



# BEYOND CO-LOCATION: GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY SECTOR ORGANISATIONS WORKING IN NEW WAYS TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUNG CHILDREN

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# Why we are here?

- To share:
  - experiences of working together (Gov't & NGO)
  - lessons learned
  - 2 case examples
  - ideas for applying our learning











#### The Partners



#### The Smith Family

 Western Australia's largest employer with approximately 37 000 staff in nearly 900 worksites across the State

Department of Education

- Approximately one third of the Government workforce
- Annual operating budget is over \$5 billion

- Australia's largest independent children's education charity
- Supports young people in need, through education
- 112,000 chn & families supported, including 34,000+ children on scholarship
- Programs from early years to tertiary for parents and carers
- Strength as a facilitating partner, broker
- Innovation
- Advocacy for those in need



# What do NGOs bring to the partnership?

- Strong and trusted relationship with community
- Experience and skills in community development, facilitation, coordination, brokering and delivery of services
- Holistic perspective
- Strong existing network with local community services
- Strong links to business, philanthropy and volunteers



# Need for change

- Lack of effectiveness and efficiency (families & system)
- AEDI and NAPLAN results
- Learning and developmental issues detected too late
- Lack of integrated planning and strategy (whole community)
- Community assets not leveraged
- Vulnerable families have difficulty engaging with services
- Families can feel stressed, disempowered and disengaged
- Expectations of schools



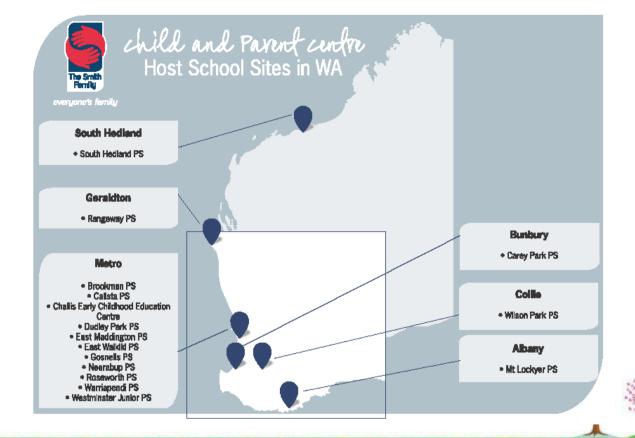




## **Child and Parent Centres**

- 16 Child and Parent Centres on public school sites in vulnerable communities. 0-8yo (focus on 0-4)
- \$48.7 million provided by State Government to establish and operate Centres
- Locate services in local primary school for easy access
- Integrated services and programs
- Use and build upon existing service networks
- Genuine engagement of families











## Who runs the 16 Child and Parent Centres?

10 NGOs	
Anglicare WA	Ngala
Centrecare Inc	Parkerville
Geraldton Regional Community Education Centre	The Smith Family
Investing in Our Youth	YMCA of Perth
Mercycare	Wanslea Family Services







# Why locate Centres in schools?

- There is a public school in every community
- Schools are natural places for families to access support
- Facilities largely unused outside of school hours
- Parents have good will towards their local school







# What do the Centres provide?

- Early learning programs with parental involvement (playgroups)
- Parenting information and support programs
- Student assessment referrals
- Mental health support and psychological counselling
- Antenatal education, nutritional and breastfeeding advice
- Allied health services
- Services and programs determined by the community





# Floor-plan Roseworth CPC















#### What is an Extended School Hub?

- Working together
- Doing things differently
- Coordinating services
- Local decision-making
- Pooling resources











#### **Extended Services School Hub**

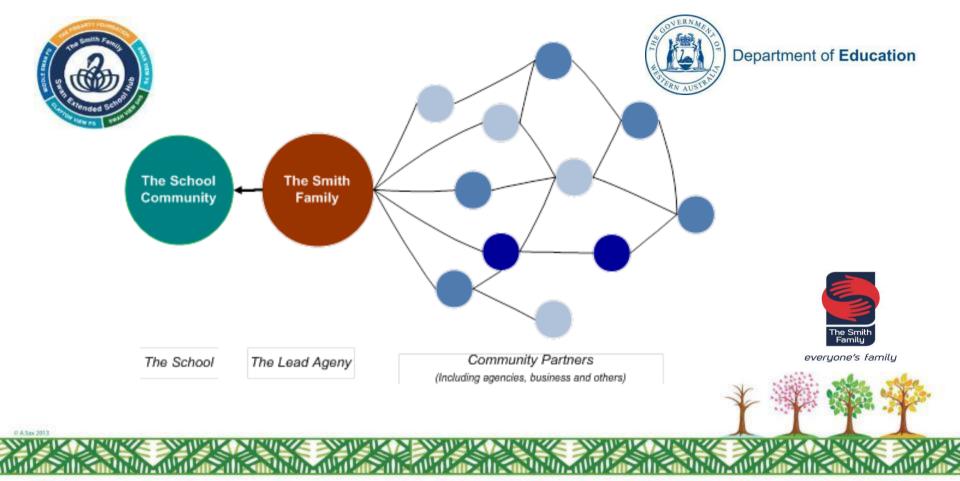
Consultation

**Planning** 

Implementation









# Common Themes



- Lead agency, Leadership and Governance
- Teamwork and networking
- Consultation and integrated planning
- Audit of services, leveraging community assets
- Strong service mix based on identified community needs
- Data collection and evaluation



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# **Lessons Learned**



- Tender procurement (consultation, better communication of information, define parameters)
- Consistent change management implementation model (Kotter/Capioppe)
- Consistency of messaging
- Data to inform practice at local and strategic levels
- Representative working groups to develop/review operating frameworks
- Governance framework across all levels
- Collaboration in design & implementation



#### The Future



- Demonstration to Government, corporates and NGOs of effectiveness of working in partnership
- Development of a framework and toolkit
- The development of integrated service delivery



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