

**Dr Venkat Pulla, BSc, BJ, MA, (TISS), PhD, Karnataka, MASSW (Accredited) APASWE**



**Currently:**

Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, ILWS, Charles Sturt University.

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<http://www.strengthsbasedpractice.com.au>

I taught social work and human services in many Universities in Australia, the latest being the Catholic University until May 2018. I have been the founding Head of the Department of Social Work, Northern Territory University which is renamed as Charles Darwin University. CDU. The other Universities where I taught are: the Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, (2 years) & a semester at the Sunshine Coast universities.

I tutored indigenous students in Nursing, Human Services, Sociology of health at QUT and at Griffith Universities.

Cumulatively, I hold over nine and half years of Australian academic experience including as Head of the Department or School, for three years. Some of these positions were of leadership nature that required of me to engage in coordination functions for the social work discipline.

I Taught into BSW, MSW and BSW (Honours) and PhD Programmes, and offered supervision for doctoral students Australian Catholic University, Sunshine Coast University, and Charles Sturt University. And I am currently adjunct Senior Research fellow at the Charles Sturt University.

I have been an examiner for PhD and M.Phil. for India, South Africa, Pakistan, and Australian Universities.

**My research areas are:**

Human coping and resilience, spirituality, green social work, and strengths approach in social work. I founded the Brisbane Institute of Strengths-Based Practice.

The following are some of the much consulted and cited publications of mine.

- Strengths-based practice, 2012;
- Perspectives on coping and resilience, 2013;
- Theories, experiences, and challenges in community work ,2014;
- Advancing social work in mental health through strengths-based practice, 2014;
- Some aspects of community empowerment and resilience, 2015; and the
- Lhotsampa People of Bhutan-Resilience and Survival, 2016.

Some of the above are published as coedited volumes with Allied, Palgrave- Macmillan, Authors Press, Primrose Hall UK, Wilfred Laureir Press, Canada, amongst others and also and published with Sage, Routledge, Fernwood, California and with others in Asia

#### Book Projects Reviewer Prior to commissioning:

I am a current reviewer for book proposals for Springer, for Social Sciences, Public Health and Allied health books- Asia, UK and USA, and for Sage and Taylor and Francis, Elsevier, and Macmillan, Primrose Hall, for Interpretivist and Grounded theory. community development and qualitative analysis-based articles, chapters, and papers book proposals.

I am currently involved in a project is 'Discrimination, Challenge and Response', 2019, (Palgrave-Macmillan.) As an Australian human services and social work educator, I have made significant contributions to Social Work education to SAARC countries. My assistance with social work research in Poverty and human rights and academic conferences in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Malaysia has been noted. I have offered grounded theory Master Classes globally.

I am a recipient of national Association of Professional Social Workers – India NAPSWI Lifetime achievement award 2015, and Karma veer Puraskar, -Global Indian Social Worker Award-2008.

#### Research Output:

My Research output is on Orcid <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0395-9973> and my Scopus Author ID: 560079507001

#### Coordinating and Headship roles

1993-1996 Head of the department of Social Work, Northern Territory University, (CDU)

2012-2014: Lecturer in Social Work, and Subject Coordinator, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW

2014 January- July 2014, Senior Lecturer, University of the Sunshine Coast, Qld.

2014- July to May 2018. Senior Lecturer, Coordinator for social work discipline 2014-2016 Australian Catholic University, Brisbane.

#### Key Strengths

- Ability to supervise and mentor using a strengths-based approach
- Ability to contribute to and support evidence-based research and reflection in social work discipline
- Ability to write, design, produce and impart and implement appropriate training strategies
- Proven abilities in supporting management of change
- Strong interpersonal strengths
- Excellent liaison and negotiation skills that produce desired results
- Personal characteristics of amiability, adaptation and transparency
- A repertoire of cross-cultural skills

- Compliant to personal and professional ethics
- Subscription to and belief in participatory and collaborative work
- Creativity and resourcefulness
- Extensive knowledge of human services and disability sector in particular
- Continuous and extensive involvement in tertiary and public sector
- Intense commitment to continued professional development and operational research
- Extensive Human Resource Development HRD and Organisational development OD skills, Occupational Health and Safety
- Extensive knowledge of Quality, Professional Management structures and broader practice frameworks within Disability Services Queensland, Community Services, Child Protection and Emergency Services Management in Natural calamities
- Ability to see, big picture and its impacts on service delivery

### Biographical Information

I studied at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) and a Tata Dorabji Scholar, 1976-1977. I migrated to Australia in 1992 and held a brief stint as Senior Personnel Officer, Organisational Development, in Queensland Government, and later became the foundation Head of the Social work discipline in the Northern Territory University (1992-1995) (now known as Charles Darwin University) and did some limited coordinating role in Social Work Discipline at the Australian Catholic University, Brisbane (McAuley Campus at Banyo). I taught at the Charles Sturt University, New South Wales and at the University of the Sunshine Coast in Queensland and also tutored the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programme in Griffith University.

