

Tasmanian Child and Family Centre

Support Tool 4:

Partnership Analysis Tool

January 2013

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This support tool was produced by the Tasmanian Child and Family Centre Action Research Project (Phase Two) in collaboration with the twelve Child and Family Centre communities. Murdoch Childrens Research Institute wishes to acknowledge the Tasmanian Early Years Foundation for making funding available to the Tasmanian Department of Education to enable this project to proceed. Further support tools are available in the Tasmanian Child and Family Centre Action Research Project: Phase Two Report.



The Royal **Children's**
Hospital Melbourne

PARTNERSHIP ANALYSIS TOOL

The [Partnership Tool/Checklist](#) is used to facilitate Partnership in frontline professional practice and team work across services working in the Child and Family Centre (CFC). It is a **REFLECTIVE TOOL** which aims to use reflection to focus on ways to strengthen new and existing Partnerships by: looking beyond the boundaries of one's own professional practice; recognising common values; appreciating different practices based on another professional's specific knowledge and skills; articulating one's own knowledge base and skills; negotiating differences in priorities; engaging in discussion about issues and the way forward; and evaluating the processes and outcomes of working in Partnership. It is used to assess, monitor and maximise the ongoing effectiveness of the Partnership. Effective Partnerships in the CFC entail a new way of thinking and working whereby services are being offered as a result of community consultation in ways that are responsive to the community context with the overall objective of improving outcomes for children and families in the community. There is no one effective approach to Partnership. A diverse range of approaches is valuable. It is recommended that this tool is utilised regularly as a mechanism to foster the roles and contributions of CFC service professionals while refining Partnership relationships.

Objective One: To establish/ implement a shared vision of partnership	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Comments
There is a shared understanding of how services should optimally be delivered at the CFC					
There is agreement of the general goal of the partnership in creating a more integrated service system that simplifies access for families					
There is a shared vision of what this service system will look like in relation to access, responsiveness and flexibility for families					
There is a mutual understanding that some goals can be achieved more effectively by working together, while some can be achieved more effectively by working independently of each other					

Objective Two: To effectively develop and implement an agreed outcomes-based framework	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Comments
The Partnership has clearly defined and agreed objectives					
The Partnership's objectives are realistic					
The Partnership has clearly defined service outcomes					
There is an understanding and acceptance of the reason why each partner is engaged in the Partnership					
A 'Working Together Agreement' has been jointly developed for this Partnership					
The WTA is being effectively implemented					
A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been jointly developed and agreed upon					
The MOU is being effectively implemented					

Objective Three: To share and commit to ownership of the partnership	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Comments
There is clear identification of Services to be delivered in Partnership at the CFC					
There is a clear commitment to the Partnership from the most senior levels of DoE					
There is a clear commitment to the Partnership from each Partnership organisation					
The Partnership is robust enough to withstand external obstacles					
The Partnership actively supports and encourages networking opportunities and skills					
The Partnership is not dependent for its success solely upon individuals with networking skills					
There are formal structures for sharing information, resolving demarcation disputes, and conflict within the Partnership					
There are strategies to enhance the skills of the Partnership through joint training opportunities					

Objective Four: To have a clear and robust partnership arrangement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Comments
There is a clear understanding and appreciation of the capital and non-capital resources each Partner brings to the Partnership					
There is a clear understanding of each Partner's areas of responsibility					
There are clear lines of accountability for the performance of the Partnership as a whole					
Operational Partnership arrangements are simple, time-limited and task orientated					
The Partnership's several areas of focus include processes, outcomes and innovation					

Objective Five: A clear structure for monitoring, measuring and learning through Partnership	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Comments
There are clear success criteria for Service and Partnership goals					
There is a clear process for monitoring and reviewing how successfully the Partnership's Service aims and objectives are met					
There is a clear process for monitoring and reviewing how successfully the Partnership is working					
There is a clear arrangement to monitor and review Service findings					
There is a clear process for communicating Partnership successes inside and outside of the Partnership					
Partnership successes are broadly disseminated outside of the partnership					
There is a clear arrangement to ensure aims, objectives and working together arrangements are reviewed and where necessary revised					

The partnership is achieving its aims and objectives (please tick and add comments on the Performance of the Partnership):

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree

Comment:

Review date: -----/-----/-----

Adapted from: Hardy, B., Hudson, B. and Waddington E. (2003), *Assessing Strategic Partnership, The Partnership Assessment Tool*. Leeds: Nuffield Institute for Health; Hardy, B., Hudson, B. and Waddington E. (2000). *What makes a Good Partnership? A Partnership Assessment Tool*. Nuffield Institute for Health: Leeds; and Centre for Community Child Health (2009), *Platforms: A Service Redevelopment Framework, Guide to Evaluating and Sustaining Community Partnerships*: Melbourne, Victoria: Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and Royal Children's Hospital. Partnership Tool compiled by Carole Goff, Senior Project Officer, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute for the Tasmanian Early Years Foundation 2013.