Square peg in a big hole: establishing a new service in a rural region

Stacey Smith, Child Mental Health Service – Coordination and Liaison Officer, Gippsland Medicare Local

Authors: Keith Sutton & Bridget Roberts, Monash University
Department of Rural and Indigenous Health
Presentation Outline

- Planning for implementation
- The process
- The needs of Gippsland
- Barriers and facilitators
- Opportunities
- The shaping of the new service
- Funding received to support troubled young children to access psychological services

- New funding stream for Gippsland

- Gippsland has the highest percentage of children that are at risk of significant emotional and behaviour problems (DEECD, 2013)

- Gippsland has the highest percentage of parents reporting concern about their child's behaviour (DEECD, 2013)
Planning for Implementation

Where will the service fit?
Who are the children?
What services and support exist now?
Do we have the workforce?

Who should we be talking to?
With limited funding – where will we make the best impact?
Who is referring Children to services?
The Scoping Study

- Gauge the current picture
- Identify the need
- Identify service gaps, challenges
- Opportunities
The Process

- Group Interviews
- In-depth telephone interviews
- Public Forums
- Questionnaires
  - Pre-forum
  - Online
- Consultations on findings
Over 100 people across the region participated in the scoping study...
The Current Picture

- Mental Health Promotion
- Intake and Referral Systems
- Early Intervention
- Mental Health Screening
- Short-Term Interventions
- Secondary Consultations
- Severe/Crisis intervention
- Long Term Therapy
5,765 children in Gippsland have a mental health problem (Mild/Moderate & Severe)

2,537 children in Gippsland have a mild to moderate mental disorder and are financially and socially disadvantaged
Access Issues

- Availability of GP’s and appropriate Allied Health Professionals
- Difficulty navigating the system
- The language
- Understanding of Mental Health
- The workforce
- Location of services
## Barriers and Facilitators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Barriers</th>
<th>Facilitators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal/Social</td>
<td>Shame&lt;br&gt;Poverty&lt;br&gt;Fear of consequences&lt;br&gt;Recognition of emerging mental health problems</td>
<td>Children’s optimism&lt;br&gt;Parents’ love and care for children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Distance&lt;br&gt;Lack of transport</td>
<td>Innovative resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organisational</td>
<td>Lack of services&lt;br&gt;Knowledge of referral pathways&lt;br&gt;Understanding of early intervention</td>
<td>Partnerships&lt;br&gt;Existing and Emerging Networks&lt;br&gt;Flexibility, creativity and positive approaches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Systemic</td>
<td>Skilled staff recruitment and retention</td>
<td>Valued services and models</td>
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The Opportunities

- Enthusiasm and good will across the region
- Make a difference to children’s health and wellbeing
- Identify the referral pathways
Shaping of the Program

The Principles

- Access
- Continuity of Care
- Collaboration
- Evaluation and improvement
- Integration
- Child Centric
- Communication
- Sustainability
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• Scoping Study Participants