I began teaching community development, organisational behaviour at the College of Social Work, Hyderabad, in the year 1977, and spent few years in training public sector senior executives in urban development through British aid (DFID) funded projects for Metro cities in India through the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies, RCUES, Osmania University. In India, I founded the Centre for Environment Concerns in Hyderabad as a reflective sequel to the Bhopal tragedy and initiated the first ever written Citizen's Report on the City of Hyderabad and its Physical Environment. In several natural disasters in key roles as Adhoc Team leader with Government and NGO led teams with CRS, Caritas, and Red Cross in Diviseema floods in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the Latur Earth Quake and the unfortunate Bhopal tragedy. The experience and work related to the deployment of volunteers, training, debriefing and trauma and vicarious trauma counselling became all useful when I moved to Queensland, where I lead teams into Queensland Floods intermittently.

In Australia, I founded the Brisbane Institute of Strengths-Based Practice and the Impetus Global, Brisbane, that offer solution focussed training in the broad realm of strengths-based strategies for human services and the corporate sector. Since 2006- I have been directing academic and practitioner-led national and international conferences in the Asia Pacific region and also directed two important conferences in Europe on trauma coping and resilience.

### Key Speaker

I am a practitioner and a motivational speaker on the strengths approach in social work and self-reliance, coping, resilience and hope. I write on themes such as spirituality, coping resilience and building hope. My speaking and research interests include poverty interventions, green social work, health rights and transition countries and have been called to several conferences in Australia and the rest of the world.

### Higher Degree Examiner

I am an examiner for Doctoral thesis in several universities, in Australia, Pakistan, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and South Africa.

#### Qualifications:

**Doctoral Degree:** Ph.D., Karnataka University, Dharwad, India, 1984:

A Doctoral Degree in Social Work focuses on theory and practice of Social Work in the context of a minority group's development. Thesis viewed by three external examiners from School of Social Work University of Illinois, Urbana Champagne. USA, School of Social Work, La Trobe University La Trobe, Victoria Australia, School of Social Work, Bangalore University, India

**Master's Degree:** MA, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay, India, 1977: A Two-Year Post-Graduate Degree in Social Work majoring in Urban and Rural Community Development

Award: for outstanding academic achievement - Tata Dorabji Scholarship 1976-77

#### Other qualifications:

- Membership: (AASW, Accredited Member, APASWE, Member.
- Graduate certificate of higher education as a probationary requirement, (2012- Charles Sturt University) RPL
- Certificate in Direct Training Skills, Thames Valley College, Slough, UK 1991:
- Certificate in Intercultural Communication and Conflict Resolution, 1997, Dept. of Premier and Cabinet, Queensland Government
- Certificate IV in Work Place Training, (Category 2) 1995. Northern Territory University Foundation Studies in Culture, Indigenous Engagement, Queensland Government, 2006, Course in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness, South Bank Institute of Technology October 2006
- Certificate in Project Management (Basic) Department of Communities, 2007

#### Community and National and International Awards

1987-1988 Fellow, Ashoka International Foundation, Washington D.C. USA

Two Year International Travelling Lectureship involving lecture commitments in Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, India and the United States of America on issues relating to Environment, Development and Welfare

2008 Global Indian Karma Veer Puraskar Alternative Noble Laureates, 2008

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karmaveer\\_Puraskaar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karmaveer_Puraskaar)

One of the five distinguished candidates who was carefully considered for the IASSW Katherine A.

