

**Murdoch Childrens
Research Institute**

Healthier Kids. Healthier Future.

A snapshot of place-based activity promoting children's wellbeing

Collaborate for children: scoping project

Produced by the Centre for Community Child Health

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Education

November 2014



The Royal **Children's**
Hospital Melbourne

About this report

This publication has been developed by the Centre for Community Child Health at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and The Royal Children's Hospital as part of the Collaborate for children: scoping project funded by the Australian Government Department of Education. It provides a snapshot of who is driving, doing and supporting place-based approaches to improve children's outcomes.

Over 12 months, the project investigated the Australian place-based landscape to understand how we can better promote children's wellbeing through place-based initiatives. This publication is one of four key reports produced through the project. The reports are:

- *The evidence: what we know about place-based approaches to support children's wellbeing*
- **A snapshot of place-based activity promoting children's wellbeing – who is driving, doing and supporting place-based initiatives**
- *Big thinking on place: getting place-based approaches moving*
- *The state of play in Australian place-based activity for children – a summary of project findings with recommendations for accelerating place-based efforts.*

All publications can be downloaded from www.rch.org.au/ccch.

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About us

The Centre for Community Child Health at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and The Royal Children's Hospital is committed to supporting and empowering communities to improve the health, development and wellbeing of all children. The Centre works in collaboration with campus partner The University of Melbourne to integrate clinical care, research and education in community child health. The Centre provides leadership in early childhood and community health at community, state, national and international levels, and is widely recognised for its clinical, teaching, research and advocacy programs.

The Centre seeks to enhance outcomes for children through:

- population health research
- policy and advocacy
- consultancy in service improvement and innovation
- training and professional development
- specialised clinics
- knowledge translation and dissemination.

Thank you

We would like to acknowledge and thank our project reference group for the generous sharing of their intellect, wisdom and time. Their input was invaluable.

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Overview

This publication provides a snapshot of who is driving, doing and supporting place-based approaches to improve children's outcomes. The snapshot is made up of two parts:

Table 1:

Australian child-focused place-based policies, leading practice in communities, research, and organisations and initiatives offering strategic coordination in place-based activity for children

Table 2:

Key organisations that support planning, implementation and research into place-based approaches to improve children's outcomes

The snapshot drew on existing resources and documents at the Centre for Community Child Health and was expanded with data from expert consultations conducted during the project (see *Big thinking on place*), in addition to feedback from the project's reference group. Advisors from policy, practice and research reviewed the final publication.

The information in this publication is correct as at 31 August 2014.

Table 1

Table 1 provides a compendium of child-focused place-based:

Driving policies

Australian federal and state policies that encourage and support place-based approaches to improve children's outcomes.

Leading practice in communities

Innovative examples of place-based initiatives working towards improving children's wellbeing. These include both examples operating in one location, as well as initiatives that are using the same approach in multiple locations.

Contributing research

Current research and key evaluations and reviews that seek to support, strengthen, and evaluate place-based approaches for children.

Strategic coordination organisations and initiatives

Key organisations and initiatives supporting, or with the potential to support, strategic coordination efforts around child-focused place-based approaches.

Table 1: Driving policies

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – Australian Government	Better Futures, Local Solutions	A place-based policy within the Australian Government's Building Australia's Future Workforce strategy (announced in the 2011-2012 budget) aimed at helping families and individuals in 10 communities in six states boost their work skills, find jobs and provide opportunities for their children. It also supported communities to develop solutions to address disadvantage in their area, strengthen community infrastructure and increase employment and work opportunities. \$38 million was committed to deliver integrated local services and a Local Solutions Fund for innovative projects that provided new services and models to boost engagement and participation. Funded until 2015.	Australian Government Department of Social Services		Bankstown (NSW), Shellharbour (NSW), Wuyong (NSW), Hume (Vic), Greater Shepparton (Vic), Logan (Qld), Rockhampton (Qld), Playford (SA), Kwinana (WA), Burnie (Tas)
Policy – Australian Government	Communities for Children	The scheme funds non-government organisations (facilitating partners) to develop and implement a strategic whole of community approach to the early childhood years (originally 0-5 years, now 0-12 years), working with local services and community members. In addition to promoting cooperation and coordination between existing service networks, Communities for Children delivers direct services such as home visiting, case management and facilitated playgroups.	Australian Government Department of Social Services	Facilitating partner model (auspiced organisation) leads other agencies in developing a whole of community approach	52 sites across Australia
Policy – Australian Government	Communities for Children Plus	Communities for Children Plus sites aim to deliver a more co-ordinated approach between child and family services, state child protection authorities, and adult services for parents, using the Communities for Children model, where there may be a higher risk of child abuse and neglect.	Australian Government Department of Social Services	Facilitating partner model (auspiced organisation) leads other agencies in developing a whole of community approach	Eight sites across Australia

Table 1: Driving policies

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – Australian Government	Stronger Communities for Children	The Australian Government is expanding the Communities for Children program in the Northern Territory from its current four sites to an additional 15 communities from 2013. A key local non-government organisation (facilitating partner) in each site will work with the community to decide on the services most needed, and to make sure local services work together to support children and families in the community. They will then find suitable organisations to deliver services to the community.	Australian Government Department of Social Services	Facilitating partner model (auspiced organisation or council) leads other agencies in developing a whole of community approach	In NT the following 10 sites have been announced – Ngukurr, Santa Teresa, Ntaria (Hermannsburg), Wadeye and Galiwinku, Gunbalanya, Lajamanu, Maningrida, Utopia Homelands and Engawala
Policy – Australian Government	Early Learning and Care Centres	Since 2008, 38 Early Learning and Care Centres (including six new Autism-specific centres) have been created in areas where existing child care services cannot meet the demand for child care. These centres provide integrated early learning and care in a long day care setting that takes into account the specific requirements of the local community. A number of centres have been incorporated into the development of other facilities. Examples include redevelopment of schools, preschools, children and family centres and health facilities, such as GP Super Clinics.	Australian Government Department of Education	Australian Government funded, state and local government responsible for development. Partnerships with local agencies to deliver services	38 locations across Australia
Policy – Australian Government	The Extended Service School Models Project	The Extended Service School Models Project aims to facilitate the targeted delivery of support services to young people who are most at risk of not engaging in education and making a successful transition to schooling, further education and training and participation in the wider community.	Led by WA, through the WA Department of Education	Education departments of Vic, SA, ACT, NSW, NT and Qld, the Catholic and Independent school sectors and the Western Australian Council of State Schools	

