

A scenic view of a rocky coastline. The foreground shows large, light-colored rock formations with some water pooling in the crevices. The ocean is a deep blue, extending to the horizon under a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds.

Theory of Change

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Acknowledgement

Module 1: Navigating the Outcomes Environment

- Introducing the Theory of Change
- Key Terms and 'if-then' Logic
- Video
- $X + Y = Z$
- Program Logic and Theory of Change
- Case Studies – TEI Service and ACT! Evaluation
- Reviewing some Program Logic Models
- Q&A

Theory of Change



Theory of Change is a road map...

an expression of how and why a given set of interventions will lead to specific change.

Key Terms

- **Theory of Change**
- **Program Logic**
- **Inputs**
- **Outputs**
- **Outcomes**

If-then logic

Theory of Change

- follows a straightforward “if/then” logic

if the intervention is successful then it will lead to change

this is then measurable and where the Program Logic helps

CAUSES

Threats

Leaving the house late

Waking up late

ROOT CAUSES

Being in bed late

Staying up late watching Netflix

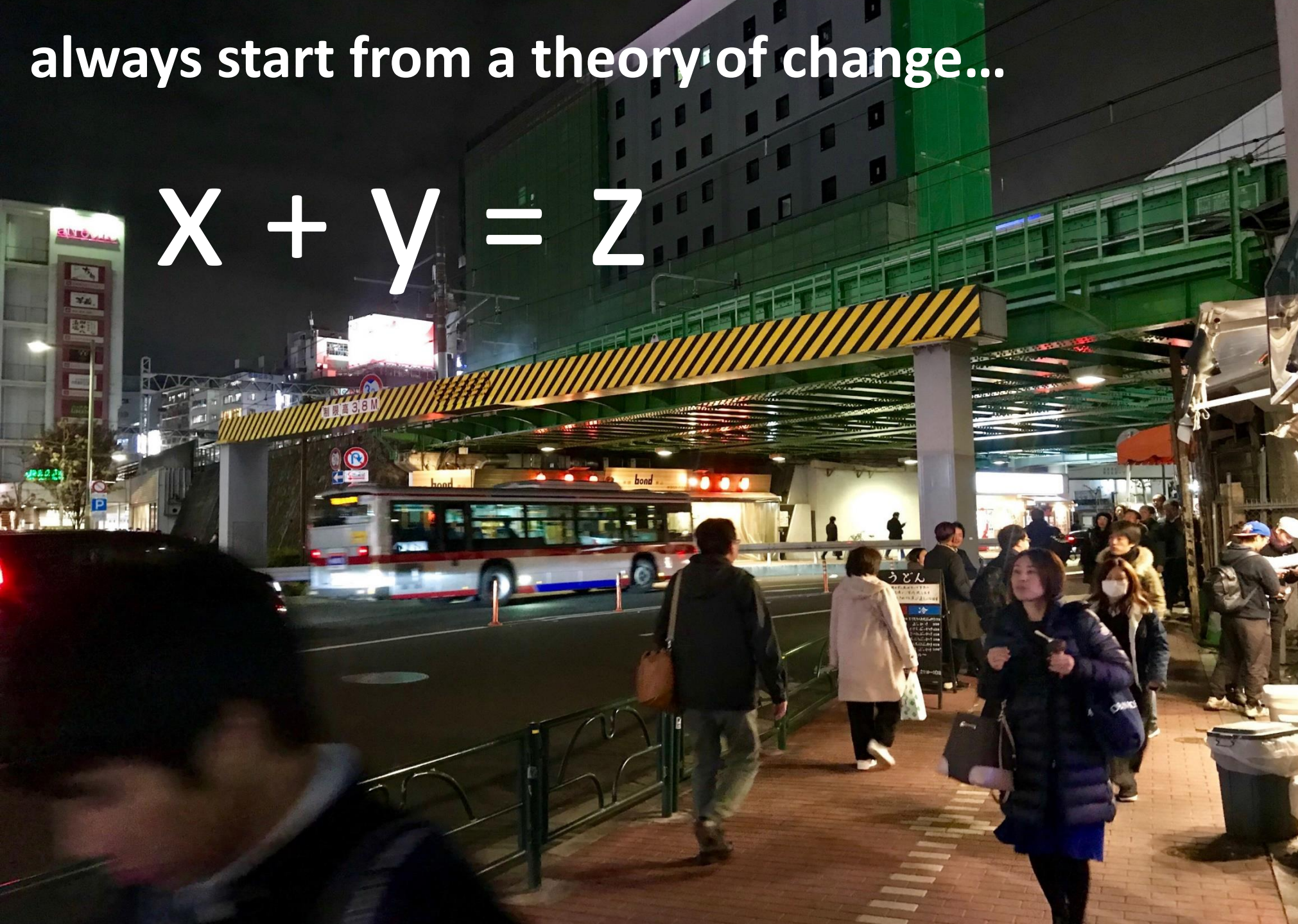
always start from a theory of change...