Kendall Award 2012 (Katherine Kendal Award of the International Association of Schools of Social Work

#### A chronological account of Professional Commitments:

- Expert Committee Member, Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) National Accreditation of Schools and Departments of Social Work. 2010-2012
- Financial and Accredited Member AASW 1992-present
- Member, Board of Directors, AASW, Queensland, 1996-2009
- Vice President, AASW, Queensland Branch 2007-2009

- Member, National Rural Social Work Action Interest group AASW 2006-present
- Convenor International Social Work Interest Group. AASW 2004--2010
- Member, Australian Institute of Training and Development 1992-1994
- Chairperson, Asia Pacific Schools of Social Work Consortium for Capacity development of Sri Lanka School of Social Work 2007-2018
- Chair of the subcommittee for Nepal School of Social Work 2010-2018

**International Professional Social Work Commitments: Chronologically arranged:**

<http://www.strengthsbasedpractice.com.au/index.htm>

President, Positive thoughts, positive approaches and Positive Social Work conference, December, Nepal 2018

Chief Facilitator, Training Programme on Qualitative and Multi research method, 2017 Hyderabad, India

President, Emerging Challenges for Social Development and Human Services Practice in the Asia Pacific Region, Bali, Indonesia, 2016

President, Community Empowerment, Coping, Resilience and Hope, Hyderabad, December 2014

President, STRENGTHS-BASED PRACTICE IN SOCIAL WORK AND HUMAN SERVICES, Kathmandu Nepal, December 2012

President, STRENGTHS-BASED MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL CHANGE WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON TRANSITION COUNTRIES, Sarajevo Conversations 2011 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

President, Coping, Resilience and Hope Building – July 2010 Department of Human Services and Social Work Griffith University, Asia Pacific Regional Conference

President, Coping and Resilience- Dubrovnik 2009 International Conference ‘Towards Strengths-Based Practice in Peace Building and Trauma Recovery

President, First Global Strengths Based Strategies November 2006 held in India

**Editorial Responsibilities:**

Editor in Chief of **International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice**, USA, [http://www.hrpub.org/journals/jour\\_editorialboard.php?id=92](http://www.hrpub.org/journals/jour_editorialboard.php?id=92) and is on the editorial board of

Editor in Chief **Space e and Culture India** Published from Oxford, [http://spaceandculture.in/index.php/spaceandculture/pages/view/editorial\\_board](http://spaceandculture.in/index.php/spaceandculture/pages/view/editorial_board)

Editorial team by **Sage** for the **COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL**

(2014- and 2016) I have edited and Published in Niruta Journal of social work, India and has published in **International Social Work, United Kingdom** <http://isw.sagepub.com/>, **International Sociology, USA**, <http://iss.sagepub.com/> and the **International Journal of Social Welfare, USA** [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1468-2397/issues](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1468-2397/issues) and **International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change**, <http://www.ijcc.net/> amongst others.

Monographs, Edited Books

**Forth Coming:**

**Venkat Pulla, Discrimination, Challenge and Response, 2020,  
(Palgrave- Macmillan.) Forthcoming**

**Arranged in chronological order:**

**The Lhotsampa People of Bhutan: Resilience and Survival ( 2016)**

Venkat Pulla (Editor)

ISBN 978-1-137-55721 edition Number -1

Palgrave Macmillan, USA, 2016

**Some Aspects of Community Empowerment and Resilience**

Venkat Pulla and Bharath Bhushan Mamidi (editors)

ISBN 978-81-8424-962-0 (paperback)

Allied Publishers Private Limited, New Delhi, 2015

**Advancing Social Work in mental health through strengths-based practice/**

Abraham P, Francis, **Venkat Pulla**, Michael D Clark, Susana Mariscal and Ilango Ponnuswami (editors)

ISBN 978-1-312-23230-3 (paperback)

Primrose Hall Publishing Group, Australia, 2014

**Second edition, 2015, Third Edition 2016**

**Community Work: Theories, Experiences & Challenges/**

Kalpana Goel, **Venkat Pulla** and Abraham P, Francis (editors)

ISBN 978-8192-33267-5 (paperback)

Niruta Publications, Bangalore, India, 2014

**Perspectives on Coping and Resilience/**

**Venkat Pulla**, Andrew Shatter & Shane Warren (editors)

ISBN 978-81-7273-715-3 (hardbound)

Authorspress Delhi, India, 2013

**Papers in Strengths-Based Practice/**

**Venkat Pulla**, Lesley Chenoweth, Abraham P, Francis and Stefan Bakaj (editors)

ISBN 978-81-8424-810-4 (paperback)

Allied Publishers Pvt Ltd, Delhi, 2012

**Coping and Resilience** International Conference, Dubrovnik, Society for Psychological Assistance 2009 Venkat Pulla ( Editor: 120 pages) ISBN 9789536353200 Dubrovnik

