



**Regional Disability Workforce
Innovation Forum**

Building Regional Capabilities in Specialist Behaviour Support

Presenter: Rod Carracher - Chief Practitioner

Overview

- Background
- The Issue
- Opportunities from the VRRF Grant
- The Project and its benefits
- What we learnt
- Future opportunities for Yooralla and Others

Background

Yooralla's

- Mission and values
- Human rights focus
- Specialist behaviour support
- Implementation of positive behaviour support (PBS)

NDIS - Positive Behaviour Support Capability Framework

- Principles and values base of PBS
- Person-centred and rights-based
- Reduction and elimination of restrictive practices

Background

Positive Behaviour Support

The approach is not focused on simply eliminating behaviours of concern. Rather, it seeks to improve quality of life by understanding why an individual engages in the behaviour in the first place and supports them to develop new proactive skills and strategies.

The Issue

Specialist Behaviour Support – Thin Market

NDIS Participants are most likely to be disadvantaged by thin markets if they:

- have a psychosocial disability
- are in isolated geographic areas
- have complex support needs, and
- present with behaviours of concern

The Ovens Murray Region

“My son has been suspended, which has been very traumatic for him and I don’t see how he can return to school. He has a Behaviour Support Plan that was developed by the Department of Education, but it only relates to the school setting, and there has been no real training for the staff members who are meant to be implementing it.

I would benefit from training in regards to strategies I could use to support him to better manage his behaviours. At this point we are in crisis. We have therapy, but it is expensive and we have used all of this funding. I need support from someone who can show me how to implement the strategies at home.”

Parent of a child with a disability in Ovens Murray Region

Opportunities from the VRRF Grant

- Engaging with local service providers
- Exploring the issues together
- Discussing the opportunities
- Focusing on the solution

The project and its benefits

- Focus on new NDIS directions for Specialist Behaviour Support
- The VRRF Grant funding enabled Yooralla's Specialist Behaviour Support Practitioners to develop new PBS Training
- Promoting local interested in being part of the solution
- Training, leadership and mentoring for regional Allied Health Professionals.
- Community of Practice
- Share practice experiences, developing and discussing areas of interests and building a sense of community
- Creating Regional and Metropolitan connections

What we learnt

- Sometimes things don't go to plan
- Covid-19 and the need to change course
- Mastering new technologies for new solutions
- Two-day Workshops
v's
- Shorter Modules over six weeks
- A proven formula:
 - Training in Modules
 - Community of Practice
 - Coaching and Mentoring

Future Opportunities for Yooralla and Others

- Build on the partnerships for improved services for people with a disability living in rural and regional Victoria
- Trans-disciplinary supports in partnerships for best outcomes for people with a disability
- Use of technology to have a focus on rural and regional Victoria with sustainable face-to-face and telehealth supports
- Improved implementation of positive behaviour support = reduced restrictive practices and safeguarding of Human Rights

Future Opportunities for Yooralla and Others

It usually takes a team to support an individual to fly





Thank you