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Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – Australian Government	Child and Family Centres	Thirty-eight new child and family centres were created as part of the National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Early Childhood Development to provide integrated education, family support, child care and health services in 38 localities across the country with high Indigenous populations and disadvantage. The initiative will not be funded beyond June 2014.	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Australian Government – funded, state and local government responsible for development. Partnerships with local agencies to deliver services	38 Centres across Australia (23 in regional or remote areas and 15 in urban areas)
Policy – State, ACT	Towards Zero Growth	Towards Zero Growth is an action plan to reduce the level of obesity in the Australian Capital Territory community and increase healthy lifestyle choices across a range of areas including schools, communities, workplaces and homes.	ACT Government	Whole of government view to promote healthy lifestyles	ACT
Policy – State, NSW	Collaborative Practice Management Group	The Collaborative Practice Management Group aims to drive collaborative practice in local Sydney Child and Family Interagencies.	NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet	Families NSW and Keep Them Safe initiative	Inner West, Northern Sydney and South East
Policy – State, NSW	Families NSW	Families NSW is the New South Wales Government’s overarching strategy to enhance the health and wellbeing of children up to eight years and their families.	NSW Government	Joint responsibility of three agencies: NSW Health, NSW Department of Education and Communities, NSW Department of Family and Community Services	NSW

Table 1: Driving policies

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – State, NSW	Schools as Community Centres	The Schools as Community Centres (SaCC) projects operate in targeted communities supporting families and young children. Local SaCC facilitators, schools and interagency partners plan collaborative initiatives to develop capacity in young children birth to eight years, families and local communities.	NSW Department of Education and Communities	Schools working with communities	NSW – in 48 targeted communities
Policy – State, NT	Families as First Teachers – Indigenous Parenting Support Services Program (FaFT-IPSS)	The model focuses on building the capacity of the community, school, practitioners and families. Through flexible funding arrangements the communities are able to develop the resources they require to deliver quality programs, including resources to assist parents to capitalise on early childhood learning around health, hygiene, nutrition and family.	NT Department of Education and Training	Australian Government Department of Social Services	NT
Policy – State, NT	Indigenous Integrated Child and Family Centres	The Indigenous Integrated Child and Family Centres are part of a joint Australian and Northern Territory Government commitment to Aboriginal services, with a special focus on partnering between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal providers.	NT Department of Education and Training	Child and Family Centres	NT
Policy – State, NT	Strong Start, Bright Future (Birth to Jobs) (now disbanded)	The Strong Start, Bright Future model was designed to build capacity through improved governance, augmented leadership, integrated service delivery in the early years and vocational education and training focussed on getting real jobs for school leavers to improve outcomes for Indigenous students in the 20 growth towns and their respective hinterlands.	NT Government	Whole-of-government prevention and early intervention strategy	NT

Table 1: Driving policies

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – State, Qld	Children and Family Centres	The children and family centres are part of a joint Australian and Queensland Government commitment to improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in their early years under the "Closing the Gap" agenda. The Queensland Government has partnered with the Australian Government to establish 10 child and family centres across the state by mid-2014.	Qld Department of Education, Training, and Employment	Child and Family Centres	Qld
Policy – State, Qld	Independent Public Schools Initiative (IPSI)	The IPSI recognises the best decision-making often occurs at a local level through direct response to local community needs and aspirations. Queensland principals, teachers, parents and local communities have greater control and ownership of their schools when those schools become Independent Public Schools. The IPSI will provide opportunities for: enhanced local governance, advancing innovation, locally tailored workforce, financial flexibility, building for the future, and public accountability, transparency and performance.	Qld Department of Education, Training, and Employment		Qld – 54 schools
Policy – State, SA	An Affordable Place to Live	The South Australian Government has developed seven priorities for South Australia's future. Through the Every Chance for Every Child and Safe Communities, Healthy Neighbourhoods priorities, the government is working in partnership with families and communities on a range of initiatives.	SA Government		SA
Policy – State, SA	Children's Centres for Early Childhood Development and Parenting – SA	Children's Centres for Early Childhood Development and Parenting bring together care, education, health, community development activities and family services to achieve the best possible learning, health and wellbeing outcomes in a universal setting. Services and programs are available to families and their young children from birth to eight years of age.	SA Department of Education and Child Development, SA Health, SA Department for Communities and Social Inclusion		SA

Table 1: Driving policies

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – State, SA	Together SA	Together SA will provide a backbone for collective impact approaches across South Australia. Together SA will document its work and develop a body of resources to support real community engagement, authentic conversations and results focussed work. Together SA will soon finalise its focus in terms of initial communities in which it will work.	SA Department of Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI)	Auspiced by Community Centres SA and has the support of the Department of Premier and Cabinet’s Partnership and Participation unit and DCSI along with a range of community, philanthropic and other partners. It has been funded by contributions from government, community organisations and philanthropic bodies	SA
Policy – State, Tas	Launching Into Learning	Launching Into Learning provides resources to schools to develop and lead initiatives with families and their community to support children’s early learning prior to Kindergarten. Schools focus on the needs of their community and make connections with other groups, services and agencies in the area.	Tas Department of Education	Schools working with communities	Tas
Policy – State, Tas	Tasmanian Child and Family Centres	Tasmanian Child and Family Centres aim to improve the health and wellbeing, education and care of Tasmania’s very young children by supporting parents and enhancing accessibility of services in the local community. They have been established in 12 disadvantaged communities across Tasmania through an extensive process of community engagement and empowerment. Within each Child and Family Centre, a Community Liaison Officer is responsible for a range of activities aimed at engaging with the community. Local Enabling Groups perform the role of a governing body or board for each Child and Family Centre.	Tas Department of Education	Australian Government Department of Education, Tasmanian Early Years Foundation	Tas