**Strengths-based strategies: that work with Individuals, groups, communities and organisations, 2006**

Editor: Venkat Pulla and Chris Montgomery **Pages 199**

**ISBN 0-98029994-0-3 Australia November 2006**

**The Family: Asia Pacific Perspectives**, Venkat Pulla (Editor Pages 329) published by Centre for South East Asian Studies, Northern Territory University. October 1996

### **Chapters in Books:**

Pulla V, (2014) Global perspective on mental health. In A. P. Francis, (Eds.), *Social Work in Mental health: Contexts and theories for practice* (1st ed. pp. 7-27). Sage Publications Inc. ISBN 978-81-321-1739-1

Pulla V, Francis, A.P, (2014) A strengths approach to mental health. In A. P. Francis, (Eds.), *Social Work in Mental health: Contexts and theories for practice* (1st ed. pp. 126-143). Sage Publications Inc. ISBN 978-81-321-1739-1

Pulla V, (2014) Strengths-based perspectives in mental health. In A. P. Francis, V. Pulla, M. Clark, E.S. Mariscal, I. Ponnuswami (Eds.), *Advancing Social Work in Mental health through Strengths-Based Practice* ( 1st ed. pp. 39-51). , Primrose Hall Publishing Group, Brisbane, Australia

Pulla V & Meliha Bijedic (2014) Strengths-based interventions for youth at risk: Bosnia and Herzegovina. In A. P. Francis, V. Pulla, M. Clark, E.S. Mariscal, I. Ponnuswami (Eds.), *Advancing Social Work in Mental health through Strengths-Based Practice* ( 1st ed. pp. 258-266). Primrose Hall, Brisbane, Australia

Francis A.P & Pulla V, (2014) Strengths-based practice towards human wellbeing: Future directions. In A. P. Francis, V. Pulla, M. Clark, E.S. Mariscal, I. Ponnuswami (Eds.), *Advancing Social Work in Mental health through Strengths-Based Practice* ( 1st ed. pp. 318-328). , Primrose Hall Publishing Group, Brisbane, Australia

Bhadra, S & Pulla V, (2014) Community Interventions in Disasters. In Goel, K, Pulla, V, Francis, AP (Eds) *Community Work: Theories, Experiences & Challenges* (1st ed. pp.103-117) Niruta Publications, Bangalore, India

Francis A.P, Pulla V and Goel, K (2014) Community Development and Mental Health Promotion. In Goel, K, Pulla, V, Francis, AP (Eds) *Community Work: Theories, Experiences & Challenges* (1st ed. pp. 162-180) Niruta Publications, Bangalore, India

Francis, A.P & Pulla V, (2014) Community Work in the Context of Uncertainty: Challenges and Opportunities. In Goel, K, Pulla, V, Francis, AP (Eds) *Community Work: Theories, Experiences & Challenges* (1st ed. pp. 252-262) Niruta Publications, Bangalore, India

Pulla, V. (2014) Spiritually Sensitive Social Work: The Road worth Taking. In Nikku, B R, Hatta, Z A (eds) *Social Work Education and Practice: Scholarship and Innovations in the Asia Pacific*, Primrose Hall Publishing Group, Brisbane ( 1<sup>st</sup> ed. pp.182-200) ISBN: 9781304779137

Pulla, V. (2013) Contours of Coping and Resilience: the Front Story. In Pulla, V, Shatte, A, Warren, S (Eds) *Perspectives on Coping and Resilience*, Authorspress Delhi, ( 1<sup>st</sup> ed. pp.1-24) ISBN 978-81-7273-715-3

White, A. & Pulla, V. (2013) Strengthening the capacity for resilience in children. In Pulla, V, Shatte, A, Warren, S (Eds) *Perspectives on Coping and Resilience*, Authorspress Delhi, ( 1st ed. pp 122-151) ISBN 978-81-7273-715-3

Hudson, J & Pulla, V. (2013) Emotion regulation in children: Towards a resilience framework. In Pulla, V, Shatte, A, Warren, S (Eds) *Perspectives on Coping and Resilience*, Authorspress Delhi, ( 1st ed. pp.100-121) ISBN 978-81-7273-715-3

### **Refereed Journal Articles**

Pulla, V., Tarar, M., & Ali, M. (2018). Child Protection System and Challenges in Pakistan. *Space And Culture*, India, 5(3), 54-68. doi:10.20896/saci.v5i3.302

Venkat Pulla, Elizabeth Carter (2018). Employing Interpretivism in Social Work Research. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 6, 9 - 14. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2018.060102.

