Commissioner for Children and Young People
Western Australia

Caring for the future growing up today

Using data and best practice programs to improve wellbeing

The Wellbeing Monitoring Framework – Edition Two

Welcome to the webinar

Using data and best practice programs to improve wellbeing

The Wellbeing Monitoring Framework – Edition Two

Tuesday 22 July 2014

Presenters:
Marketa Reeves
Chris Stronach

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When	What	Who
10:00	Welcome and set up	Marketa Reeves
10:05	Role of the Commissioner	Marketa Reeves
10:10	Wellbeing Monitoring Framework – background and structure	Marketa Reeves
10:30	Edition Two – Key Findings	Chris Stronach
10:40	Best practice programs	Marketa Reeves
10:50	Other resources	Marketa Reeves
10:55	Sharing Session	All
11:05	Wrap Up and evaluation	Marketa Reeves
11:10	End of session	

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Commissioner for Children and Young People

- *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act* 2006

- Priority and special regard to:
    - o Aboriginal children and young people
    - o Children and young people vulnerable or disadvantaged - s20(1)(a)
- Independent statutory officer who reports directly to Parliament

- Convention on the Rights of the Child - s20(1)(b)

Commissioner's responsibilities

- To promote and monitor the wellbeing of children and young people generally - s19(c)

- To promote public awareness and understanding of matters relating to the wellbeing of children and young people - s19(h)

- To conduct, coordinate, sponsor, participate in and promote research into matters relating to the wellbeing of children and young people - s19(i)

Background

- Absence of accessible and collated data on the wellbeing of children and young people in Western Australia – critical in identifying priority areas

- Absence of collated information on programs that have been shown to improve children and young people's wellbeing – important to look at interventions that have been shown to be effective

- Edition One reports tabled in the WA Parliament in February 2012

Expected outcomes

- Increased ability to respond to the wellbeing needs of our children and young people

- An accessible and robust data resource that outlines key areas of children's wellbeing and shows where improvement is needed

- Information about best practise programs and services that have been shown to improve wellbeing

  - →information to assist in advocacy work
  - →information to support agencies in collaboration and improving service delivery
  - →key resources

Under s.19 (c) of the *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006*, one of the Commissioner's functions is 'to promote and monitor the wellbeing of children and young people generally'. One of the ways the Commissioner does this is through the **Wellbeing Monitoring Framework.**

The Wellbeing Monitoring Framework comprises two reports:

The State of Western Australia's Children and Young People (this report) – provides statistical information on a range of wellbeing **measures**

Building Blocks: Best practice programs that improve the wellbeing of children and young people – **programs** from around Australia

Both reports were published in 2012 and 2014 and are structured under the same eight domains of wellbeing.

Health and Safety
19 measures; 21 programs

The health and safety of children is a strong indicator of the value a society places on children. Being healthy and safe has a direct relationship with a child's wellbeing.

Education
5 measures; 19 programs

Education and pathways to employment have a strong influence on wellbeing and outcomes for children and young people.

Participation
2 measures; 10 programs

Participation in community activities provides opportunities for children and young people to learn new skills, build community networks and express their opinions.

Subjective Wellbeing
1 measure; 14 programs

Subjective wellbeing considers how children and young people feel about themselves and the world they live in.

Material Wellbeing
4 measures; 7 programs

The material circumstances of the family unit can have a significant impact on children and young people's wellbeing.

Family and Peer Relationships
0 measures; 23 programs

Children and young people's relationships with their families and peers are among the most important influences on a child's development and wellbeing.

Behaviours and Risks
6 measures; 23 programs

Risky behaviours, such as misuse of alcohol or other drugs, can have a negative effect on the health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Environment
3 measures; 9 programs

The state of the environment, both the built environment and natural environment, is considered to affect children and young people's wellbeing through long-term socio-economic and health impacts.