Table 1: Driving policies

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – State, Vic	Area Partnerships Initiative	The Area Partnerships Initiative is a collaborative partnership process to tackle child and youth vulnerability in Victoria across all regions. It brings together the Victorian Government Departments of Education and Early Childhood (DEECD), Health (DH), Human Services (DHS), Justice (DoJ) and Victoria Police (VicPol). Eight areas will be piloted with a view to roll-out across all 17 areas state-wide.	Vic Government	Members will likely be: DHS: Area Director (potential chair) DEECD: Deputy Regional Director (potential chair) VicPol: Superintendent DH, DoJ: Regional Directors (TBC) Local government: Director, Human Services Community Sector: CEO or Deputy CEO or equivalent	Vic – Central Highlands, Mallee, Outer Eastern Melbourne, Southern Melbourne, Inner Gippsland, Ovens-Murray, Loddon and Western Melbourne
Policy – State, Vic	Best Start	Best Start aims to improve the health, development, learning and wellbeing of all Victorian children (0-8 years). It supports communities, parents and service providers to improve universal early years services so they are responsive to local needs. It has a strong emphasis on prevention and early intervention, and promotes community partnerships including local and state government, community organisations and health and education services.	Vic Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	Local government areas, health and community services, Department of Human Services, community groups, education services	Vic – 30 sites

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Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – State, Vic	Child FIRST	Child FIRST (Child and Family Information, Referral and Support Teams) have been established in designated sub-regional catchments across Victoria to provide a community-based referral point into Family Services.	Vic Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	The Child and Family Services Alliances include partners from Child FIRST, all funded family services (including Aboriginal family services), Child Protection and the Department of Human Services Family Services Partnerships	Vic – 24 local government areas
Policy – State, Vic	Extended School Hubs and service model trials	Extended School Hubs aim to strengthen partnerships between schools, community and business to support students to achieve their education potential.	Vic Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	Geelong North, Sandhurst, Frankston North, Wyndham and at Berendale School	Vic
Policy – State, Vic	Linking Learning: Birth to 12 years	Linking Learning aims to improve learning outcomes for Victorian children from birth to 12 years, by focusing on enabling parents, educators and other practitioners and professionals to work effectively together in an integrated manner to support children’s learning and assist in smooth transition processes.	Vic Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	The establishment of eight lead locations over three years, May 2014 – May 2017. Partners in each location will include schools, early childhood services and local government	Vic

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Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Policy – State, Vic	Streamlining Services for Vulnerable Children and Families	Streamlining Services aims to develop an approach to streamlining the planning and delivery of services for vulnerable children and their families. This approach is to be implemented and evaluated in three local demonstration sites and will then be prepared for large-scale dissemination across Victoria.	Vic Government as a whole-of-government initiative	Parenting Research Centre, the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales, The University of Melbourne and Deakin University	Vic
Policy – State, Vic	Victorian Integrated Children’s Centres	Victorian Integrated Children’s Centres aim to support families and improve outcomes for children by enhancing accessibility of services in the local community. Implemented in over 100 sites, including 10 sites in collaboration with the Australian Government and two Aboriginal Child and Family Centres.	Vic Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, some Australian Government funding in selected sites	Local government and community service agencies	Vic
Policy – State, WA	Child and Parent Centres	Since 2012, the Western Australian government has committed to the establishment of 16 Child and Parent Centres on selected public school sites in vulnerable communities. These community centres are intended to improve access to a range of early learning, parenting, child and maternal health and wellbeing programs and services that provide support to families with young children, birth to eight years – with a focus on children from birth to four years of age.	Department of Education, WA	Other government departments and non-government organisations selected to manage and provide services at each Child and Parent Centre site	WA

Table 1: Leading practice in communities

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – multiple sites	Communities That Care	The Communities That Care process provides a framework for communities to make measurable improvements in important areas of community life and promote the healthy development of children and young people through long term community planning to prevent health and social problems. The process has been designed to assist local organisational development and planning by emphasising both community development and empowerment and the building of understanding and skills relevant to effective prevention strategies. Four communities are currently implementing Communities That Care in Australia, with plans to extend the Communities That Care process into 14 local communities.	Communities That Care Ltd	The Royal Children’s Hospital Centre for Adolescent Health	Mornington, Vic Peninsula, Vic Ballarat, Vic Greater Bunbury, WA Myrtleford, Vic
Practice – multiple sites	Learning for Life Program	The Learning for Life program provides emotional, practical and financial support to help disadvantaged children and young people with their education. Support starts in the early years of learning development and continues through primary and high school. Learning for Life workers are located in 96 communities throughout Australia where they can link disadvantaged students and their families with local services, programs and opportunities to support their full participation in education.	The Smith Family	Government, schools, families and other service providers	National – 96 sites
Practice – multiple sites	National Community Hubs Program (Community Hubs)	Community Hubs is a national program that links families (particularly migrant families) and their preschool children to services and support, learning opportunities and the community. A network of 30 community hubs in six local government areas will be established in 2014 at schools or community centres.	Refuge of Hope	The Migration Council Australia, Scanlon Foundation, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, schools, community centres, Australian Government (Department of Immigration and Citizenship)	Bankstown, NSW Blacktown, NSW Brimbank, Vic Dandenong, Vic Logan, Qld Parramatta, NSW

Table 1: Leading practice in communities

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – multiple sites	United Way Community Impact Strategy	Utilising a community impact approach in 10 communities in NSW, Vic and Qld.	United Way Australia	Corporate and community partners	NSW, Vic and Qld
Practice – one location	Challis Primary School	Challis Primary School offers an extended school model. It shares its site with Challis Early Childhood Education Centre (ECEC). The school caters for children from Year 3 to Year 7 and the ECEC caters for children from kindergarten to Year 2. A comprehensive suite of services is offered to families with children aged 0–3 years from the Challis Parenting and Early Learning Centre. These services include Parent and Play sessions, 3 Year Old Kindy, and various allied health services.	Challis Primary School	Challis Early Childhood Education Centre, Challis Parenting and Early Learning Centre	WA
Practice – one location	Children's Ground	Children's Ground is a locally led and designed place-based approach for working in Australia's most disadvantaged communities. It starts pre-birth, and provides a complete integrated system of high quality services in learning, wellbeing and development for children and young people from 0–24 years and their families and their communities. Children's Ground's first partnership has been established with the Mirarr people in the Northern Territory, through their organisation the Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Organisation. Their vision is for the next generation to have amazing opportunities to celebrate their social, cultural, educational, health and economic wellbeing. Further information: www.childrensground.org.au/	Children's Ground West Arnhem	Australian Government Department of Education Kakadu West Arnhem Social Trust (from re-negotiated uranium mine agreement) set up to invest across a generation, Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Organisation, Oxfam	Mirrar people in West Arnhem, NT

