



Wanslea
with families, for children since 1943



Linking research to practice to develop and implement a practice framework that promotes positive outcomes for families and their children

*Pauline Dixon
May 2017*

Wanslea's Context

- Introduction to the organisation
- Healthy Start
- Practice is our product
- Local context in Western Australia
- Relationship with the Parenting Research Centre
- History of working with families

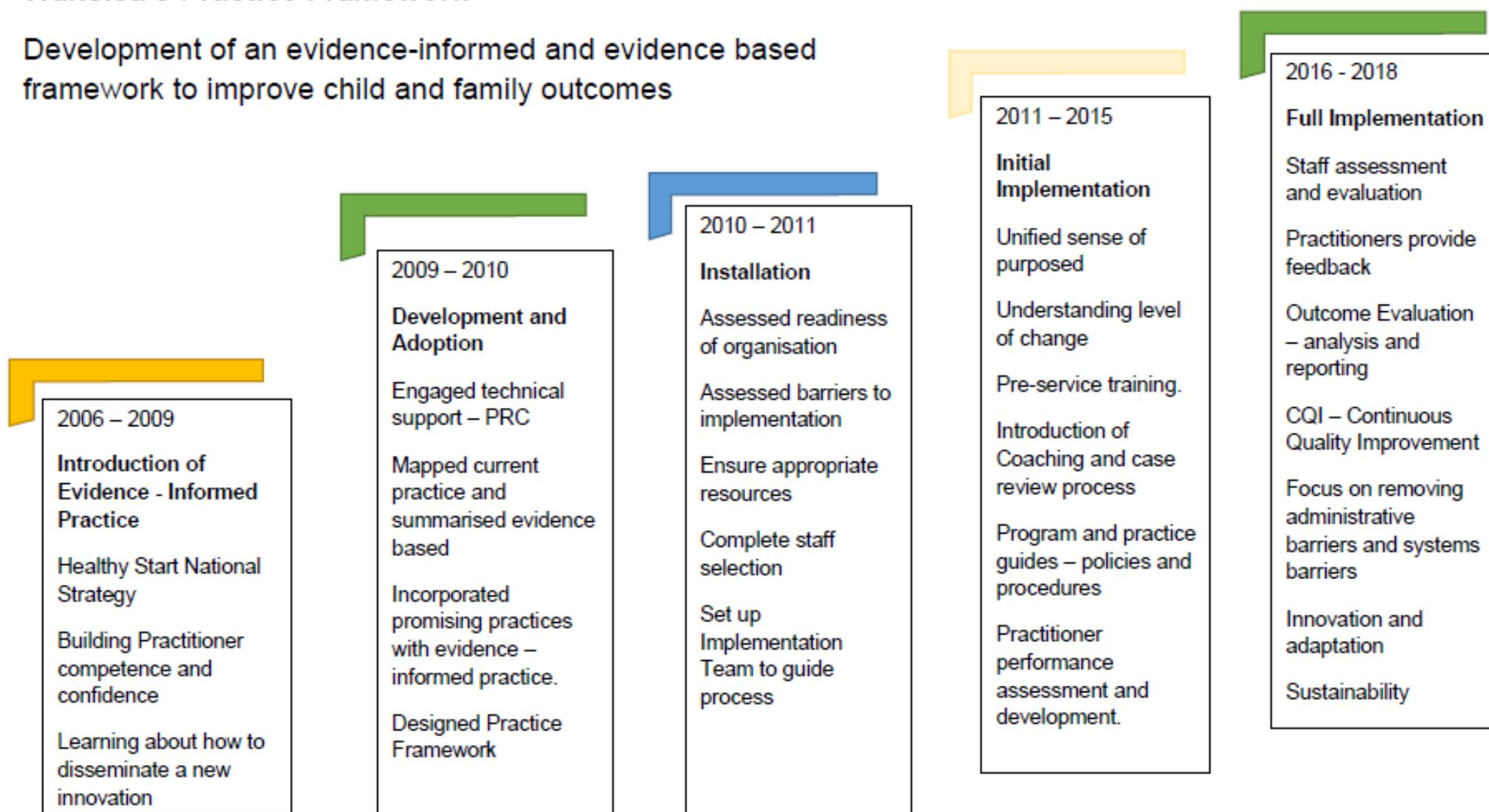
Implementation Context

- Implementation is a set of planned activities
- For many reasons, best evidence is not being taken up in practice settings, and many children and their families are not receiving the best possible programs and support
- Children and families cannot benefit from interventions they do not experience
- “Evidence” on effectiveness helps you select what to implement for whom however, “evidence” on these outcomes does not help you implement the program or practice

(Fixsen, 2005, 2014)

Wanslea's Practice Framework

Development of an evidence-informed and evidence based framework to improve child and family outcomes



Target Population

Families with children aged 0-18 years experiencing life challenges and stressors that impact on their ability to meet their children's needs

Guiding Principles

Adult and child voices and choices are heard

Parent and youth/child perspectives are intentionally elicited and prioritised. Planning is grounded in family members' perspectives and practitioners strive to provide options and choices such that the plan reflects family values and preferences.

Concrete services

Wanslea practitioners provide or help the family access concrete goods and services that are directly related to achieving the family's goals, while supporting them to meet ongoing needs independently.