$$X + Y = Z$$

X = issue to address

Y = our solution, program or intervention

Z = the change we expect to see



Healthy Relationship Program

X = young people have increased incidence of experiencing or exposure to D&FV and are ill-equipped to develop healthy relationships

y = Partner with schools to delivery Love Bites program where young people are introduced to how to develop healthy relationship behaviours and consent

What is the Z

1. Increased knowledge of DV and its impacts
2. How to identify own safety needs and DV risk factors
3. How to call out behaviour that is non-consensual or presents a safety risks
4. Skills in how to develop healthy relationships
5. Young people have increased confidence in how to develop healthy relationships

Program Logic is...



Simply a framework for planning and evaluating a program, service, intervention



Evaluators and program designers use it usually before the commence their work



Theory of Change

Inputs

Outputs
Activities

Output
Measures

Outcomes
Short
Medium
and Long

Impacts



Inputs • Outputs • Outcomes

INPUTS: WHAT WE INVEST



OUTPUTS: WHAT WE DO

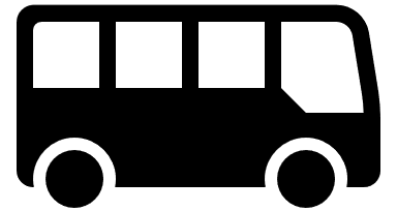
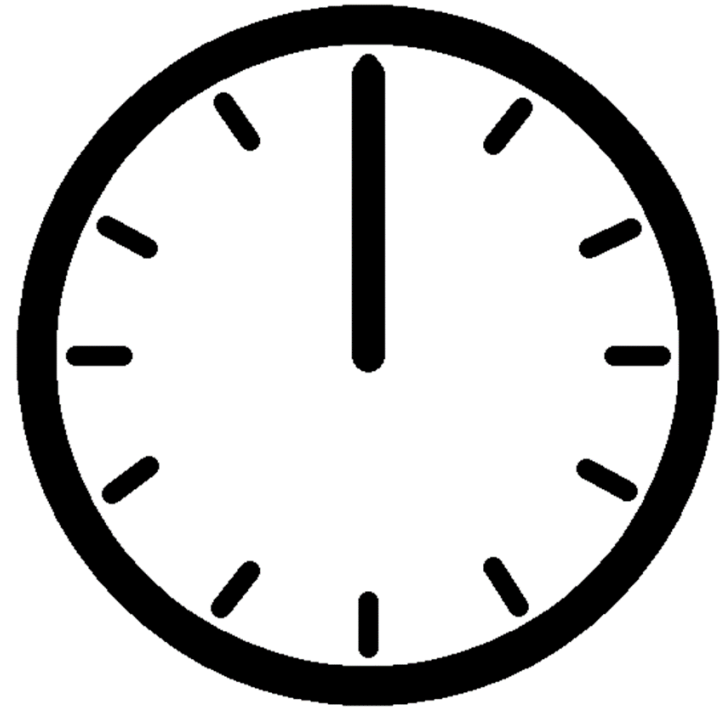
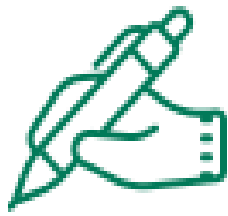


OUTCOMES: WHAT CHANGE OCCURS

Inputs



+



Outputs

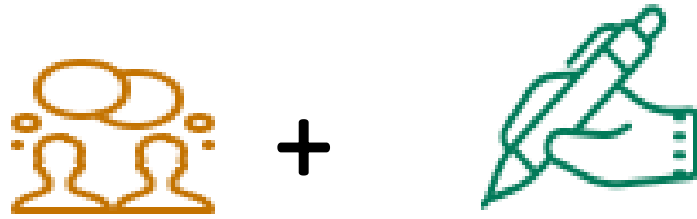
+





**Bums on seats
measures the
wrong end of
the client – these are outputs**

Outcomes



Home Social and community Wellbeing Employment
Empowerment Health Safety Education and Training