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Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – one location	Collaborative Practice Management Group	The Collaborative Practice Management Group aims to drive collaborative practice in local Sydney Child and Family Interagencies.	NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet	Families NSW and Keep Them Safe initiative	Inner West, Northern Sydney and South East, NSW
Practice – one location	Dala Yooro Child and Family Centre	Dala Yooro is an Aboriginal Child and Family Centre in East Gippsland providing affordable, integrated services in the areas of education, health and family support.	The Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Cooperative (GEGAC)	UnitingCare Gippsland, Australian Government Department of Education, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Vic	East Gippsland Shire, Vic
Practice – one location	Doveton College	A birth to Year 9 community learning centre with an innovative model of service delivery: the integration of family and children’s services within a school. After two years of intensive planning and construction of state-of-the-art facilities, Doveton College opened in 2012. It is the first social-government partnership of its kind in Victoria.	Doveton College	Vic Government, the Colman Foundation and the Australian Government agreed to establish a unique partnership to plan, build and operate Doveton College. The development and operation is supported by the Centre for Community Child Health’s Platforms Model and the Parenting Research Centre	Doveton, Vic

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Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – one location	Education Benalla program	A large-scale community initiative that works with Benalla and district families, Benalla’s primary and secondary schools, local government, community groups and local businesses to improve school retention to Year 12 and completion of a diploma, degree or apprenticeship. The program commenced in 2010 and is trialling a shared data management platform using Social Solutions and Blackbaud. Learnings around how to form effective collaborations are also being collected. As part of this project they have produced a "Wellbeing of Children" report.	Tomorrow Today Foundation		Benalla, Vic
Practice – one location	Go Goldfields Alliance	A partnership of service providers in Central Goldfields Shire in Victoria, created to deliver locally relevant responses to social issues that are too complex and too long-term for previous solutions. It has developed a series of shire-wide, community-driven approaches to improve social, education and health outcomes for children, youth and families. The Go Goldfields Alliance is committed to working on the early years, social connection, social safety and employment both within the projects funded against the Go Goldfields Great Outcome Action Plan and across the service system. Further information: www.loddonmallee.com.au/regional-priorities/go-goldfields	Go Goldfields	Alliance of service providers, local councils and government agencies with funding support from the Victorian Government	Central Goldfields Shire Council, Vic
Practice – one location	Happy, Healthy Families	A multi-strategic, place-based program that aims to improve health outcomes for children aged 0-12 years and their families/carers.	Bendigo Community Health	Local services	Bendigo, Vic

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Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – one location	Logan Child Friendly Community Consortium	Aims to bring together government, non-government, community organisations and community members to promote outcomes for children, their families and communities using a child friendly approach (informed by UNICEF's child friendly cities). This approach will be supported by the Logan Together Initiative which outlines a Collective Impact framework to achieve a more integrated response to the needs of Logan children, It will initially focus on families with children in the pre-birth to age eight cohort living in two areas in Logan City.			Logan, Qld
Practice – one location	New South Wales Community Investment Collective (CIC)	The CIC is a model which aims to break the cycle of disadvantage in communities through collaboration across government, business and community. The CIC has been initiated by the Northern District of NSW Family & Community Services. The concept is to collaborate across sectors and bring not only funding from the private sector, but also time and talent and encourage new ways of working to tackle social disadvantage.	Northern District of NSW Family & Community Services		Northern District of NSW
Practice – one location	Shepparton Light House Children's Project	Shepparton Light House Children's Project is a 20-year change project — from cradle to career — to improve the lives and outcomes of Shepparton's children and young people. From 2013-15 is the establishment phase in which the project is preparing the community, schools and community organisations to engage in a new way of thinking about the progress of Shepparton's children.	Sir Andrew and Lady Fairley Foundation	Goulburn Murray Local Learning and Employment Network, Latrobe University Shepparton, Community Fund, Goulburn Valley	Shepparton, Vic

Table 1: Leading practice in communities

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – one location	Stronger Families Alliance and the Blue Mountains Consortium (BMC)	A network of government, non-profit and voluntary organisations working together to support families across the Blue Mountains. The Alliance’s Child and Family Plan is a 10-year blueprint for coordinated development of government, community and voluntary organisations working with children and families, with a strong emphasis on collaboration with, and improving service system’s engagement with, families. One of the service networks operating under the Stronger Families Alliance is the BMC, a group of organisations committed to providing the best possible support for children and families in the Blue Mountains, particularly those that are considered vulnerable because of their circumstances. Further information: www.strongerfamilies.co/	The BMC	The 28 Alliance members include all levels of government, business networks, NSW child and family organisations and the community and university sectors	Blue Mountains, NSW
Practice – one location	The Armidale Project	The aim of the Armidale Project is to strengthen the capability of small to medium funded agencies located within Armidale and surrounds to deliver better Keep Them Safe services and outcomes for clients. These include family support, youth and Aboriginal services, with a special focus on partnering between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal providers.	NSW Family Services		Armidale, NSW
Practice – one location	Wendouree West Community Learning Hub (WWCLH)	The WWCLH, with Yuille Park P-8 Community College at its centre, brings together education, health and community services. After five years of consultation with the Victorian Government Department of Human Services and two years of design and construction, WWCLH opened its doors to the school and community in July 2008.	Yuille Park P-8 Community College	Children’s Services Centre, Wendouree West Community House, Wendouree West Men’s Shed, Wendouree West Youth Centre, Wendouree West Wellbeing Inc	Wendouree West, Vic

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Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – one location	Wyndham Collaborative approach for families and children	To provide a collaborative approach for families and children in Wyndham.	Early Childhood Management Services	Local government areas and schools in Wyndham	Wyndham, Vic
Practice – support	Australian Early Development Census (formerly the Australian Early Development Index)	A national census of early childhood development, with data collection taking place every three years. Information is collected on individual children around Australia who are in their first year of formal full-time school. Results are reported at the local community, community, state/territory and national level to help create a snapshot of early childhood development.	Australian Government Department of Education	State and territory governments, schools, Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children's Hospital, Telethon Kids	National
Practice – support	Child and Family Centres Tasmania Learning and Development Strategy	The Learning and Development strategy used co-production, training and development and action research to support the state government-funded Child and Family Centres Project and encourage services to work in a more collaborative way.	Centre for Community Child Health	Tasmanian Early Years Foundation, Tas Department of Education	Tas
Practice – support	Child Family Community Australia (CFCA) information exchange	Research, practice and policy information exchange providing quality, evidence-based publications and resources for professionals in the areas of protecting children, supporting families and strengthening communities. Brings together resources from the previous National Child Protection Clearinghouse, Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse and Communities and Families Clearinghouse Australia. Further information: www.aifs.gov.au/cfca/	Australian Institute of Family Studies	Australian Government Department of Social Services	National

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Practice – support	Child Friendly Communities Australia (Cfca)	Formed to create conversations about local responses to local planning and to provide resources and encouragement for towns and communities seeking to take the next step towards collaboration for children’s wellbeing. Cfca has a particular expertise in assisting communities to develop local wellbeing reports on the status of children as a key stepping stone on the path to communities implementing child-friendly plans and governance processes.	Good Beginnings Australia	Anglicare NT, Wesley Mission Brisbane Qld, St Luke’s Anglicare	East Gippsland, Vic Melbourne, Vic Launceston, Tas Logan, Qld Alice Springs, NT
Practice – support	Child Friendly Cities Australia	Piloting the implementation of the Child Friendly Cities model in Australia. UNICEF Australia will work with local government and community partners to develop and test Child Friendly tools and resources. These resources are to provide clear guidance on how to implement child friendly initiatives in various environments, including business, schools, hospitals and community spaces. In the current pilot this includes six broad domains for children: active participation, safety, health, education, belonging and play and leisure.	UNICEF Australia	Local government, Pilot sites – South Australian Department for Education and Child Development	SA – Campbelltown, Gawler, Onkaparinga
Practice – support	Communities That Care	Training and technical assistance resource that has been designed to enhance the healthy development of children and young people by building community capacity to plan and deliver effective developmental prevention services.	Communities That Care Ltd	The Royal Children’s Hospital Centre for Adolescent Health, Deakin University	National
Practice – support	Community Hubs website	The primary purpose of the Community Hubs website is to support hub workers to establish or operate a Community Hub. Further information: http://www.communityhubs.org.au	Refuge of Hope	Centre for Community Child Health, Refuge of Hope, Hume City Council	NSW, Qld, Vic

Table 1: Leading practice in communities

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – support	Knowledge Circle	A sub-site of the Child Family Community Australia information exchange, Knowledge Circle is an online resource that celebrates new approaches to keeping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children safe and happy in their communities. The purpose of Knowledge Circle is to provide professionals working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders with quality, evidence-based information, resources and interactive support. Further information: www2.aifs.gov.au/cfca/knowledgecircle	Australian Institute of Family Studies	Developed in consultation with the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care and the Healing Foundation. Funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services	National
Practice – support	Linking Learning Communities of Practice	The Linking Learning Communities of Practice is a website that provides the opportunity for project participants to share knowledge, solve problems, cultivate best practice and foster innovation in lead demonstration locations. Further information: linkinglearning.ning.com/	Vic Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	The establishment of eight lead locations over three years, May 2014 – May 2017. Partners in each location include schools, early childhood services and local government	Vic
Practice – support	Platforms	Platforms is a place-based service redevelopment framework. It helps communities build community partnerships to lead the reconfiguration of services; identify, plan and respond to the needs of their children; and monitor and evaluate their work to ensure outcomes for children are improving. A Platforms training program and resource have been designed to equip those working in the early years sector with the knowledge and skills required to implement Platforms. The training program consists of five modules that may be taken consecutively or independently. Platforms tailored workshops, facilitator training, and consultancy support are also available to communities and services. Further information: www.rch.org.au/ccch/consultancy/Platforms/	Centre for Community Child Health		National

Table 1: Leading practice in communities

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Practice – support	Supporting implementation of intensive family services in the Northern Territory	Working with agencies to design, develop and implement a new outcomes-focused, evidence-informed and culturally appropriate family support service targeted to families that are known to child protection and are subject to Child Protection Measures of Income Management.	Parenting Research Centre	Good Beginnings Australia, Save the Children Australia, The Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women’s Council, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Anyinginyi Health Service and Australian Government Department of Social Services, child protection authorities	NT

Table 1: Contributing research

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Research	Blue Sky	The Blue Sky Research Project aims to develop a transformed service delivery system that is able to reorient to the needs of families and shift the developmental trajectory of children aged 0-8 years in Melton South in Victoria.	Centre for Community Child Health	Melton City Council, Vic Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	Melton South, Vic
Research	Child Friendly Community Networks	Child Friendly Community Networks currently operating in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.	University of Western Sydney, NSW	UNICEF Australia	NSW, WA, Vic
Research	Creating Conditions for Collective Impact (CREATE)	The research project focuses on strengthening the capacity of the service system for children and has two core goals: (1) To build a set of structured processes and resources – a Prevention Support System – to strengthen the developmental system in socially disadvantaged communities to make sustained improvements in the wellbeing of children; (2) To test the efficacy of the Prevention Support System in fostering community collaborations and its transportability to new communities.	Griffith University, Qld	Prevention Research Centre at Pennsylvania State University, three government departments (Department of Social Services, NSW Dept of Families and Community Services, NSW Dept of Education and Communities and five non-government agencies (Mission Australia, The Smith Family, The Benevolent Society, The Australian Primary Principals Association, Parenting Research Centre)	Three Communities for Children (CfC) communities in NSW are the sites for building capacity using the CREATE Model, with three other NSW CfC sites serving as ‘business as usual’ communities

