

Logan Together Foundation Roadmap –Project scoping

Project title: Intensive support for all young parents under 19 years

Strategic or Chapter-based project: Strategic

Short description:

- Identify and engage young parents and pregnant women under 19 years in Logan
- Assess and respond to immediate needs/interest in multi-modal support
- Identify single support plan managers
- Engage young parents in self-directed, goal orientated support plans
- Focus on provision of support to meet developmental milestones of their children and parent-child attachment.

What results does it help Logan Together to achieve?

Foundation Roadmap scoreboard outcome (life stage)

Healthy toddlers

Target

This project will contribute to achieving the following key results:

- Reduce % of children developmentally vulnerable on 1 or more AEDC domains by 11.6%
- Reduce % of children developmentally vulnerable on 2 or more AEDC domains by 11.6%
- Reduce % of children developmentally at risk but not yet vulnerable on the five AEDC domains by an average of 4.9%
- Reduce % of children developmentally vulnerable on AEDC language and cognitive domain by 18.8% and at risk by a further 11.4%.
- Reduce % of children developmentally vulnerable on AEDC communication and general knowledge domain by 22.4% and at risk by a further 2.2%.

Indicators (how do we know the outcome is being achieved)

Child reaches all recognised developmental milestones at age 2, 3 and 4

Why will it help achieve those results?

A snapshot of the research

Children’s early years are a critical time in which the foundations for healthy development are laid. Positive stimulation in early life affects their health, wellbeing, coping skills and competence across the lifespan. Children’s health and wellbeing is initially characterised by key leading perinatal health indicators and shaped by a range of health and protective factors that either compromise or enhance health and wellbeing of babies and young

children. Later, additional indicators of health and wellbeing and the influences that shape them come into play, including those related to school readiness when children are around 5 years of age (MCEECDYA 2010).

There is a core set of protective factors at individual, family and community levels that are strongly predictive of positive outcomes for young people. At the individual level, relational skills, self-regulation skills, problem solving skills and involvement in positive activities protect even highly vulnerable people from negative trajectories, especially when accompanied by strong parenting competencies, positive peers and caring adults, as well as positive community environment, learning environment and economic opportunities. Importantly the strength and quality of the relationship for parents (and close family) and children is fundamental to the effective development a child's brain architecture and have a larger effect on cognitive outcomes than preschool childcare (MCEECDYA 2010).

Conversely there is a core set of individual, family and community stressors which are predictive of adverse outcomes for children. These include the absence of positive attachment and warm family relationships, poor parenting behaviours and limited cognitive stimulation, presence of toxic stress caused by such factors as parental mental illness, family violence or substance abuse and community factors such as unsafe neighbourhoods, social isolation and poverty. It is important to note that parenting is so influential that it can moderate the impact of social and economic disadvantage (Fox et al 2015).

The period of time in early childhood is a critical window of opportunity to engage with parents, given an increased openness to information about children and their contact with children's health services. Positive parenting is a protective factor for a range of negative outcomes (including behavioural problems, poor language development, mental illness, obesity, disengagement from school, substance misuse and antisocial behaviour).

Adolescent pregnancy and early child bearing are linked to a range of social, cultural, economic and psychological factors (e.g. poverty, school failure, inter-generational family dysfunction, mothers who had children early, exposure to drug and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse, low self-efficacy, poor self-concept and expectations). There is also a correlation between teen mothers and premature births and AEDC vulnerability for physical health and cognitive and language skills of the child.

This strategy seeks to provide support to adolescent mothers and their partners who are more susceptible to having children with negative early life trajectories and ensure protective factors outlined above are built upon.

Project details:

To be determined/identified.

Data and scale:

The table below shows strong correlations between being a teen mother and peri-natal risk factors including smoking during pregnancy and low prenatal visits.

	Perinatal Risk Factors						
	% Smoking During 1 st 20 weeks	% Smoking During 2 nd 20 weeks	% First prenatal visit during 3 rd Trimester	% Low N. Prenatal Visits	% Overweight and Obese	% Teen Mother	% Single Mother Under 25
Perinatal Risk Factors (Mother) (n=159)							
% Teen Mothers (Mothers Aged Less Than 20)	.750**	.766**	.681**	.605**	.627**	1	

There is also a correlation between teen mothers and premature births and AEDC vulnerability for physical health and cognitive and language skills of the child.

The table below indicates the number and percentage of teen mothers in Logan suburbs. Eagleby stands out in terms of both a high percentage and the sheer quantity of adolescent mothers. There are a number of additional suburbs that are not far behind.

Suburbs	N	Teen Mothers as a % of All Mothers
Eagleby	32	12.3
Woodridge	24	7.7
Kingston	22	9.9
Beenleigh	18	10.1
Slacks Creek	17	8.9
Loganlea	16	8.9
Browns Plains	16	10.5
Bethania – Waterford	15	8.6
Crestmead	14	6.0
Edens Landing – Holmview	14	10.1
Regents Park – Heritage Park	14	6.1
Marsden	13	4.6
Jimboomba	13	5.2
Subtotal	228	
Waterford West	9	7.8
Greenbank	9	5.3
Hillcrest	8	6.6
Tamborine / Canungra	7	4.7

Logan Central	6	6.5
Boronia Heights – Park Ridge	6	3.9
Loganholme – Tanah Merah	5	2.8
Shailer Park	5	4.3
Logan Village	5	9.1
Mount Warren Park	3	4.1
Rochedale South – Priestdale	3	1.4
Chambers Flat – Logan Reserve	2	4.3
Springwood	2	1.8
Cornubia – Carbrook	2	2.3
Munruben – Park Ridge South	1	2.6
Daisy Hill	1	1.1
Bahrs Scrub / Wolffdene	1	1.4
Underwood	1	1.0

Source: Perinatal Data Collection, Health Statistics Branch, Qld Department of Health. Data are for 2013/14. See also See Vol 3, ch. 3 (Table 3.4) and ch. 8 (Tables 8.5a and 8.5b, Tables 8.7a and 89.7b, and Table 8.8)

Partners:

Co-design:

Quick wins: