BRINGING HOPE TO CHILDREN: EVALUATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNSELLING PROGRAMME

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OVERVIEW OF PILOT PROJECT

• Counselling service across four Primary schools

• Rural community

• Main aim is to provide counselling services to children, from the four Primary schools, with a focus on early intervention
BACKGROUND

History of ideas that led to the counselling service being implemented:

- increase in violent behaviour
  
  “teachers being hit and kicked and head butted”

- high levels of emotional need

- current services available in Primary schools were not meeting all of the needs of the children

  “the interventions that we have, like RTLB and SWIS, simply are in no way geared up to meet the needs we are seeing”
Purpose of Evaluation

Evaluation divided into two parts:

Phase One (Formative)
• To ascertain the effectiveness of the establishment of the counselling service

Phase Two (Summative)
• To measure the effectiveness of the counselling service
EVALUATION STRATEGIES

• Formative
  – Feedback
  – Collaboration

• Summative
  – Results
SAMPLING

• Formative
  – Purposive sampling

• Summative
  – Purposive sampling
  – Saturation sampling
## PARTICIPANTS

**Formative:**

- Principals
- Service Provider Staff
  - Project manager
  - Counsellor
  - Social Worker
- Funder
PARTICIPANTS

Summative:

• Principals

• Service Provider Staff
  – Project manager
  – Counsellors
  – Social Worker

• Boards of Trustees

• Community stakeholders
DATA COLLECTION

• Formative:
  - Semi-structured Interviews (qualitative)
  - Hui (qualitative)
DATA COLLECTION

• Summative:
  - Semi-structured Interviews (qualitative)
  - Focus Groups (qualitative)
  - Database (quantitative)
DATA ANALYSIS

• Formative:
  – Thematic Analysis (qualitative)

• Summative:
  – Thematic Analysis (qualitative)
  – Statistical Analysis (quantitative)
DISCUSSION OF KEY FINDINGS

Challenges:

• Communication

• Geographical location

• Long term sustainability
DISCUSSION OF KEY FINDINGS

Strengths:

• Collaboration

• Early intervention

• Engagement of child, family/whanau and school context

• Multi-disciplinary team approach
CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT

• Process of consultation

• Accessibility of the counselling service

• Value placed in the counselling service
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

• The children and their family/whanau that are utilising the counselling service

• Counselling service provider

• Schools and wider community

• Project Funder

• Wintec
“The future belongs to those who give the next generation reason for hope.”

(Pierre Teilhard De Chardin)
REFERENCES

