

BUILDING MULTI-SECTOR COLLABORATION TO SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE'S SEXUAL HEALTH: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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BUILDING AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO YOUNG PEOPLE'S SEXUAL HEALTH

Three project elements:

- Supporting parents and carers to talk with children and teenagers about sexual health
- Understanding the role of the non-government sector in supporting young people's sexual health
- Identifying the needs of teachers and school communities in effective delivery of RSE and supporting young people's sexual health.

How do we build an integrated approach to young people's sexual health?



THE ARCSHS YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD



Presenting a call to action from the 2025 Youth Sexual Health Summit

A young woman with light brown hair, wearing a blue polo shirt with "SEATON HIGH SCHOOL" and a name tag that says "Holly", is speaking. She is holding a small white object in her hand. Two young men are seated next to her, one on the left in a dark hoodie and one on the right in a plaid shirt. The background is dark.

Young people are going to have sex.

BUILDING AN INTEGRATED SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S SEXUAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING: STRENGTHS, CHALLENGES, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR THE NON-GOVERNMENT SECTOR



STRENGTHS

- Trust among community and young people
- Subject matter expertise
- Reaching marginalised young people through flexible service models
- Building capacity to engage with sexual health across multiple sectors



CHALLENGES

- Reliance on short-term, project-based funding limits long term relationship building and planning
- A fragmented approach to sexual health and wellbeing
- A reactive and problem-focused approach to sexual health and wellbeing
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- Lack of clarity around why sexual health matters



THE NEED FOR A COORDINATED APPROACH TO SEXUAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Any questions or comments?
- Do we need a framework for a comprehensive, multi-sector approach to young people's sexual health in Australia? What would this look like?
- What are the opportunities for, and barriers to, adopting a comprehensive approach to sexual health in Australian policy? (i.e how can we make this work across multiple policy areas?)
- What is one thing that would make a major difference for young people's sexual health in Australia?



THANK YOU