Table 1: Contributing research

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Research	Kids in Communities Study	The Kids in Communities Study aims to investigate the community or neighbourhood-level factors that affect child development (based on the AEDC, a population measure of early childhood development) and are amenable to change. In this early phase of the study, funding from VicHealth has enabled the collaboration to investigate how best to measure these factors. The project tested a combination of innovative quantitative and qualitative approaches to better measure communities' assets and challenges in the context of the social, economic, cultural, physical and service environments that might influence children's development, including the local governance and policy mechanisms.	The University of Melbourne, Vic	University of Canberra, University of New South Wales, University of Western Australia, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Wesley Mission Brisbane, Mount Saint Vincent University, The University of British Columbia, The Smith Family, Department of Education, ACT Community Services Directorate, Vic Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, SA Department for Education and Child Development, Queensland Health Partner Investigator, Australian Bureau of Statistics, NSW Department of Education and Communities	
Research	Kids Come First Project	The Kids Come First Project measures key outcomes for children and young people in Tasmania. It compiles data from a number of sources including government data sets and survey results. It was developed in 2009 and is a valuable tool to inform policy development and service delivery.	Tasmanian Early Years Foundation	Government	Tas

Table 1: Contributing research

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Research	National evaluation of the Communities for Children (CfC) initiative	The national evaluation of the CfC initiative was undertaken as part of an evaluation of several area-based interventions known as the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy (SFCS). The evaluation found that the early stage of the implementation of the CfC service model has been modestly successful, and as the CfC programs continue to operate and improve in terms of access, outreach and effectiveness, one might expect even larger differences between children and families exposed to the initiative and those who are not. Further information: www.aifs.gov.au/institute/pubs/fm2010/fm84/fm84d.html	Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales	Australian Institute of Family Studies, Australian Government Department of Social Services (formerly: Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs)	National
Research	Pathways to prevention (and now CREATE – ARC linkage grant)	Has evolved since 2001 as a comprehensive service offered through a partnership between Mission Australia, seven local primary schools and Griffith University, in several ethnically diverse, socially disadvantaged, and high crime Brisbane suburbs. Its overriding goal is to create a pathway to wellbeing for all local children as they transit through successive life phases, from conception to youth.	Griffith University, Qld	Mission Australia, Primary Schools, Education Queensland	South-west Brisbane, Qld

Table 1: Contributing research

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Research	Review of Commonwealth place-based initiatives	A desktop meta-evaluation and review of Commonwealth place-based initiatives. Seeking to identify best practice principles, and map what is being done across the Australian Government. Focus is on Australian Government agencies' place-based initiatives only (ie. not initiatives lead/ funded by state government or other parties). Focus is also on all Australian Government place-based initiatives (i.e. not just those focusing on children).	Australian Institute of Family Studies	Australian Government Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet	
Research	The Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre (CRC)	The Young and Well CRC is an Australia-based, international research centre that unites young people with researchers, practitioners and policy makers from over 75 partner organisations across the non-profit, academic, government and corporate sectors. The purpose of the Young and Well CRC is to explore the role of technology in young people's lives, and to determine how those technologies can be used to improve the mental health and wellbeing of those aged 12 to 25 years. Partner organisations collaborate to research, develop, promote, disseminate and evaluate tools, models, programs and services that use technology to improve mental health and wellbeing for young people.		Essential Partners are: Australian National University, Beyond Blue, Black Dog Institute, Butterfly Foundation, Headspace, Murdoch University, Orygen Youth Health, Queensland University of Technology, The University of Melbourne, University of South Australia, The University of Sydney, University of Western Sydney, and VicHealth	National

Table 1: Contributing research

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Research	The ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course: Preventing Deep Disadvantage, Realising Life's Potential	The Centre will be based in the Institute for Social Science Research and will examine the processes underlying the transmission of disadvantage between generations and over the life course, as well as developing and piloting policies and practices to reduce disadvantage. Research programs will cover family dynamics, social and economic mobility, educational processes, parenting strategies, community interventions, intergenerational welfare dependency and methodological innovations. It is anticipated that the Centre will have an important translational component through developing and trialling new policy interventions, as well as a strong focus on research training and capacity building for graduate students and early career researchers. The Centre is expected to commence in mid-2014 and is funded for seven years. Further information: www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/ce/ce_2014/children_and_families.htm	The University of Queensland	Collaborating and Partner Organisations: The University of Melbourne, The University of Sydney, The University of Western Australia, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Boston College, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Australian Government Department of Education, Australian Government Department of Social Services, Institute of Education – London, National University of Singapore, Queensland Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, Royal Holloway University of London, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, University College Dublin, University of California – Irvine, University of Essex – UK, University of Ottawa, University of Pennsylvania, Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Wesley Mission Brisbane	

Table 1: Strategic coordination organisations and initiatives

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Strategic coordination	Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) Early Years Chapter Network	The Early Years Chapter advocates for the importance of early childhood. The principle objective of the Chapter is to encourage collaborative partnerships across researchers, academics, practitioners, professional organisations, government and non-government agencies. Further information: www.aracy.org.au/networks/early-years-chapter	ARACY		National
Strategic coordination	Child Family Community Australia (CFCA) Connect	CFCA Connect provides a dynamic, interactive source of the latest information in the child, family and community welfare sectors. People can engage in discussions with their peers, comment on content, find and contribute short articles on current issues, read summaries of important research and reports, and discover what's new in the field. Further information: www.aifs.gov.au/cfca/	Australian Institute of Family Studies	Australian Government Department of Social Services	National
Strategic coordination	Collaboration for Impact	Collaboration for Impact is an online resource that seeks to accelerate the adoption of system collaboration and Collective Impact in Australia. It does so by creating knowledge, network and tools; shining a light on successful Collective Impact initiatives; and building an Australian community of practice. Further information: www.collaborationforimpact.com/	Centre for Social Impact		National

Table 1: Strategic coordination organisations and initiatives

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Strategic coordination	Families and Children Activity expert panel	The role of the Families and Children Activity expert panel is to advise, mentor, support and train service providers who would like to build their capacity to offer services and programs that work to improve outcomes for families and children. This is particularly important for agencies who have not had the means to access resources to help them achieve this to date. The Panel will help services plan, implement and evaluate existing programs with a solid evidence base showing they are effective, as well as building the evidence base by trialling and evaluating new approaches where the need has been identified by the service. It is not intended that the work of the Panel will replace or circumvent research and evaluation activities that are already being undertaken by the sector.	Australian Institute of Family Studies will manage the Panel through the Child Family Community Australia (CFCA) information exchange. The CFCA information exchange will continue to operate as a dissemination point	Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS). AIFS and DSS are currently developing selection processes for the Panel	National
Strategic co-ordination	Opportunity Child	Opportunity Child is a collective impact initiative to reduce childhood vulnerability in 20 Australian communities over the next 10 years. The initiative will focus on getting results for children and youth, by aligning visions from community with the efforts of local agencies, practitioners and funders. It will build on local effort and move toward greater focus on prevention and early intervention to improve child wellbeing. The Nest: A national plan for child and youth wellbeing will support this work at the grass roots level.	Ten20 Foundation	Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth and a range of other partners	National

