIDATE DISCLOSURES**

### **Declaration of Interests – General**

- Current - Chief Executive Officer of Independent Community Living Australia (ICLA), a not-for-profit provider of mental health, psychosocial disability, housing and homelessness services

### **Declaration of Interests – Directorships/Committee Memberships**

- Member of the College of Clinical Psychologists
- Member of the College of Counselling Psychologists

### **Declaration of Interests – APS Member Groups/APS Committee Memberships**

- Member of the ePsychology Interest Group

### **Declaration of Interests – Other Memberships**

- Current - Non-Executive Director, Mental Health Coordinating Council (MHCC)
- Current - Advisory Council Member, National Mental Health Commission