Working towards meaningful outcomes

Wanslea practitioners tie the goals and strategies of services and supports to observable and measurable indicators of success, monitors progress in terms of these indicators, and revises strategies accordingly.

Working with strengths

Services and supports identify, build on, and enhance the capabilities, knowledge, skills, and assets of the child and family and their community. Wanslea supports the belief that people are the experts in their own lives and Practitioners therefore build on what parents are doing well.

Working within the community

Services and support provided to adults and their children take place in the most inclusive, most responsive, most accessible and least restrictive settings possible.

Promoting culturally competent practice

Services and support provided to adults and their children demonstrates respect for and builds on the values, preferences, beliefs, culture and identity of the child/youth and family and their community.

Skills development

Wanslea practitioners teach parents a wide variety of 'life skills', using 'teaching interactions' processes including practice, feedback and homework.

Collaboration across Wanslea Family Services

Wanslea practitioners work cooperatively and share responsibility for supporting adults and their children.

Assessment and goal setting

Wanslea practitioners use client-directed assessment across life domains, ongoing safety assessment and planning.

Behaviour change

Family support uses cognitive and behavioural research-based practices and behavioural interventions.

Providing individualised support

Services and supports are customised to the unique needs of individual adults and their children.

Engagement

Wanslea practitioners use a collaborative and collegial approach to engage and motivate families.