Table 1: Strategic coordination organisations and initiatives

Type	Collaboration/ Initiative	Summary of collaboration/initiative	Lead organisation	Other parties involved	LGAs, areas working in
Strategic coordination	Place-based round tables	The place-based round tables brought together people from different levels of government with academics and community leaders, in an effort to share knowledge and insights and forge a common framework that will inform our efforts at utilising a place-based approach to make a difference to children's outcomes. Further information: ww2.rch.org.au/emplibrary/ccch/CCCH_Place-based_initiatives_report.pdf	Centre for Community Child Health	Different levels of government, academics and community leaders	National
Strategic coordination	Changing places policy forum	Hosted by the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS), the November 2012 forum was designed to provide an opportunity for government policy-makers, researchers and community-sector workers to discuss place-based intervention policies. The event fostered a rich discussion to help advance policy thinking around place-based interventions.	AIFS	Government, academics and community leaders. Funded by five Australian Government departments	National

Table 2

Table 2 lists key organisations that support planning, implementation and research into place-based approaches to improve children's outcomes, and lists the initiatives supported.

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Organisation	Focus (i.e. National, State or Area)	Place-based collaboration/initiative
Australian Capital Territory Government	ACT	Towards Zero Growth
Australian Centre for Child Protection	National	Refugee Communities- Intercultural dialogue: Building relationships, building communities
Australian Council of Social Services (and state councils of social services eg. Victorian Council of Social Services)	National (and jurisdiction)	Policy/Advocacy
Australian Government Department of Education	National	Early Learning and Care Centres, Schools Business Community Partnership Brokers Programme, Extended Service Schools Collaboration (now disbanded)
Australian Government Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet	National	Review of Commonwealth place-based initiatives, Child and Family Centres
Australian Government Department of Social Services	National	Communities for Children, Communities for Children Plus, Stronger Communities for Children, Better Futures, Local Solutions
Australian Institute of Family Studies	National	Child Family Community Australia (CFCA) information exchange and CFCA Connect, Knowledge Circle, Closing the Gap clearinghouse, Research, National evaluation of the Communities for Children initiative (CfC), Review of Commonwealth place-based initiatives, Families and Children Activity expert panel
Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY)	National	The Nest, ARACY Early Years Chapter Network
Bendigo Community Health	Bendigo, Vic	Happy, Healthy Families
Benevolent Society	National	Social Leadership Australia
Berry Street Institute	Vic	Early Learning is Fun Playgroups, Connect for Kids

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Organisation	Focus (i.e. National, State or Area)	Place-based collaboration/initiative
Brotherhood of St Laurence	National	Communities for Children, Communities for Children Plus
Centre for Adolescent Health	National	Communities That Care
Centre for Community Child Health	National	Blue Sky Research Project, Child and Family Centres Tasmania, Collaborate for children: Scoping Project, Child liveability index (post-doc research), Community Hubs website, Linking Schools and Early Years Project, Kids in Communities Study, Place-based round tables, Platforms
Centre for Social Impact	National	Collaborate for Impact, Collective Impact Australia
Challis Primary School	WA	Extended school model
Children’s Ground West Arnhem	Mirrarr people in West Arnhem, NT	Children’s Ground
Connect Child and Family Services	NSW	NSW Support Agency – National Community Hubs program
Dala Yooro	East Gippsland Shire, Vic	Aboriginal Children and Family Centre
Doveton College	Doveton, Vic	Birth to Year 9 Community Learning Centre
Early Childhood Management Services	Vic	Wyndham Collaborative Approach for families and children
Go Goldfields	Central Goldfields Shire Council	Go Goldfields Alliance
Griffith University (Brisbane)	South-west Brisbane, Qld	Pathways to prevention (and now CREATE – ARC linkage grant), Creating Conditions for Collective Impact
Logan Children in the Community Consortium	Logan, Qld	UNICEF Child Friendly Community

