A shared outcomes framework

You are already on the way

Dr Stacey Fox
The plan for this morning

• Context and background
• The Framework – key concepts and evidence
• Implementation – readiness and next steps
Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth

- Collaboration
- Evidence
- Prevention
| **4000 young people and families** |
| **200 experts** |
| **2 national summits** |
| **6 shared priorities** |
| **6 common outcomes** |

**The Nest**

Improving the wellbeing of Australia’s children and youth
All young people are loved and safe, have material basics, are healthy, are learning and participating and have a positive sense of identity and culture.

- Loved and safe
- Healthy
- Participating
- Learning
- Material basics
- Culture and identity

What are your community’s priorities?

What shared goals will you work towards?

How will you work together?

What does the evidence say?

How will you measure your impact?
The story of your impact

“Being able to demonstrate outcomes to governments and other funders will strengthen the Catholic Social Services story of our impact and effectiveness as it serves those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged”
The deliverables

Outcomes framework
- Reflecting the diversity of CSSA’s work
- Including a ‘signature construct’
- In the context of DSS requirements

Understanding readiness
- Exploration of the current state of readiness for change

Implementation analysis
- Options for implementation
- Potential measurement processes/methodologies
The outcomes

- Child health and wellbeing
- Family functioning
- Adult functioning
- Community wellbeing
- Hope and dignity
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Areas of Wellbeing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child health and wellbeing</td>
<td>- Healthy, learning, social and emotional wellbeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family functioning</td>
<td>- Loved and safe, positive parenting, material wellbeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult functioning</td>
<td>- Health and wellbeing and achieving goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community wellbeing</td>
<td>- Safe neighbourhoods, sense of belonging, access to services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope and dignity</td>
<td>- Resilience, attainment of goals, strengths-based perspective, participation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Child health and wellbeing

Improved social and emotional wellbeing

• Mental health
• Peer relationships and social competence
• Optimism and resilience
• Positive relationships with non-family adults
• Age appropriate development
Evidence base

ARACY  LSAC  AIHW  NATSEM

MCRI  UNICEF  AEDI
In practice - indicators to measures
Identifying measures

- By agency
- By readiness
- By service type
Spectrum of Readiness

- Extensive (4)
- Mixed (14)
- Early stages (7)

- Skills and knowledge
- Time and resources
- Existing processes and systems
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Feature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/25</td>
<td>Go beyond what is required by government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/25</td>
<td>Has resources available to help with research / measurement / evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22/25</td>
<td>Collect quantitative feedback from clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/25</td>
<td>Collect qualitative feedback from clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/25</td>
<td>Have pre/post measures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8/25

- Have program logics/outcomes frameworks in place

12/25

- Report a moderate level of understanding of outcomes in their agency

23/25

- Measuring outcomes is an important goal for the agency

21/25

- A common outcomes framework is a useful aim

25/25

- Willing to adopt a common outcomes framework and shared measurement – if adaptable to local contexts
“Although DSS prioritises outcomes measurement at an agency level ... it is also important to be able to measure outcomes collectively, across the network”

“Strength is power! A collective approach gives us a national profile, places us in a much stronger place in a highly competitive market ... [it] gives us a stronger voice with Government through a strong evidence base.”

“We just don't have the resources to do this ourselves; there is value in having a broader perspective and overall quality picture.”
“As we are a small agency we don't have the confidence that we have the capacity in terms of personnel, time and expertise to cope [without a collective response].”

“I think this is an easy question to answer in principle; however the practical realisation of such an undertaking would take a substantial amount of time, effort, adjustment and resources.”

“As long as there was some flexibility regarding the ability to adapt to local contexts and programs it makes sense to share a set of core measures which will demonstrate our purpose and collective effort in this venture.”
Collaborative and contextual

By agency

By readiness

By service type
Is it possible ...

• For all agencies in the Network to have a program logic in place – telling the story of how their work links to the CSSA Outcomes Framework?

• For agencies to work together – based on their level of readiness – to build their capacity to measure?

• To identify a handful of common measures for core service types?
Questions or Comments?
Evidence base for Framework

- The Nest
- Murdoch Childrens Research Institute/Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne Centre for Community Child Health: The Kids in Community Study: Measuring Community Level Factors Influencing Children’s Development (2010)