Case Studies

1. Theory of Change for TEI Service

2. Theory of Change for Program Evaluation

Case Study 1: TEI Service



TEI Service Theory of Change

X = Community members in the service catchment area experiencing multiple personal challenges

Y = Design and deliver a range of targeted early intervention programs that will support people in the community to improve the outcomes they seek

What is the Z

1. Improvements in the ability and agency of individuals to make changes in their lives to improve their overall wellbeing and the personal circumstances that enable them to deal with this range of complex stressors

The Stressors Unpacked

High levels of unemployment
Low income
High levels of disengagement from school
Poor mental health outcomes
Increased reliance on alcohol and other drugs
High levels of domestic violence
Family dysfunction and family breakdown
Intergenerational trauma
Loss of connection to culture
High levels of adolescent pregnancy
Additional stressors of 2019-2020
bushfires and floods
Loss of homes and lives
Impact of COVID-19



Service Solutions

Being embedded within the community allows us to:

- understand the communities' issues
- identify strategies to provide individual and community strengthening
- work effectively with partner agencies
- provide leadership for collaboration

We also:

- provide people with real skills and supports to help them to change their circumstances
- make sure we build individuals' skills and strength to allow them to overcome the challenges they face



The change in individuals and the wider community that we will see or help bring about

Programs and services

- Community engagement events relevant to the local areas
- Engaging Aboriginal community and Elders in events and need identification
- Information, referral and advice from multiple sites across three Districts
- Advocacy and support
- Supported playgroups
- Educational programs in schools
- Parenting programs
- Youth services, drop in and youth voice