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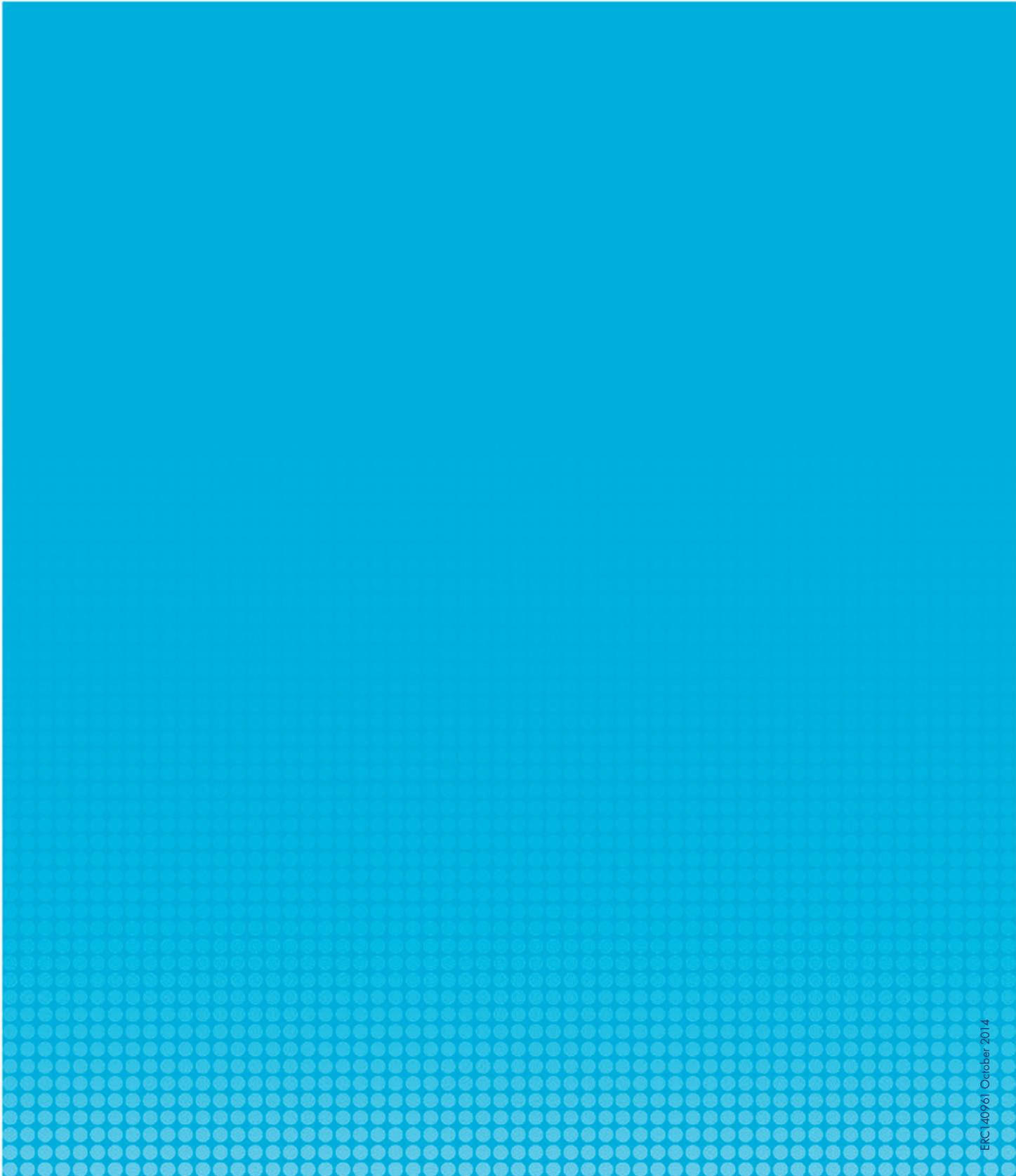
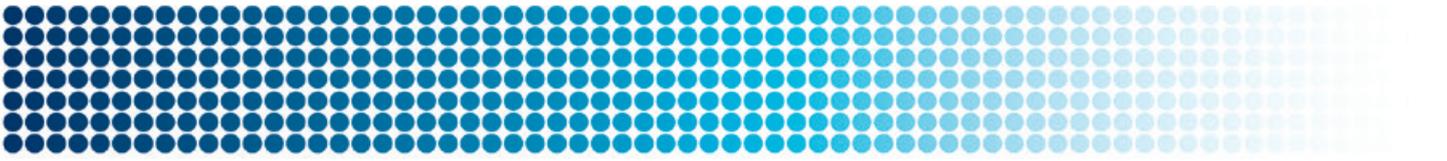
Organisation	Focus (i.e. National, State or Area)	Place-based collaboration/initiative
Northern District of NSW Family & Community Services	Northern District of NSW	New South Wales Community Investment Collective
New South Wales Department of Education and Communities	NSW	Schools as Community Centres
New South Wales Department of Premier and Cabinet	NSW	Collaborative Practice Management Group
New South Wales Family Services	Armidale, NSW	The Armidale Project
New South Wales Government	NSW	Families NSW
Ngala	WA	Part of the Swan Alliance managing Midland Communities for Children Plus, Coordinates Child & Parent Centres at Calista, East Waikiki and Neerabup Primary School
Northern Territory Department of Education and Training	NT – 20 identified “growth towns” and their respective hinterlands.	Strong Start Bright Futures (now disbanded), Families as First Teachers – Indigenous Parenting Support Services (FaFT-IPSS), Indigenous Integrated Child and Family Centres
Parenting Research Centre	National	Doveton College, Supporting implementation of intensive family services in the NT, Area Partnerships Support
Queensland Department of Education, Training and Employment	Qld	Early Years Centres, Independent Public Schools Initiative
Refuge of Hope and the Scanlon Foundation	NSW, Vic and Qld	Community Hubs, Community Hubs Website
Sir Andrew and Lady Fairley Foundation	Shepparton, Vic	Shepparton Light House Children’s Project
Social Policy and Research Centre	NSW	Communities for Children Evaluation

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Organisation	Focus (i.e. National, State or Area)	Place-based collaboration/initiative
Social Ventures Australia	NSW	Newpin social benefit bond
South Australian Government	SA	An Affordable Place to Live
South Australian Department of Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI)	SA	Together SA
South Australian Department of Education and Child Development	SA	Children’s Centres for Early Childhood Development and Parenting, Child Friendly Cities Australia
Tasmanian Early Years Foundation	Tas	Child and Family Centres Training and Development Program, Kids Come First
Tasmanian Department of Education	Tas	Launching Into Learning, Tasmanian Child and Family Centres
Ten20 Foundation	National	Opportunity Child
The Blue Mountains Consortium	Blue Mountains, NSW	Blue Mountains Stronger Family Alliance
The Smith Family	Bankstown NSW, Fairfield NSW, Brimbank Vic, Katherine NT, Kwinana WA, Mirrabooka WA, Raymond Terrace and Karuah NSW, Rockhampton Qld, Townsville West Qld	Learning for Life Program, Communities for Children
The University of Queensland	Qld, NT	The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course: Preventing Deep Disadvantage, Realising Life’s Potential
Tomorrow Today Foundation	Benalla, Vic	Education Benalla Programme, Wellbeing of Children Report

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Organisation	Focus (i.e. National, State or Area)	Place-based collaboration/initiative
UNICEF Australia	Campbelltown SA, Gawler SA and Onkaparinga SA	Child Friendly Cities Australia
United Way Australia	NSW, Vic, Qld	United Way Community Impact Strategy
Uniting Care Burnside	NSW	Newpin social benefit bond
University of Western Sydney	National	Child Friendly Cities Asia Pacific
Victorian Government	Vic	Area Partnerships Initiative, Streamlining Services for Vulnerable Children and Families
Victorian Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	Vic	Extended School for Community Partnership Sites, Extended school service model trials, Extended Schools Hub Pilot Linking for Learning, Best Start, Southern metro regional management forum, Child First, Victorian Integrated Children’s Centres, Linking Learning Communities of Practice
Yuille Park P-8 Community College	Wendouree West, Vic	Wendouree West Community Learning Hub
Western Australian Department of Education	WA	Child and Parent Centres WA
Woodside	WA	Woodside Development Fund will support programs and organisations that focus on early childhood development (\$20M over 10 Years)



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