

## Tanya Lehmann

Tanya Lehmann grew up on a small farm in Wagin, Western Australia. She trained as a dietitian at Curtin University, and in 1998 she ventured across the Nullabor to take up a new graduate position in the Riverland of South Australia. Stumbling across the best rural retention strategy known to the health system, Tanya met and married a local, and the rest, as they say is history. With their two children they live in a rammed earth house overlooking the Katarapko National Park, where they enjoy spectacular sunsets, falling asleep to the sounds of frogs and waking up to the morning chorus of kookaburras, pelicans and magpies.

Tanya has worked in the Riverland for most of her career, as a community dietitian, team leader, and manager of Service Development and Community Health. She also enjoyed a brief stint as a public health nutritionist in Carnarvon WA before the lure of the beautiful Murray River saw them return to the Riverland. Since 2008, Tanya has been the Principal Consultant Allied Health for Country Health SA Local Health Network (CHSALHN). In this capacity, she has managed a number of significant projects, including initiatives related to recruitment, retention, clinical governance, workforce redesign, clinical supervision and professional development. Tanya's creativity, persistence, strategic thinking and partnership building skills enable her to find creative solutions to seemingly insurmountable problems.

Tanya joined the Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH) family at the 2008 SARRAH Conference, became a Board member in 2009 and President in 2012. She has been SARRAH's delegate to the Council of the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) since 2011. Tanya is a rurally-passionate, solutions-focused, bundle of energy, passionate about improving the lot of rural and remote allied health professionals and the communities they serve.

