



JORGE AROCHE

CEO, NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors

Jorge G. Aroche is a clinical psychologist and the Chief Executive Officer of the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS). Jorge has worked with migrants and refugee survivors of torture and organised violence since before 1989, when he joined STARTTS. He has led the organisation since March 1997, through some of the most challenging times for refugee services in Australia, helping STARTTS grow from a dozen staff to more than 300, assuming a truly state-wide role and becoming a world leader in this field in the process.

Since its inception in 1988, STARTTS has assisted over 90,000 individual clients from 180 nationalities in the context of a systemic and integrative model of service provision that includes cutting edge clinical programs informed by the latest developments in neuroscience alongside community development and group intervention streams. Jorge's leadership has been characterised by its commitment to consultation, ongoing organisational learning, development and innovation, ensuring STARTTS continues to learn from its clients, from its culturally diverse staff and from the latest scientific advances in trauma and related fields.

Jorge is a member of the Executive Committee of the Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT) and was President of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) between 2016 and 2020. Previous posts include that of Secretary General of the International Society for Health and Human Rights (ISHHR) (2006- 2012), and Vice President of the IRCT (2008-2012).