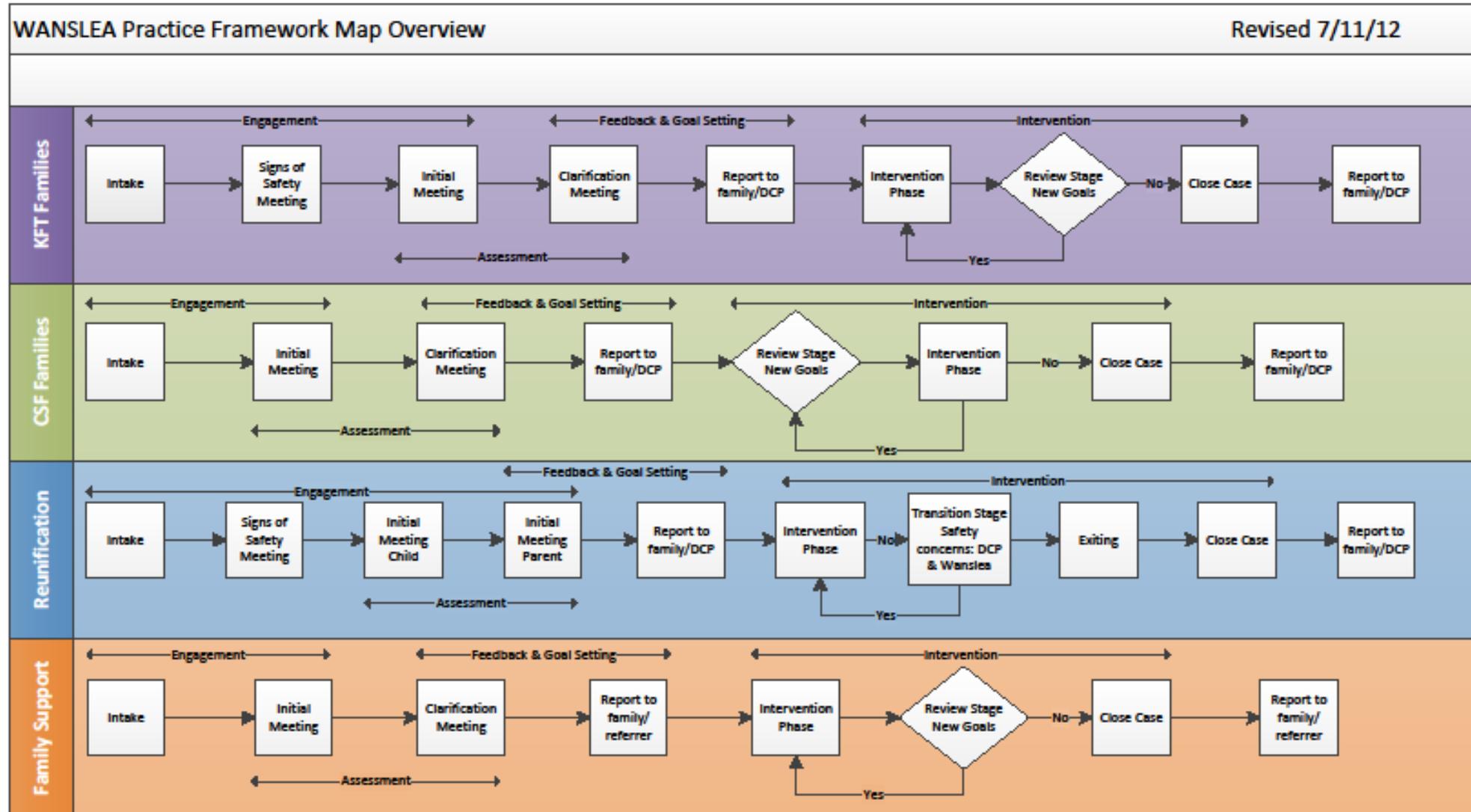
Remaining persistent

Despite challenges, Wanslea practitioners persist in working toward adult and child goals.

Building on natural supports

Planning reflects activities and interventions that draw on sources of natural support.