Pulla, V., Kay, A., (2016), Response to a strengths-based approach in social work in schools: An Indian School in Dubai, (2016) *International Social Work*

Bala Raju Nikku and Venkat Pulla (2014). *Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development: Voices of the social work educators from Asia*. *International Social Work* July 2014 57: 373-385, doi:10.1177/0020872814527633

Radha R Chada, Venkat Pulla, Bharath Bhushan Mamidi, Azlinda Azman (2014). *Fighting HIV/AIDS and Resilience Perspectives*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 2, 89 - 95. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2014.020306.

Francis Ogojo Okello, Ndungi wa Mungai, Venkat Pulla, Phillip Bwititi (2014). *Towards Research to Build Effective HIV Programmes in Uganda*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 2, 83 - 88. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2014.020305.

Kanchan Pd. Kharel, Venkat Pulla (2014). *Building Resilient Communities through Bottom-up Approach: Case Study of a Rural Education Centred NGO from Nepal*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 2, 58 - 65. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2014.020302.

Tulshi Kumar Das, Venkat Pulla (2014). *Is Micro Credit in Urban Poverty Making a Difference? A Review from Bangladesh*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 2, 73 - 81. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2014.020210.

Maliha Gull Tarar, Venkat Pulla (2014). *Patriarchy, Gender Violence and Poverty amongst Pakistani Women: A Social Work Inquiry*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 2, 56 - 63. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2014.020208.

Mussarat Jabeen, Venkat Pulla (2014). *Scourge of Internal Displacement of Afghan Refugees: Compromised Resiliency*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 2, 40 - 47. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2014.020206.

Radha R Chada, Venkat Pulla (2014). *Stunting and Marginalisation and Lack of Resiliency*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 2, 16 - 23. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2014.020203.

Bharath Bhushan Mamidi, Venkat Pulla (2013). *Hysterectomies and Violation of Human Rights: Case Study from India*. *International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice*, 1, 64 - 75. doi: 10.13189/ijrh.2013.010110.

Venkat Pulla, (2013) *Coping and Resilience: People's innovative solutions* *International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change*. www.ijcc.net Volume 1, Issue 1, May 2013

### Areas of Research

Research interests include strengths-based practice in social work, coping and resilience, poverty interventions, health rights and transition countries. *International social work, South Asia, Peace social work, disabilities*

### Professional Memberships

Accredited Member, Australian Association of Social Workers, (AASW) Till 2019  
Asia Pacific Association of Social Work Education (APASWE) Current

### Contributions during practitioner roles 1999-2010

#### **Papers & Workshops Integrating Social Work Practice in the field of Disability 1999- 2008**

1. 'Australian Social Work and Disability: A critical appraisal'- Abstract submitted



- 43<sup>rd</sup> ASSID Conference November 2008**
2. 'Towards a critical review of strengths-based practice in the field of disability'
  - DSQ C&SS Professional Conference March 2008**
  3. 'Strengths-Based Practice: with vulnerable populations' **4<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Conference on "Exploring New Frontiers in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights"** - organised by Family Planning International and United Nations October **29-31, 2007 Hyderabad, India**
  4. 'Walking beside Irene' - Strength-Based Strategies for the Individual' (One day training-25 staff members) for **Centacare and Anamcara 23 May 2007**
  5. 'Finding new frontiers without getting lost in everyday social work' **Biannual Rural Social Work Australian National Conference, July 2007**- Keynote address
  6. 'Human Values at Work: making these values the inner core for your work' **University of Central Queensland Toowoomba September 2007** One day Workshop for Human Services Providers
  7. 'Strengths-based strategies: a compendium of papers', Publication with accompanying CD **Pages 199 ISBN 0-98029994-0-3 Australia November 2006**
  8. 'Human Values at Work: making these values the inner core for your work' **Disability Services Queensland Sharing the Road Conference, June 2005-Two 3 hour workshops**
  9. 'Abandonment of Disabled Children? Not any more: from Dream, lists to checklists; An Innovative Family Practice Model' at the **27<sup>th</sup> Australian Social Workers National Conference 2001**
  10. 'Tokens for Inclusion: An Experiential Workshop' **DSQ Sharing the Road Conference, 1999**
  11. 'Towards a more inclusive place for our clients: networking with others? The sense and sensibility of this approach', **DSQ Sharing the Road Conference, 1999**
  1. 'Karma and Dharma: another view in social work in the field of disability worth visiting' **DSQ Sharing the Road Conference, 1999**

## **Employment Summary Before returning to academia in 2012**

Immigrated into Australia in the 4<sup>th</sup> week of March 1992

### **May 1992-December 1992**

Senior Personnel Officer, Organizational Development, AO 5, Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing, Qld.