Structure – 8 domains

- Information is structured under eight domains:

  Health and Safety, Education, Material Wellbeing, Family and Peer Relationships, Participation, Subjective Wellbeing, Behaviours and Risks, Environment

- Framework includes data on wellbeing and information on best practise programs across the above eight domains

- Framework comprises two reports:

The State of Western Australia's Children and Young People

Building Blocks
Best practice programs that improve the wellbeing of children and young people

The State of WA's Children and Young People

1.: Profile of WA's children and young people

<u>Population</u>:

- fastest population growth in Australia
- 575,000 children and young people
- more than 34,000 births

<u>Diversity:</u>

- 37,000 Aboriginal children & young people
- 1 in 5 children born overseas

Children and young people aged 0 to 17 years: number and in per cent, by age group, Western Australia, 2003 and 2013

Age Group	2003	2013		Difference from 2003 to 2013	
	Number	Number	Per cent	Per cent	Number
0 to 8 years	232,273	298,568	51.8	28.5	66,295
9 to 14 years	168,634	183,740	31.9	9.0	15,106
15 to 17 years	85,576	94,058	16.3	9.9	8,482
Total 0 to 17 years	486,483	576,366	100.0	18.5	89,883

Source: ABS 2013, *Australian Demographic Statistics, Jun 2013*

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The State of WA's Children and Young People

2.: Measures: 40 wellbeing measures

- Criteria for inclusion of measures:

  - meaningful for both non-scientific users as well as researchers

  - capable of disaggregation

  - based on consistent and repeatable data collections

  - capable of being influenced by action

- Reference Group consultation

The State of WA's Children and Young People

3. Summary:

- Most WA children are healthy and their material and physical needs are well met.

- In some areas of wellbeing WA children and young people are behind national and international trends.

- In some areas improved data collection systems needed to provide a stronger evidence base for decisions

- Of most concern, the report identifies the ongoing and, at times, significant disadvantage which continues to be experienced by many Aboriginal children and young people.

How to access the reports

Reports accessible through

www.ccyp.wa.gov.au/content.aspx?CID=545

OR

go to www.ccyp.wa.gov.au and then click on button

The Wellbeing Monitoring Framework
Reports available now

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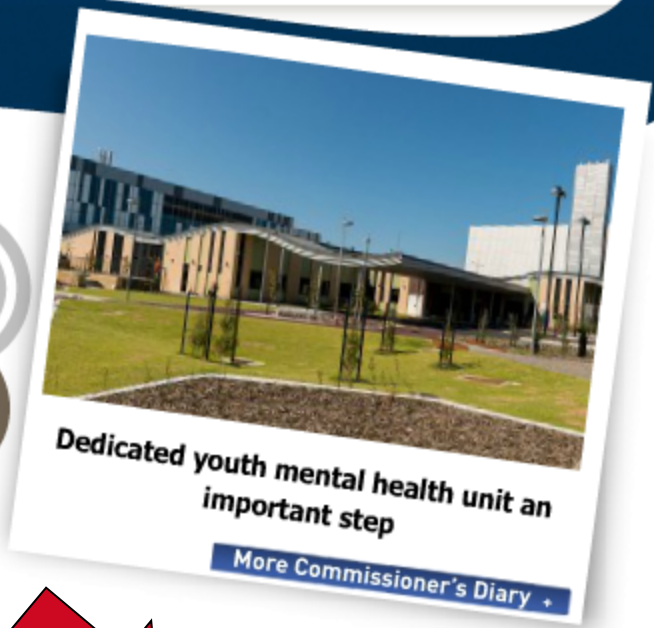
Popular items

- Edition Two reports on children's wellbeing
- Wellbeing seminars
- Thinker in Residence
- Ted Wilkes, Our Kulunga, opinion piece
- Dr Michael Ungar seminars, video and audio

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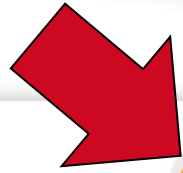
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- News
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Wellbeing Monitoring Framework

The Commissioner for Children and Young People developed the Wellbeing Monitoring Framework to monitor and report on the wellbeing of Western Australian children and young people.

The Framework consists of three different types of data and research. Edition Two reports were published in July 2014 and update Edition One, published in February 2012.

Reports

The State of Western Australia's Children and Young People - Edition Two

Provides a picture of how children and young people are faring according to 40 key measures of children and young people's wellbeing. The report can be used by agencies to determine areas where children and young people's wellbeing is of concern and where resources should be allocated.