Practice Framework Map Overview



Wanslea Practice Framework

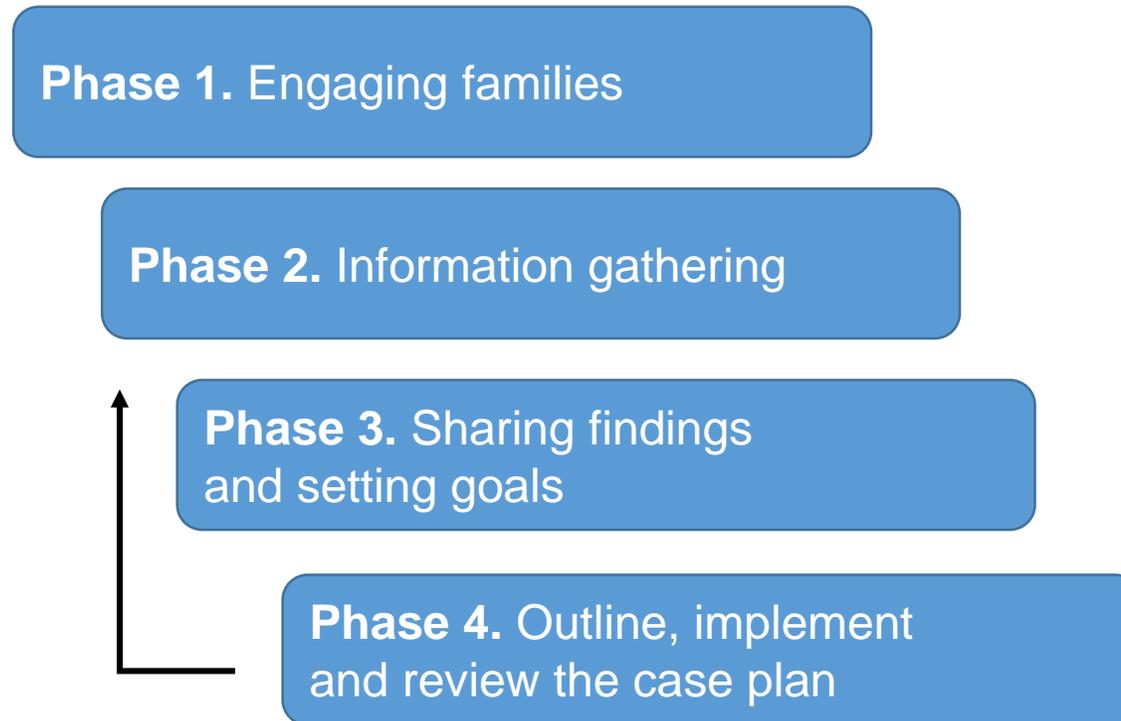


Figure 1: Framework for the Supporting Families Practice Guide

Wanslea Practice Framework



Steps in Phase 1

- Outlining the Wanslea Family Services Program
- Clarifying roles
- Discussing referral concern

Steps in Phase 2

- Establish purpose of assessment
- Undertake assessment (Family Information Tool, Strengths and Stressors,)

Steps in Phase 3

- Sharing assessment findings
- Setting specific goals
- Prioritizing goals to meet outcomes

Steps in Phase 4

- Using assessment results and goals to create family case plan
- Selecting family case plan strategies: (i) refer, (ii) provide information or (iii) teach skills

Outcome 1.

Increase in positive parent – child interactions

Outcome 2.

Improved child physical safety and wellbeing

Outcome 3.

Positive child development

Outcome 4.

