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Practice Based / Service Delivery Oral Presentation

Title: **CAAPS Youth Services Program: Lessons from a comprehensive program review**

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Presenting author bio (50 words)

Dr Richard Cash - Head of Service Development 360Edge, and is interested in alcohol and drug and post traumatic mental health. Richard has experience in management, research, policy and service development. He has developed clinical guidelines, and policy and practice resources across health, emergency services and military mental health sectors

Background: CAAPS Aboriginal Corporation has been operating for over 37 years and runs a number of alcohol and other drug treatment services for young people, adults and families in both residential and non-residential settings in Darwin. In April 2021, CAAPS restructured the Youth Services Program, their primary treatment approach for young people seeking alcohol and drug treatment.

Description of Model of Care/Intervention: CAAPS Youth Services Program has been remodelled to support individualised assessment and treatment planning that is strength based and delivered flexibly, that is, not always delivered in a traditional residential setting. CAAPS engaged 360Edge to conduct an comprehensive review of the program.

Effectiveness/Acceptability/Implementation: The review was comprehensive in scope and involved a Gap and MapTM review of staff induction manuals, service framework, policies and procedures and associated program materials. The review assessed how well existing operations is meeting the aim of the new program, alignment with best practice treatment approaches and identified opportunities of improving monitoring and evaluation systems. In-depth consultations provided insights about strengths and identified opportunities for enhancements.

Conclusion and Next Steps: The review identified a range of strengths underpinning CAAPS Youth Service's Program operations, including strong leadership and committed staff, being highly regarded by external stakeholders and having robust and detailed treatment procedures. It also identified opportunities for enhancements, including developing a best practice model of care and implementing a program logic approach to monitoring and evaluation.

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