- Download the full report (PDF 3.9MB)
- Download by chapter
- Interactive website coming soon

Building Blocks — Best practice programs that improve the wellbeing of children and young people

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⦿ Using evidence and best practice to improve wellbeing - resources

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Chapters

Download measures of the State of Western Australia's Children and Young
People - Edition Two, July 2014.

› Executive summary
› Chapter 1 Introduction
› Chapter 2 Profile of Children and Young People in Western Australia
› Chapter 3 Health and Safety
› Chapter 4 Education
› Chapter 5 Material Wellbeing
› Chapter 6 Family and Peer Relationships
› Chapter 7 Participation
› Chapter 8 Subjective Wellbeing
› Chapter 9 Behaviours and Risks
› Chapter 10 Environment
› Appendices

Executive Summary

- Executive summary

Chapter 1 Introduction

- Introduction

Chapter 2 Profile of Children and Young People in Western Australia

- 2.1 Population
- 2.2 Diversity

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Building Blocks: Best practise programs that improve the wellbeing of children and young people – Edition Two

- A selection of 44 programs from across Australia categorised under eight domains

- Supplements the 82 programs listed in Edition One

- A resource of evidence-based programs that have been shown to – or have strong potential to – improve the wellbeing of children and young people.

- Practical document

- Produced by The Centre for Community Child Health (CCCH) and the Murdoch Children's Research Institute

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People - Edition Two

Provides a picture of how children and young peopl
40 key measures of children and young people's we
be used by agencies to determine areas where chil
wellbeing is of concern and where resources shoul

- Download the full report (PDF 3.9MB)
- Download by chapter
- Interactive website coming soon

Building Blocks – Best practice program
wellbeing of children and young people

Together, Building Blocks Edition One and Edition T
best practice and promising programs from WA and
territories. The reports can be used by agencies to
programs that may be suitable, with adaption for lo
areas where children and young people's wellbeing

- Download Bulding Blocks Edition Two (PDF 1
- Download Building Blocks Edition One (PDF 9
- Interactive website coming soon

Profile of Children and Young People in

Contains a range of socio-demographic information
research and data. In 2014, this report was publish
Western Australia's Children and Young People – Ec
can be used by agencies to access information that
allocation of resources for children and young peop

- Download the Profile (Chapter 2 of The State
  Children and Young People report)
- Interactive website coming soon

