Tracking Therapeutic Outcomes: The CARE Model

Presented by Martha J. Holden

ACWA is pleased to present a special opportunity to share and engage with international and local research around the CARE (Children and Residential Experiences) model.

Presentations throughout the day will provide an overview of the CARE model including its real-life application in Australia. Speakers will also discuss examples of best practice in regards to permanency planning outcome and data collection measures. The California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare has rated the CARE model as promising research evidence and highly relevant to child welfare practice. This seminar is a must for child welfare and OOHC practitioners who are interested in learning more about how to utilise the outcomes data they routinely collect, to begin to build the evidence base that informs their agency’s practice.

Case studies:
Presentations will feature practical case studies including a US example with research findings that show decreases in restraints and medication. Two Australian agencies will speak to their experience to date in implementing CARE.

*In the event of high demand, places per agency may be limited.

Cost:

- $25 ACWA members
- $30 non members

Location:

ACWA
Level 4, 695-699 George St
Haymarket, Sydney
1. Translational Research
A new model of translational research that incorporates practitioners and researchers in full partnership to find out ‘what works’ and how to use and sustain ‘what works’ which can have a significant and positive impact on residential services.

2. Results from a Multi-Site Study Demonstrating the Success of CARE
Findings from a 4 year, multi-agency study that demonstrate that we can make a difference in the lives of young people in residential care and improve outcomes in key areas:
- Promoting stronger attachment between youth and their caregivers.
- Reducing the frequency of serious behavioural incidents.

3. Why a Model? Early Learning in Implementing the CARE Model
A presentation on the strengths and challenges of adopting a model designed to build the capacity of staff and the organisation to serve the best interests of children.

4. Case Study of CARE and TCI Implementation
A description of how an organisation collaborated with a university to enhance the use of their own data to improve the experience for the young people in their care. Using 12 years of administrative data, this multi-faceted child and family services agency demonstrated that when used together, CARE and TCI had an impact on the frequency and rate of restraints and medication.

5. Using Organisational Data to Monitor the Impact of CARE
An overview of one agency’s available data sources and a description of some of the challenges experienced in accessing and using organisational data as part of the CARE implementation process. Some initial findings from a descriptive analysis of incident records will be shared.

Presenters

Martha J. Holden M.S.
Director, Residential Child Care Project (RCCP)
Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR)
Cornell University

Debbie Sellers Ph.D.
Director of Research, RCCP, BCTR, Cornell University

Belinda Mayfield Ph.D.
Practice Partner, Life Without Barriers

Elizabeth West
Manager NSW OOHC Outcomes, NSW Practice & Quality
Life Without Barriers

Helen Warneke
Out-of-Home Care Lead, Child & Family Services
UnitingCare, Queensland

Chez Leggatt-Cook Ph.D.
Principal Researcher, Child & Family Services
UnitingCare, Queensland

Diana Boswell Ph.D.
Director, Therapeutic Welfare Interventions, Australia

Wendy Foote Ph.D.
Deputy CEO, ACWA
Over the course of her career Martha has trained thousands of human service professionals and through her training of trainers, indirectly impacted many more throughout the U.S., Europe, Israel and Australia. Martha has made distinguished contributions to human services through training and development activities throughout her working life. Martha is the 2016 recipient of The National Staff Development and Training Association (NSDTA USA) Career Achievement Award. The award is presented to an individual who has made a career commitment to the profession of human service training and development; making significant contributions in terms of leadership, new ideas and education as measured by improved organisational outcomes, impact on the field, or improvement in national best practices at a state or national level.

Some of her many contributions and achievements include:

- In the late 1970s and early 1980s, serving as a founding steering committee member of the Ohio Committee for Child Care Worker Training, creating various certification systems and curricula for child and youth care workers.

As Director of the RCCP, she oversaw the development of several curricula used throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, Israel and Australia, including:

- The Therapeutic Crisis Intervention System.
- Children and Residential Experiences (CARE) practice model.
- Institutional Child Abuse (IAB) project training.
- Organising RCCP International Conferences focusing on child safety and training.
- The development and use of an organisational development/systems approach. In addition to the training-of-trainers model, the RCCP recognises the role of training within the organisational system. The RCCP uses tools such as organisational climate inventories to assess the readiness for change and evaluate the impact of training and other organisational interventions such as coaching and team-building. The RCCP curricula is not viewed as a stand-alone intervention but part of a more comprehensive organisational intervention.
- Serving as Co-project Leader of the North American Certification Project, Martha co-led the initial efforts to organise more than 100 volunteers to develop the North American certification system.
- Conducting evaluation and research activities providing evidence of the effectiveness of the RCCP curriculum and organisational interventions.

Ms Holden will outline the CARE model and share some of the findings from the Bronfenbrenner Centre for Translational Research, Cornell University model of translational research that investigates ‘what works’ in the provision of residential care services.