Left the department of tourism in December 1992

### **1993-1996**

**Senior Lecturer and Head of Social Work Department, Coordinator roles** Northern Territory University

- Reporting to the Dean of Social Sciences
- Presenting the Departmental issues in various University Committees
- Convening the Board of Studies, stake holder's meetings /conventions
- Supervision of a team of full time and part time staff
- Academic writing
- Teaching many Social Work Units amongst them are Social Research, Mental health, Family Therapy Health and Social Work, Community Development and Social Justice Seminars
- Participation in stakeholder's meetings and coordination with relevant government agencies

### **Achievements and Additional Responsibilities:**

- Chair, Interdepartmental Committee on International Year of the Family, **Ministry of Health & Community Services, Northern Territory Government**
- Member, **National Office of Overseas Qualifications recognition, Federal Government, Canberra.**
- Member, **Panel for Social Work/ Welfare. DEET, Canberra**
- Member, **Panel of Referees for Policy Research, Department of Health Housing, Local Government and Community Services. Canberra**

#### **Policy Development and Research 1993-1996**

- A study of ethnic aged in Darwin: implications for ethno social work interventions 1994  
**Australian Research Council Grant**
- Social Supports in burnout of stress  
**Northern Territory University New Staff Grant**
- Conciliation: Problems encountered by complainants and skills used by the conciliator, 1994  
**Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission**
- Increasing research skills in practice-based course work, 1995  
**Northern Territory University Grant**
- Homeless children: a comparative analysis of Australian and Asian country studies, 1995  
**Northern Territory University Grant, NTU**
- India's earthquake: A Social Work case study of its aftermath, 1995  
**Vice Chancellor's special Initiative. Northern Territory University Grant.**

**Left the Northern Territory University in 1995 and relocated to Brisbane due to my wife's illness.**

Prior to immigration in 1992.

**Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Acting Principal**, College of Social Work, Hyderabad, India,  
**Senior Trainer**, Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies, Osmania University, DFID- UK  
Projects in Training for Urban Infrastructures. Training Allied Health, Public health and Engineering Staff  
in City Corporations.

**Consultant**, National Commission on Urbanization. Government of India

**Founder and Director** Centre for Environment Concerns- Lead NGO

#### **Work Places: Australia**

1. Senior Personnel Officer, Organizational Development, AO5., May 1992

Left the department of Tourism in December 1992 **Department of Tourism, Sports and Racing,**

2. Case Coordinator, New Entrants Program, Humanitarian Assistance Program Brisbane Migrant Resource Centre Level SACS 6 December 1997-July 1998
3. Acting Director, Brisbane Migrant Resource Centre., **Migrant Resources Centre**, closed down on 16/Jul/2003 by the federal Government

**Queensland Government Departments of Family Services- Disability Services- Child Safety**

4. **Family Services Officer**, DFYCC, Logan PO3 (Child Protection field) October 1995-March 1996 - November 1997 Various Roles in the Department of Families, Youth and Community Care DFYCC August 1998 -May 1999
5. **Senior Social Worker** 2003-2012 Substantive position with the Disability Services Queensland
6. **Client Services Coordinator**, Community Integration and Lifestyle Supports Team, Brisbane South Region, Disability Operations, Department of Families, Youth and Community Care.
7. **Facilitator**, Intensive Family Support Program, Beenleigh & Mt Gravatt Area Offices DSQ September 1999- September 2000
8. **Team Leader**, Roma Area Office, Dept. of Youth Families and Community Care September 2000- April 2001
9. **Relief Area Manager**, DFYCC, Roma (Various backfill)

#### 2003-2012 Acting Positions held at Managerial level

10. **Project Officer –Quality & Training** Mt Gravatt Service Centre DSQ, March – November 2006
11. **Relief Manager Professional and Specialist Services** 2004-2006, Mt Gravatt Area Office (various backfill) October 2005-March 2006
12. **Acting Senior Quality Assurance Officer**, Service Delivery Partnerships Branch, Dept. Child Safety (July 2005-October 2005)
13. **Senior Practitioner**, Gold Coast North Dept. Child Safety

#### Higher Education Sector

1. **Head of the School of Social Work** (Department Coordination) Northern 1993-1996 Senior Lecturer top of the scale

Left the Northern Territory University in 1995 and relocated to Brisbane due to my wife's illness.