Information sessions

Key Findings – *Health and Safety*
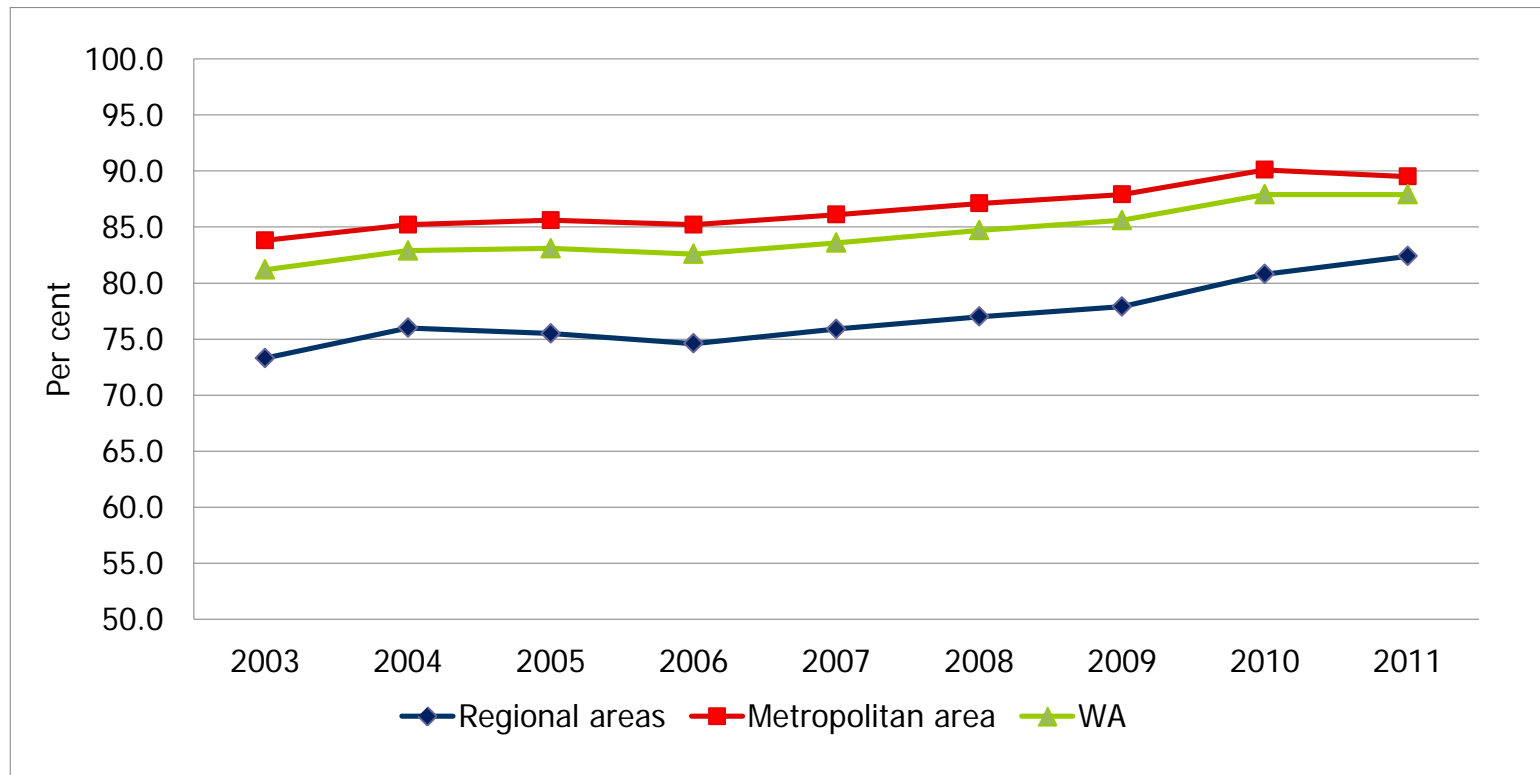
- Positive trends:

   - smoke-free and alcohol-free pregnancy

   - birth weight and mortality rate

- Areas of concern:

   - child health checks

   - immunisation

   - physical activity and
   body weight

   - mental health

Health and Safety
19 measures; 21 programs

The health and safety of children is a strong indicator of the value a society places on children. Being healthy and safe has a direct relationship with a child's wellbeing.

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Women who did not smoke in pregnancy: in per cent, by metropolitan and regional, Western Australia, 2003 to 2011

Source: Data supplied by WA Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Unit 2014, custom report (unpublished)

Key Findings – *Behaviours and Risks*

- Positive trends:

