Welcome to the third instalment of the Framework for Practice newsletter. This quarterly newsletter keeps you updated on all the latest news regarding the department’s new Strengthening Families Protecting Children Framework for Practice.

We are now live!

Minister Shannon Fentiman officially launched the Strengthening Families Protecting Children Framework for Practice on 10th March, 2015. This launch was held at the first of the Foundational training sessions run in Beenleigh—within the South East Region. 180 departmental and NGO staff heard the Minister declare:

“The Queensland Government has moved a step closer to making Queensland the safest place in the nation to raise children with the launch of the new child protection framework for practice”.

Since the launch date, the two-day Foundational Training sessions have been successfully rolling out across Queensland. No doubt you’ve seen the photos and updates on Yammer, but did you know this is one of the largest training programs ever undertaken in this Department? Here are some of the facts:

- 21 sessions from March to June 2015
- 3070 participants – 70% Department: 30% NGO
- Covering QLD from Cairns to Beenleigh and out to Roma
- NGO representatives from a number of agencies and Peaks including Anglicare, Centacare, ACT for Kids, Evolve, LWB, CREATE, QATSCIPP, FIN, Uniting Care and Kummara, to name just a few
- Participation from some of our key partners like SCAN team members, the Queensland Family and Child Commission and the Office of the Public Guardian.

Implementation Teams

The Foundational Training is just the beginning of the implementation of the framework for practice. To embed the framework, research and experience in other jurisdictions tells us that successful implementation requires the harnessing of the enthusiasm of small teams to drive local change.

Regional Implementation Teams and a Central Office Implementation Team have been established across the state. These teams are
responsible for the implementation of the Framework for their region/work units. They identify early opportunities for work to align with the Framework and identify and manage potential risks.

These groups will be represented on a State-wide Implementation Team that will oversee the implementation at a system level and enable learnings across the teams to be shared broadly.

Integrating the Framework

An important part of the implementation is ensuring that the ‘architecture’ supports the Framework for Practice. Some of the work to date includes:

- Working with Child Safety Training to update the GRO (CSO training) material
- Working with HR to update examples of CSO tasks for recruitment marketing
- Case Review Unit working to embed the Framework for Practice elements in its review processes.
- Framework presentations to QLD Catholic Education Commission, Legal Aid solicitors and DJAG
- Building Domestic and Family Violence Practice- training for 250 departmental and NGO participants with David Mandel
- Highlighting the Appreciative Inquiry questioning approach across the organisation- seven June training sessions for central office staff + follow up coaching sessions.

“L” plates are on

As Foundational training comes to a close, there are a growing number of examples of staff starting to use the Framework for Practice tools in their work with children, families, carers and partners. This is the time for trying the tools out and reflecting with team mates about what worked, what didn’t work so well and what you would do differently next time.

Workers have shown a particular interest in the Three Houses Tool: 1) House of Worries; 2) House of Good Things; and 3) House of Hopes and Dreams which helps explore a child’s worries about their life, the positives that are happening and their hopes and dreams for the future. Examples have been provided of The Three Houses Tool being used in assessment, casework and QCAT processes.

Three Houses (Copyright: Weld & Greening)

Regional Implementation Teams are interested to know how such tools and how the Framework is influencing practice, what is working well and what isn’t working, in order to plan next steps. Make contact with these regional teams and let them know of your experiences.

Further information re the Framework tools and processes can be accessed at:


Next round of training

Training for the Framework continues, with Leading Practice training commencing in June. This two-day training will be provided to 560 departmental staff in leadership positions and will run through to August.

Family Group Meeting Convenor training will be offered 27-29th July. Recognised Entities, as key partners in the Family Group Meeting process, are being invited to attend these three days of training.

Want more?

Contact the Practice Leadership Unit at: PLUmailbox@communities.qld.gov.au