2. **Lecturer level- 2-** top of the scale, Charles Sturt University, 2012-2013
3. **Senior Lecturer** 2014- One Semester Sunshine Coast University
4. **Senior Lecturer, Coordinator** Australian Catholic University- 2014-July to May 10, 2018, voluntarily retired from the contract.
5. **Tutoring Contracts** at the GUMURRII Student Support Unit ...Griffith University, while I held public service positions.

#### Management roles, Negotiations and Public Relations

##### Reporting to Senior Management

- Presenting the Departmental issues in various University Committees
- Convening the Board of Studies, stake holder's meetings /conventions
- Supervision of a team of full time and part time staff
- Academic and submission writing
- Teaching many Social Work Units prominent amongst them are Social Research, Mental health, Family Therapy Health and Social Work, Community Development and Social Justice Seminars

##### Public Relations, Negotiations, Tendering and Submission writing

- Participation in stakeholder's meetings and coordination with relevant government agencies
- Chair, Interdepartmental Committee on International Year of the Family, Ministry of Health & Community Services, Northern Territory Government
- Member, National Office of Overseas Qualifications recognition, Federal Government, Canberra.
- Member, Panel for Social Work/ Welfare. DEET, Canberra
- Member, Panel of Referees for Policy Research, Department of Health Housing, Local Government and Community Services. Canberra

##### Budgets, Tendering and Research Project Management

**Policy Development and Research**, I can provide my achievements in this sector

#### **Practice Expertise Areas:**

Team leading: Business case preparation, Budgets and tendering

Service Centre Management / Change Management and Policy positions:

Addressing strategic outcomes: Quality assurance Superior supervision and mentoring skills: Interpersonal and leadership skills. Verbal and Communication

#### **Personal Skills**

I am confident that concern, compassion, cooperation and collaboration are my signature strengths. I am warm and friendly and very respectful of even my enemies- although I have really none. I wish to mention that my personal characteristics of

- Personal characteristics of amiability, adaptation and transparency
- A repertoire of cross-cultural and mediation skills
- Compliant to personal and professional ethics
- Subscription to and belief in participatory and collaborative work
- Creativity and resourcefulness
- Extensive knowledge of human services and disability sector in particular
- Continuous and extensive involvement in the tertiary sector
- Intense commitment to continued professional development and operational research
- Extensive Human Resource Development HRD and Organisational development OD skills

#### **Writing skills**

As an exemplar of my strengths-based practice orientation here is an article that has been the downloaded over a few thousand times on the academia.edu, globally.

[http://www.ijicc.net/images/Vol\\_3\\_iss\\_2\\_nov\\_2017/Pulla\\_2017.pdf](http://www.ijicc.net/images/Vol_3_iss_2_nov_2017/Pulla_2017.pdf)

I am currently finishing book chapters for Palgrave- Macmillan which is due June 2019. On **Discrimination, Challenge and Response, 2019**, alongside interacting with ILWS researchers at the Charles Sturt University.

#### **Community Work:**

Currently Public Relations Officer of Federation of Indians Communities, Queensland, approximate membership in 36 organisations, about 30000 members. (Pro Bono Position)  
President, Brisbane Institute of Strengths Based Practice

**Community and National and International Awards** 1987-1988 Fellow, Ashoka International Foundation, Washington D.C. USA

Two Year International Travelling Lectureship involving lecture commitments in Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, India and the

United States of America on issues relating to Environment, Development and Welfare

2008 Global Indian Karma Veer Puraskar Alternative Noble Laureates, 2008

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karmaveer\\_Puraskar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karmaveer_Puraskar)

One of the three distinguished candidates carefully considered for the IASSW Katherine A. Kendall Award 2017 (Katherine Kendal Award of the International Association of Schools of Social Work

#### **International and Australian Social Work Commitments and leadership**

Chronologically arranged: Expert Committee Member, Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) National Accreditation of Schools and Departments of Social Work. 2010-2012

Financial and Accredited Member AASW 1992-present

Member, Board of Directors, AASW, Queensland, 1996-2009

Vice President, AASW, Queensland Branch 2007-2009

Member, National Rural Social Work Action Interest group AASW 2006-present  
Convenor, International Social Work Interest Group. AASW 2004—2010

Member, Australian Institute of Training and Development 1992-1994  
Chairperson, Asia Pacific Schools of Social Work Consortium for Capacity development of Sri Lanka School of Social Work 2007-2018  
Chair of the subcommittee for Nepal School of Social Work 2010-2018

