



Newsletter edition 34

In this newsletter we look at a number of FACS parenting initiatives that are important in the TEI space.

Parenting Initiatives 2017/18

The NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) has invested in a number of parenting initiatives to:

- assist practitioners in their day-to day work,
- gain a better understanding of specific gaps in parenting needs
- provide the sector with networking and training opportunities.

These initiatives were identified through the NSW Triple P Forum, surveys of practitioners and their managers and focus groups. In particular, these initiatives are designed to directly and indirectly assist services transition into the Targeted Earlier Intervention space.

Profiles of Aboriginal Parenting Initiatives

A review conducted by the Parenting Research Centre (PRC) identified that none of the evidenced based programs analysed within the review were specifically developed for or by Aboriginal parents, communities, practitioners or organisations.

As a result FACS consulted with the NSW Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care State Secretariat (AbSec) to review Aboriginal parenting programs as part of the Targeted Earlier Intervention reform. AbSec will develop six case studies of Aboriginal specific parenting programs and identify local approaches for Aboriginal parents, carers and families, and communities that are culturally appropriate.

Support for Level 5 Triple P (parenting program) practitioners

FACS has recently trained Triple P (parenting programs) practitioners in Level 5 Enhanced and Pathways. This is the most intensive level of Triple P, and works with parents of children with child behaviour and family adjustment difficulties, and parents who have anger management issues. These programs are now available for clients of FACS and non-government agencies.

It is recognised that these practitioners will need support as they deliver this program to families with children:

- at imminent risk of entering care.
- in care for whom restoration is identified as a case plan goal.
- requiring assistance with family preservation.

FACS has organised bi-monthly interactive webinars convened by a Clinical and Development Psychologist from Triple P International. These webinars will provide practitioners with opportunities to discuss clinical and delivery issues, such as working with mandated families, fidelity of sessions, and the use of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy.

The Resourcing Parents website <http://www.resourcingparents.nsw.gov.au/> provides a complete list of organisations that have accredited Triple P practitioners trained in Level 5 Triple P.

Enhancing the Resourcing Parents website

Resourcing Parents Website at <http://www.resourcingparents.nsw.gov.au/> is a one-stop shop to identify parenting programs and initiatives across NSW. It is an essential link bringing together practitioners, parents and other professionals seeking parenting programs.

Practitioners are able to advertise parenting programs, view and update their own personal information, download certificates for parents, training and advertising material. FACS funded Triple P practitioners are able to order free resources. Parents and carers can access parenting events to find practical, up-to-date information as well as events in their area.

Resourcing Parents has recently received funding to undertake a number of functional improvements to the website. These include improving the practitioner's forum page, the agency planning calendar and the search system for Aboriginal specific programs.

Each year Resourcing Parents will undertake a survey of users to receive feedback on the usability of the website and the specific information needs of practitioner's and parents.

Six NSW Country Workshops

Six workshops will be facilitated across country NSW for parenting practitioners by Family Worker Training and Development Program and Resourcing Parents. Practitioners in rural/regional NSW often lack the opportunities to network and access training.

These workshops will include a networking session that will focus on ways practitioners can sustainably support one another in the field and identify what support resources are available to participants. A session will also be on Advanced Group facilitation skills, as parenting practitioners do not always have a background in group work.

The workshop locations are still being confirmed. They are likely to be held in Armidale/Tamworth, Orange/Dubbo, Wagga Wagga, Cooma/Jindabyne, and outreach to Newcastle and Wollongong.

2018 NSW Parenting Conference

FACS is sponsoring the state-wide Parenting Conference for Targeted Earlier Intervention funded services, to be held in May 2018. This two day conference will provide a range of professional learning opportunities to improve the delivery of parenting programs and networking opportunities with fellow colleagues. In particular the conference will provide an overview of a number of FACS initiatives examining evidence informed parenting practice and improvements in some state-wide parenting sector supports.

A working group of parenting practitioners will be formed to work with Family Worker Training and Development Programme to assist with the conference planning and implementation. The conference agenda and structure will be developed in consultation with AbSec.

Contact

If you require any further details about these initiatives please contact Kerry Forrest, Assistant Program Officer: Kerry.Forrest@facs.nsw.gov.au

More information

For more information about this reform visit www.facs.nsw.gov.au/teiprogramreform or email the FACS Families and Place branch at TEIReform@facs.nsw.gov.au.

Questions and Answers

Updated Q&As are now available on the [FACS](#) and [Community Services](#) websites.
As always please email any comments or questions to TEIReform@facs.nsw.gov.au

Reform



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