  - smoking

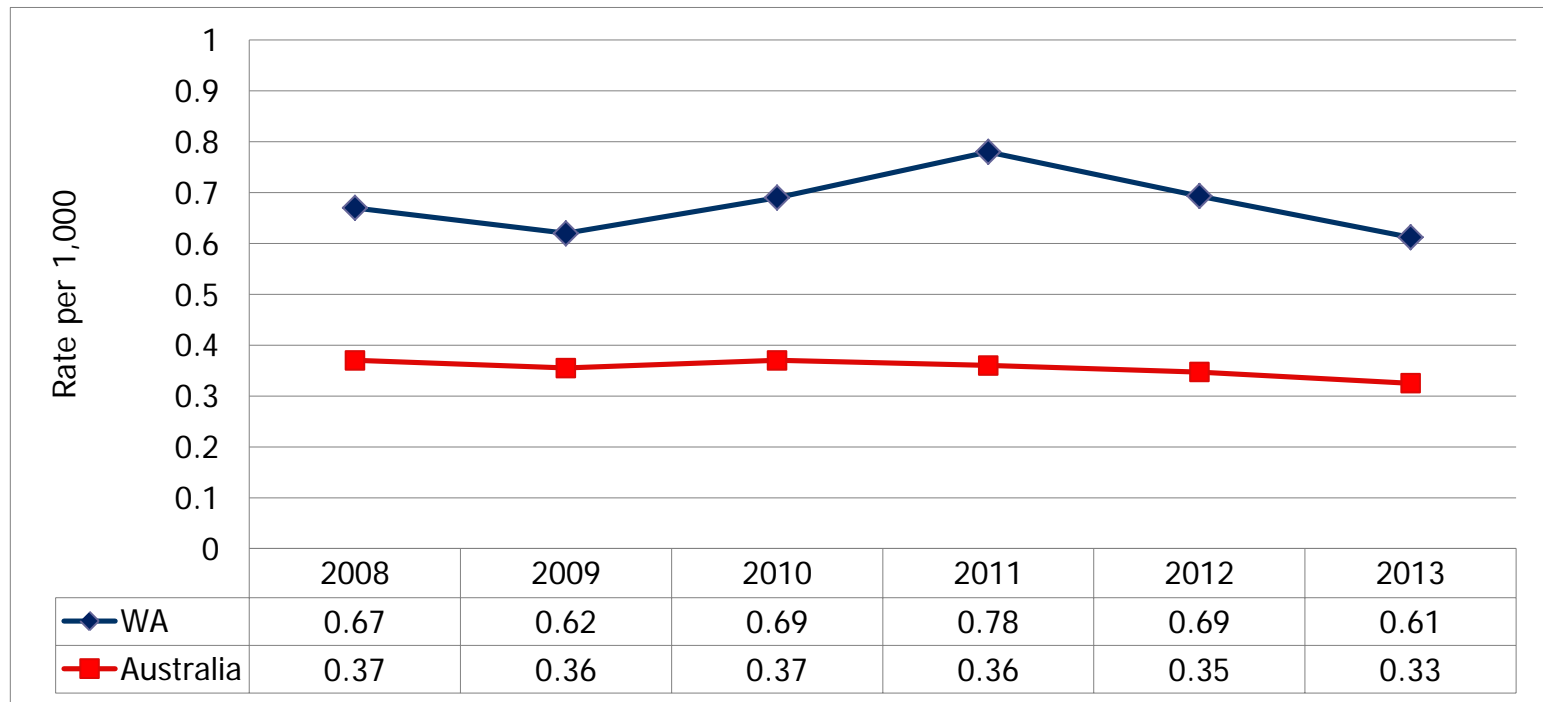 - alcohol consumption overall

  - births to teenage women

Behaviours and Risks
6 measures; 23 programs

Risky behaviours, such as misuse of alcohol or other drugs, can have a negative effect on the health and wellbeing of children and young people.

- Areas of concern:

  - alcohol consumption – risky levels/binge   drinking

  - high detention rates despite overall downwards trend in offending

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Children and young people 10 to 17 years in detention: rate (number per 1,000 population) on an average night, WA and Australia, June quarter 2008 to 2013

|	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
WA	0.67	0.62	0.69	0.78	0.69	0.61
Australia	0.37	0.36	0.37	0.36	0.35	0.33

Rate per 1,000

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2013, *Youth detention population in Australia 2013*

Key Findings – *Aboriginal children and young people*

- Areas of concern across range of measures:

  - early childhood health and development

  - child protection matters

  - educational attainment

  - material wellbeing / housing

  - births to teenage women

  - contact with the justice system

- Programs: *The Clontarf Academy*: aims to empower young Aboriginal men

  Deadly Sista Girlz: aims to empower young Aboriginal women

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Children entering full-time school who are 'developmentally vulnerable' on one or more domains: in per cent, by gender and Aboriginal status, Western Australia and Australia, 2012

	All children	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Male	Female
WA	23.0	49.0	21.2	29.5	16.3
Australia	22.0	43.2	20.9	28.2	15.7
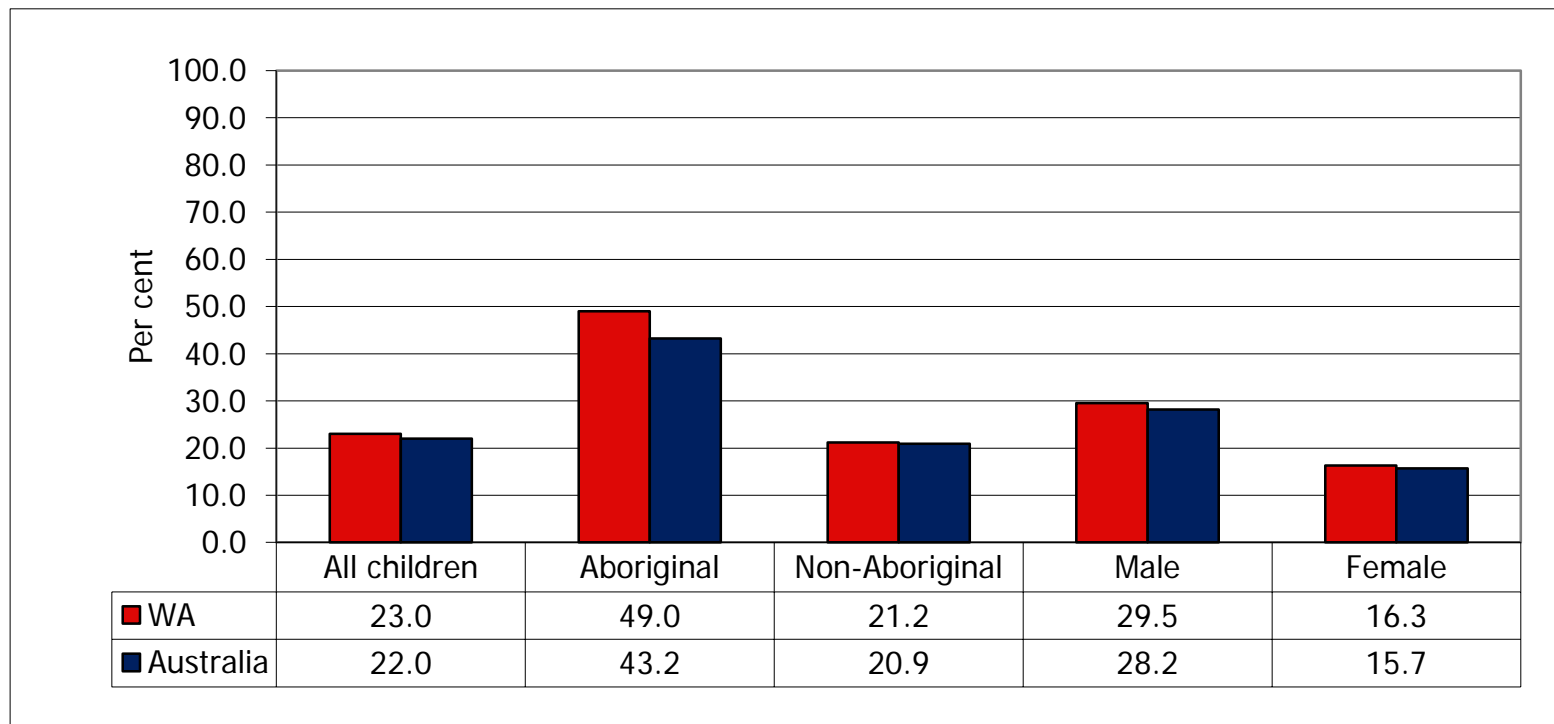
Source: Data provided by The Social Research Centre, custom report.

Best practice programs

The Clontarf Academy: aims to empower young Aboriginal men (Education):
- attracts boys to school, keeps them there and instils values to improve their educational attainment, self esteem, life skills, health and employment prospects

Deadly Sista Girlz: aims to empower young Aboriginal women (Behaviours and Risks):
- personal mentoring program, addresses issues of self esteem, healthy relationships, sexual and women's health, drug and alcohol abuse, healthy lifestyles and future directions and opportunities

Program	Clontarf Academy
Organisation	Clontarf Foundation
Location	Nationwide, including Bentley and multiple regional academies in WA
Description	The Clontarf Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, self-esteem, life skills and employment prospects of young Aboriginal men. By doing so, it aims to equip them to participate more meaningfully in society.
Target group	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
Evaluation and effectiveness	Qualitative and quantitative research found that the program had a significant impact on school retention rates and participants' ability to secure employment after high school.
Replicability	The program has been successfully replicated.
Other relevant domains	Participation; Subjective Wellbeing
Resources and contact information	http://www.clontarf.org.au/content.php?req=9
References	http://clontarf.org.au/userfiles/files/Foundation/2011/2010_CF_Annual%20Report.pdf