Increase in social connectedness

How do we know what works? The use of evidence

Programs/Practices can be placed along a continuum
of “proof” of effectiveness



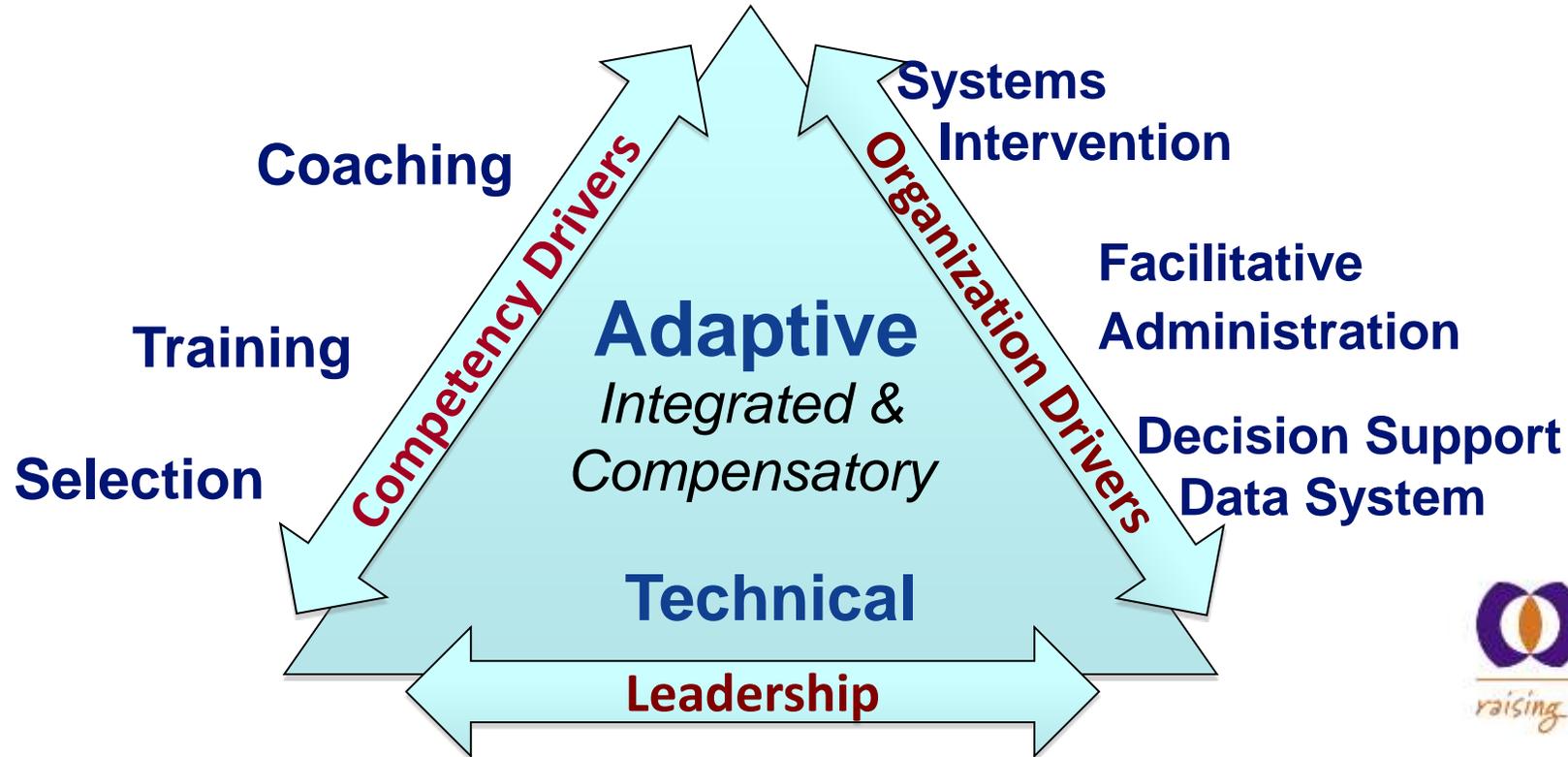
How confident are we that this program/practice is a good use of our resources
AND improves outcomes for children and families

Improved outcomes for children and families



Performance Assessment

Implementation Drivers



Implementation Drivers

Competency Drivers

- develop, improve, and sustain ability to implement an intervention with fidelity and benefits to consumers
- drivers include: selection, training, coaching, and performance assessment

Organisation Drivers

- create and sustain hospitable organisational and systems environments for effective services
- drivers include: decision support data system, facilitative administration, and systems intervention

Leadership Drivers

- methods to manage technical problems

Implementation Drivers

Competency Drivers

Coaching

- Introduction of coaching – field observations
- Worker development plans- fidelity
- Case review process
- Editing with the coaches - adaptation

Training

Staff Selection

- Revised job descriptions
- Introduced behavioural interviewing
- Clarified role expectations

Implementation Drivers – Organisation Drivers

Systems Intervention

- Guides developed to align with external regulatory frameworks
- Key partnerships strengthened locally and nationally

Facilitative Administration

- Policies revised and developed to align with the practice framework
- Checklists and reporting templates developed

Decision Support Data System

- Use of evidence based tools to gain a better picture
- Collecting data
- Use of data for the Implementation team
- Use of data for clinical decision making

Continuous Quality Improvement

- We have set up a CQI
- We are tracking Reach, Dose and Throughput
- Family outcomes
 - NCFAS
 - Childs living situation
 - Validated family completed assessment tools
- Practice data
 - Dose of coaching
 - Individual group and focus
- Strengths and Stressors – T test showing significant improvement
- Future – dynamic fidelity questionnaire – assessors whether the framework is being used as intended to be able to say with more certainty that changes are due to the framework



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