Experience a range of stressors

Vulnerable families, individuals and community



Increased impact of disadvantage on individuals

Complex challenges

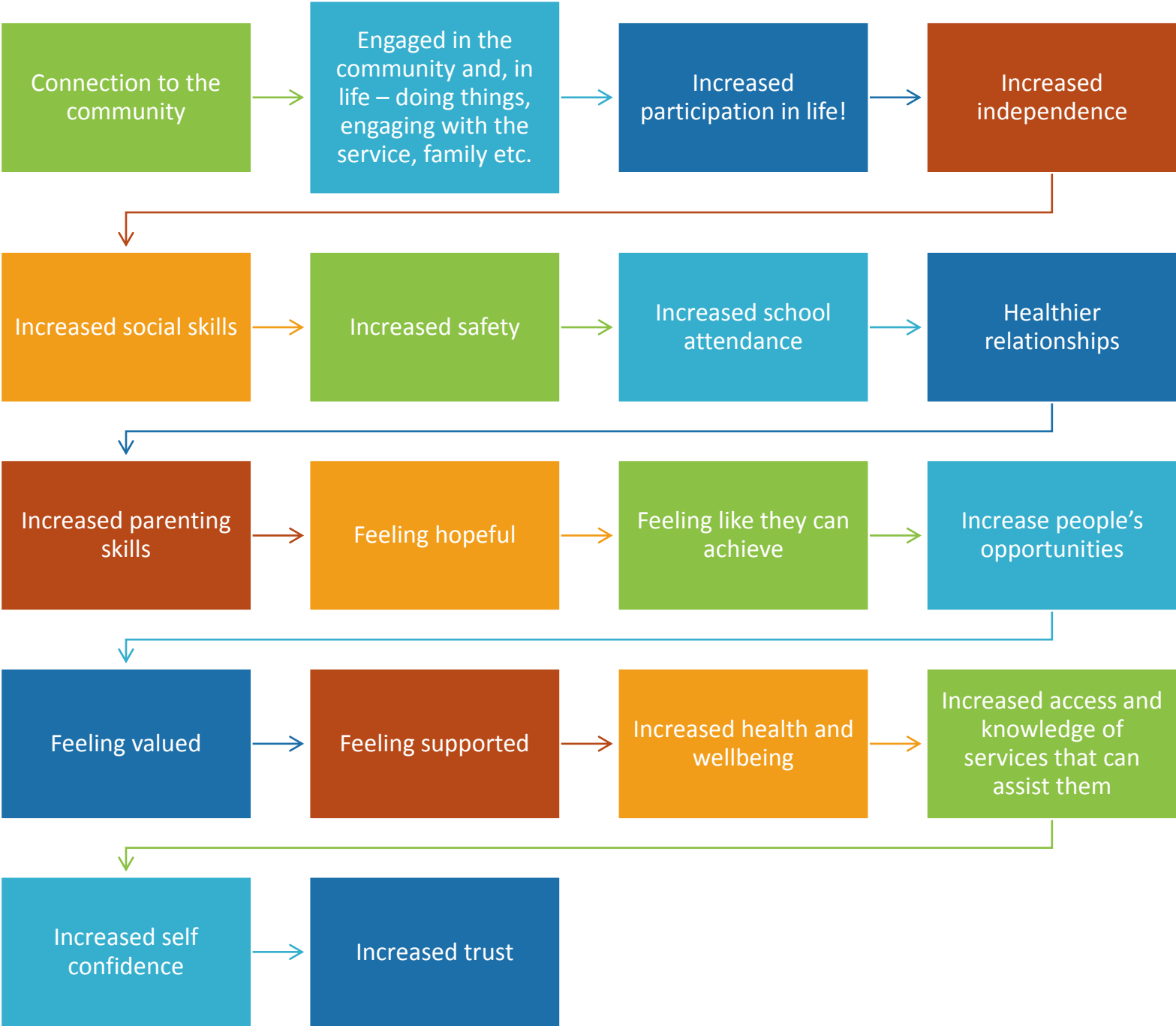
Intergenerational trauma and impact

The service works to strengthen individuals' ability to cope and make better decisions to address the complex challenges they face through increased social skills agency, empowerment and improved wellbeing



Strengthening communities as a whole and the ecosystem around them

Changes in Clients



Case Study 2: ACT! Program Evaluation

ACT! A Collaborative Toolkit Preparing Older People for Emergencies

- MOW NSW
- FRNSW
- NSW RFS
- NSW SES
- Red Cross Australia

ACT! Preparing Older People for Emergencies

X =

At risk older adults living at home have highest fatality rates in house fires and are vulnerable to other natural disasters and emergencies. More older people are living at home longer.

Y =

A program that enables home support providers to have emergency preparedness conversations with clients and refer them to existing Emergency service programs

What is the Z

1. Increased safety and preparedness for at risk older people
2. Increased knowledge of local risk factors and how to prepare well
3. Increased capacity of home support providers to enable clients to improve their safety and preparedness
4. Improved partnerships at State and local level
5. Improved knowledge of each others 'core business'



**ESTABLISHING
PARTNERSHIPS, PLANNING
AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT**



**DEVELOPMENT OF THE
TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
PACKAGE FOR MOW STAFF**



**DESIGN OF HOME VISTING
EMERGENCY READINESS
DISCUSSION TOOL AND APP**



**THE LEAVE BEHIND
RESOURCES AND FIVE KEY
MESSAGES**



PILOTING AND EVALUATION

ACT! Theory of Change

Build

Build capacity of services who provide in home care support to older adults living at home to have emergency preparedness conversations

Change

Change in the capacity of the partner service, both staff and volunteers

Increase

Increase their knowledge and skills in how to identify basic all-hazard risks and refer clients to relevant partner services such as NSW RFS, FRNSW, Red Cross

Develop

Develop an all-hazards approach to client preparedness using existing Australian Red Cross RediPlan model

Enable

Enable service staff and/or volunteers to work with clients to 'encourage actions that promote a level of independence in daily living tasks' based on a wellness and re-ablement model