### **Strengths based Practice conference organisation and directing – Internationally**

- President, Positive thoughts, positive approaches and Positive Social Work conference, December, Nepal 2018
- Chief Facilitator, Training Programme on Qualitative and Multi research method, 2017 Hyderabad, India
- President, Emerging Challenges for Social Development and Human Services Practice in the Asia Pacific Region, Bali, Indonesia, 2016
- President, Community Empowerment, Coping, Resilience and Hope, Hyderabad, December 2014
- President, STRENGTHS-BASED PRACTICE IN SOCIAL WORK AND HUMAN SERVICES, Kathmandu Nepal, December 2012
- President, STRENGTHS-BASED MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL CHANGE WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON TRANSITION COUNTRIES, Sarajevo Conversations 2011 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- President, Coping, Resilience and Hope Building – July 2010 Department of Human Services and Social Work Griffith University, Asia Pacific Regional Conference
- President, Coping and Resilience- Dubrovnik 2009 International Conference 'Towards Strengths-Based Practice in Peace Building and Trauma Recovery
- President, First Global Strengths Based Strategies November 2006 held in India

### **Editorial Responsibilities:**

Editor in Chief of International Journal of Social Work and Human Services Practice, USA, [http://www.hrpub.org/journals/jour\\_editorialboard.php?id=92](http://www.hrpub.org/journals/jour_editorialboard.php?id=92) and is on the editorial board of Editor in Chief Space e and Culture India Published from Oxford, [http://spaceandculture.in/index.php/spaceandculture/pages/view/editorial\\_board](http://spaceandculture.in/index.php/spaceandculture/pages/view/editorial_board)  
Editorial team by Sage for the COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL (2014- and 2016) I have edited and Published in Niruta Journal of social work, India and has published in International Social Work, United Kingdom <http://isw.sagepub.com/>, International Sociology, USA, <http://iss.sagepub.com/> and the International Journal of Social Welfare, USA. [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1468-2397/issues](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1468-2397/issues) and International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change, <http://www.ijicc.net/> amongst others.

### **Monographs, Edited Books**

Venkat Pulla, Discrimination, Challenge and Response, 2019, (Palgrave- Macmillan.) Forthcoming

The Lhotsampa People of Bhutan: Resilience and Survival (2016), Venkat Pulla (Editor), ISBN 978-1-137-55721-1, Palgrave Macmillan, USA, 2016

Some Aspects of Community Empowerment and Resilience, Venkat Pulla and Bharath Bhushan Mamidi (editors), ISBN 978-81-8424-962-0 (paperback), Allied Publishers Private Limited, New Delhi, 2015

Advancing Social Work in mental health through strengths-based practice/  
Abraham P, Francis, Venkat Pulla, Michael D Clark, Susana Mariscal and Ilango Ponnuswami (editors), ISBN 978-1-312-23230-3 (paperback), Primrose Hall Publishing Group, Australia, 2014, Second edition, 2015, Third Edition 2016

Community Work: Theories, Experiences & Challenges/, Kalpana Goel, Venkat Pulla and Abraham P, Francis (editors), ISBN 978-8192-33267-5 (paperback), Niruta Publications, Bangalore, India, 2014

Perspectives on Coping and Resilience/, Venkat Pulla, Andrew Shatter & Shane Warren (editors), ISBN 978-81-7273-715-3 (hardbound), Authorspress Delhi, India, 2013

Papers in Strengths-Based Practice/, Venkat Pulla, Lesley Chenoweth, Abraham P, Francis and Stefan Bakaj (editors), ISBN 978-81-8424-810-4 (paperback)  
Allied Publishers Pvt Ltd, Delhi, 2012

Coping and Resilience International Conference, Dubrovnik, Society for Psychological Assistance 2009  
Venkat Pulla (Editor: 120 pages) ISBN 9789536353200 Dubrovnik

Strengths-based strategies: that work with Individuals, groups, communities and organisations, 2006  
Editor: Venkat Pulla and Chris Montgomery Pages 199, ISBN 0-98029994-0-3 Australia November 2006

The Family: Asia Pacific Perspectives, Venkat Pulla (Editor Pages 329) published by Centre for South East Asian Studies, Northern Territory University. October 1996

## **Referees:**

### **Most recent academic Line Manager referee**

#### **Professor Shawn Somerset**

**Professor of Nutrition and Public Health, University of Canberra**

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#### **Rebecca Binyon (Previous Line Manager)**

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