

Children Communities Connections Conference Proceedings

Questions from Breakout Groups

1. How do families find out what services are available when they need them?
2. How do services meet the new innovative service delivery models with existing resources?
3. When will school, health & early childhood workers come together to develop vision and values?
4. How do schools get different government departments to work together for effective consultation?
5. How do we divide up infrastructure costs?
6. How do we share ideas when confidentiality is an issue?
7. How has Pen Green come to operate with such high standards of resources?
8. How do we manage discounting views of the marginalised people?
9. How can we encourage 'strengths based' approaches when current medical students and professionals are trained with 'problem based' learning?
10. What legislative & policy changes will be made to enable us to carry out our work towards better integration?
11. How can local councils support services better with transport issues?

Issues Raised

1. How departments across governments can work together in a more integrated way to support integration in the field
2. The complexity of fragmented 'silo' systems, families and agencies
3. State level mentalities disconnected from grass roots
4. Importance of identifying barriers and solutions
5. The importance of relationships with children, families & community
6. Changing "done to" families agenda to "done with"
7. Richness of parent involvement in the Pen Green program
8. Australian focus on data/accreditation/licensing requirements loses the 'child' focus.
9. The value of Appreciative Inquiry as an approach to surface parent's dreams
10. Adequate numbers of support professionals to ensure early intervention occurs
11. Good to hear from practitioners. Would like more about the operational structure of Pen Green
12. Mismatch between what community wants and what bureaucracy wants
13. Challenge of working with working families who are 'time poor'
14. Breastfeeding in Children's Centres
15. Communicating conference information to politicians & policy makers

Ideas

1. Re-evaluate our relationships with parents by recognising what they are doing rather than judge what they are not
2. A rolling video of available services accessible in community meeting places
3. Wider use of the Facilitating Partner model to develop better integrated services
4. Local service providers need to have the jurisdiction as to how the money is spent
5. 12 months of age entry level for child care/use of Family Day Care option for under 12 months
6. More funding and time for staff in integrated services to develop reflective relationships
7. More sharing of information about children across services and localities.
8. Increase support for first entry points
9. Implement quality Parent & Child Centres in every community by 2020