



Evidence and
Implementation
Summit 2023
9-11 October

Melbourne, Australia & Online



Behavioural and Implementation
Science Interventions
Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine



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#332 - Reimagining Residential Care: What We Learned Implementing an Evidence-Based Approach

Presenting Author(s)*

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Affiliation

Berry Street

Country of residence

Australia

Objectives/aims

When implementing the Teaching Family Model at Berry Street, we aimed to reimagine how organisations could provide residential care. We recognised that a culture shift was needed and that implementing Australia's first evidenced-based residential care model would need to overcome a culture of status quo to succeed. The culture shift enabled us to raise the standard of care, increase support for practitioners and create accountability at all levels of the organisation.

This presentation aims to provide organisations with our learnings on implementation and describe how cultural change is possible.

Discussion Points

1. Finding the model which reflects your organisation and societal values
2. Adapting the elements and goals to meet the Australian context
3. Using the systems to create a culture of fidelity and accountability

Methods

The Teaching Family Model is implemented using a peer-based approach. Our sponsor site Kia Puwai (New Zealand), provided us with the initial resources and training needed to begin our journey. Our Teaching Family Model agency lead used a project management approach to implement systematically across each region at Berry Street. The Teaching Family Model systems, Facilitative Administration, Training, Consultation and Evaluation allowed consistent feedback from all internal and external stakeholders which feeds back into training and implementation.



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Our presentation would be a 20min presentation without slides with an opportunity for questions and answers

Main findings

Following our successful Teaching family model pilot in 2017, we implemented the Teaching Family Model into ten Therapeutic Residential Care homes. We were initially guided by our sponsor agency, Kia Puwai (New Zealand) however had scope to individualise training which allowed us to embed the Australian context. We have trained over 450 carers and leaders since this time, effectively creating widespread cultural change. As a result, we have improved education, well-being and family connection outcomes. We have found that implementing a model that allows some flexibility and agility while also holding to the evidence base has successfully achieved better results for our young people and carers.