Program	**Deadly Sista Girlz**
Organisation	David Wirrpanda Foundation
Location	Western Australia; New South Wales; Australian Capital Territory; Victoria
Description	The David Wirrpanda Foundation exists to improve the life outcomes of Aboriginal children by promoting strong role models and healthy life choices. The Deadly Sista Girlz program was developed as the Dare to Dream Girls Group in 2007 and aims to empower Aboriginal girls by offering a safe, stable and trusting environment in which they can discuss current and personal issues and receive guidance from positive Aboriginal female role models. Each girl has the opportunity to be personally mentored throughout the program, which addresses issues of self esteem, healthy relationships, sexual and women's health, drug and alcohol abuse, healthy lifestyles and future directions and opportunities.
Target group	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls
Evaluation and effectiveness	An evaluation using mixed methodology found that the program had a significant positive impact on participants' self esteem, personal

Best practice programs

Communities for Children/Communities for Children Plus: an integrated service delivery site that implements prevention and early intervention strategies for vulnerable families with children up to 12 years, who are at risk of disadvantage and not connected with children services. (Material Wellbeing)

- multiple facilitating partners
- 2013 evaluation report available

http://www.ngala.com.au/Ngala-and-You/In-the-Community/Midland-Communities-for-Children-Plus

Best practice programs – Material Wellbeing

Program/service	Communities for Children
Description:	A whole-of-community multi-strategy initiative targeting children and families in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Non-government organisations in 45 sites across Australia developed and implemented a whole-of-community approach to enhancing early childhood development. Multiple agencies within communities delivered activities.
Location:	National (including six WA sites: Armadale, East Kimberley, Kwinana, Lower Great Southern, Mirrabooka and West Pilbara)
Organisation:	Numerous non-government organisations across Australia
Context:	Whole-of-community program (facilitating partner developed and implemented multiple strategies and initiatives in partnership with a range of different organisations and agencies)
Target group:	Children aged 0 to five years and their families in 45 disadvantaged localities across Australia
Objectives:	Communities for Children was one strand of the former Stronger Families and Communities Strategy (SFCS) which has continued in eight sites across Australia as Communities for Children Plus. The aims of the SFCS were to help families and communities: • build better futures for children

The RRC Evaluation Tool Basket

- The Resilience Research Centre (RRC) has developed an easy to use Evaluation Tool Basket which is designed to help programs and organisations complete their own internal evaluation.

- The tools are written in plain-language and there are numerous tools included so that each program or organisation can choose which ones are relevant to them.

- Suitable for organisations with little or no funding

More information at

http://resilienceresearch.org/evaluation/toolbasket

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Other resources

- The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare: **Children's headline indicators**

The Children's Headline Indicator interactive data portal provides the latest available information on how Australia's children aged 0-12 are faring according to 19 priority areas. These areas include health status, risk and protective factors, early learning and care, and family and community environments.

http://www.aihw.gov.au/chi/

- Tomlin, Stephania and Joyce, Sarah 2013: **The Health and Wellbeing of Children in Western Australia in 2012**, Overview and Trends. Department of Health, Western Australia.

http://www.health.wa.gov.au/publications/documents/HWSS_Child_Overview_and_Trends_2012.pdf

Other resources

- **Report Card: The wellbeing of young Australians (2013)**

The second ARACY *Report Card: The wellbeing of young Australians* was launched in March 2013 and presents data on Australia's performance against a range of health and wellbeing indicators as compared with other OECD countries.

http://www.aracy.org.au/documents/item/126

Other resources

- **The** *State of Victoria's Children 2012: Early Childhood* report

This report is the seventh in the annual *State of Victoria's Children* report series. It presents new evidence on how Victoria's young children and their families are faring. It sets out the latest data on key indicators of health, wellbeing, development, learning and safety in early childhood, as well as an investigation of factors affecting children from 0 to 8 years old.

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/research/FINAL%20The%20State%20of%20Victoria's%20Children_2012%20v2.pdf

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How to access the framework

All reports accessible through

www.ccyp.wa.gov.au/content.aspx?CID=545

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Evaluation sheets

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