



5th SNAICC National Conference

# For Our Children: Living and Learning Together

4 - 6 June 2013, Cairns

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS - SUMMARY FROM PRESENTERS

<b>Session Number</b>	54
<b>Your Presentation Title</b>	Evolving the Contact Children’s mobile to serve children and families in the Ti Tree and Utopia Homelands regions.
<b>Abstract /Summary of Presentation (1/2 to 1 page)</b>	<p>This presentation focused on sharing the story of the experiences and involving the Aboriginal community in the design, development and delivery mobile service seeking to engage with children and families in remote areas of Central Australia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Objectives</b></li> <li>• <b>Main ideas, topics and findings</b></li> <li>• <b>Evidence?</b></li> <li>• <b>Outcomes?</b></li> </ul> <p>There are still many remote areas in Australia where services to support young children and their families are not available. Between 2010-2013, philanthropic funding has enabled the development of the Contact Mobile Children’s Service (MCS) based in Alice Springs and providing a range of child and family programs to the Ti Tree and Utopia Homelands regions for Aboriginal and non Aboriginal families.</p> <p>Key to the Contact Children’s Mobile’s operations is the use of a collaborative approach to service delivery with the view of reducing service duplication, the more efficient use of resources and the promotion of shared goals. The Contact MCS uses models of service delivery and engagement for working with Aboriginal children and their families that respect Aboriginal self determination, through consultation and through their participation in the design, development and delivery of services which demonstrate respect for the unique collective and cultural rights of Aboriginal children, through the provision of appropriate programs and services</p> <p>Early childhood programs are the priority focus of the service with operations beginning in defined areas only; to enable a review and assessment of processes to guide any future targeting of new areas. Commencing with child-focused programs, once established, additional complementary programs will be added such as health, family or other community requested services. Additional programs will only be integrated based on identified family need.</p> <p>Topics covered in this presentation included how Contact came to be in the Northern Territory, processes used to establish the service; engaged with the community and families; programs offered for children and families and some of the lessons learnt during the three years of service establishment.</p> <p>The presentation utilised an interactive style with questions invited from participants. Powerpoint/Prezis was used to share photographs to further illustrate key points within the presentation.</p>
<b>References if applicable</b>	Contact Children’s Mobile Service- Evaluation Report, Menzies School of Health Research: J. Helmer, April 2013
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