Outcomes and impact

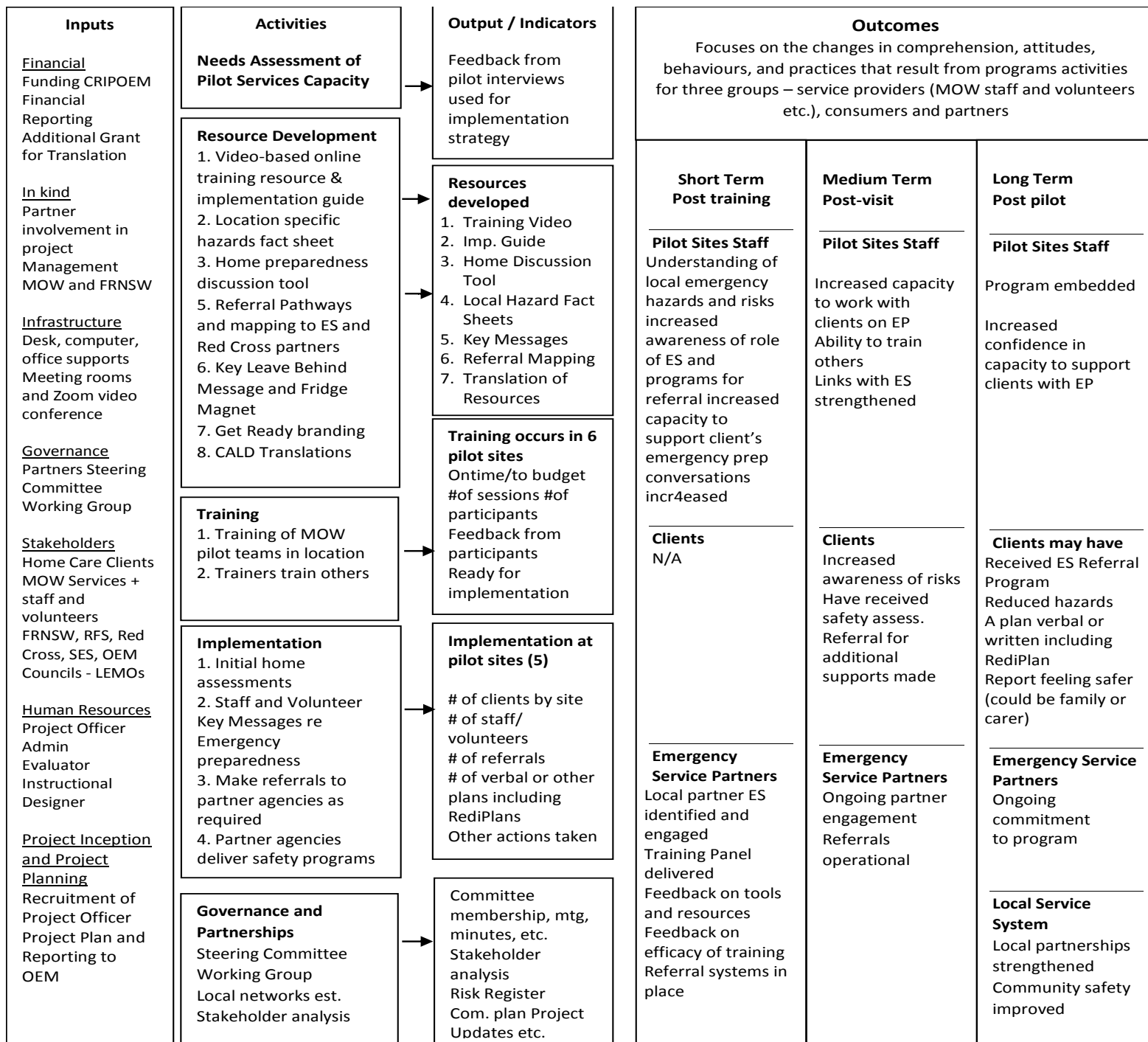
Outcomes for older people was increased:

- **understanding of the local all hazards risks factors**
- **ability (action taken) to prepare for an emergency event**
- **sense of preparedness for clients and where relevant their family and/or carers**

Ultimately...

- **Increase people's capacity, decrease their risk of vulnerability to natural disasters and emergencies and enable them to continue to live safely at home**





The Theory of Change and Program Logic helped **improve** the program over the 3 years...


Pilot sites needed **community translations** of Leave Behind Key Messages



HOME VISITING EMERGENCY READINESS DISCUSSION TOOL

Flexibility in delivery by Meals on Wheels teams based on locations

I am already registered.

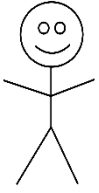
[Sign in](#) 

[I have forgotten my password](#)

I am new to ACT!
Let's get you registered.

[Register](#)

Program Logic **revised** at several points along the development time frame



Changes

are harder to measure but this is where the reward is...



↑ in wellbeing

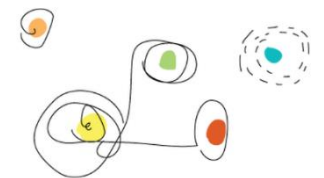
↑ in connectedness

↑ in knowledge

↓ in risk taking

↓ in crisis impact

↑ in stable housing



TEI PROGRAM LOGIC TEMPLATE

Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI) Program Logic

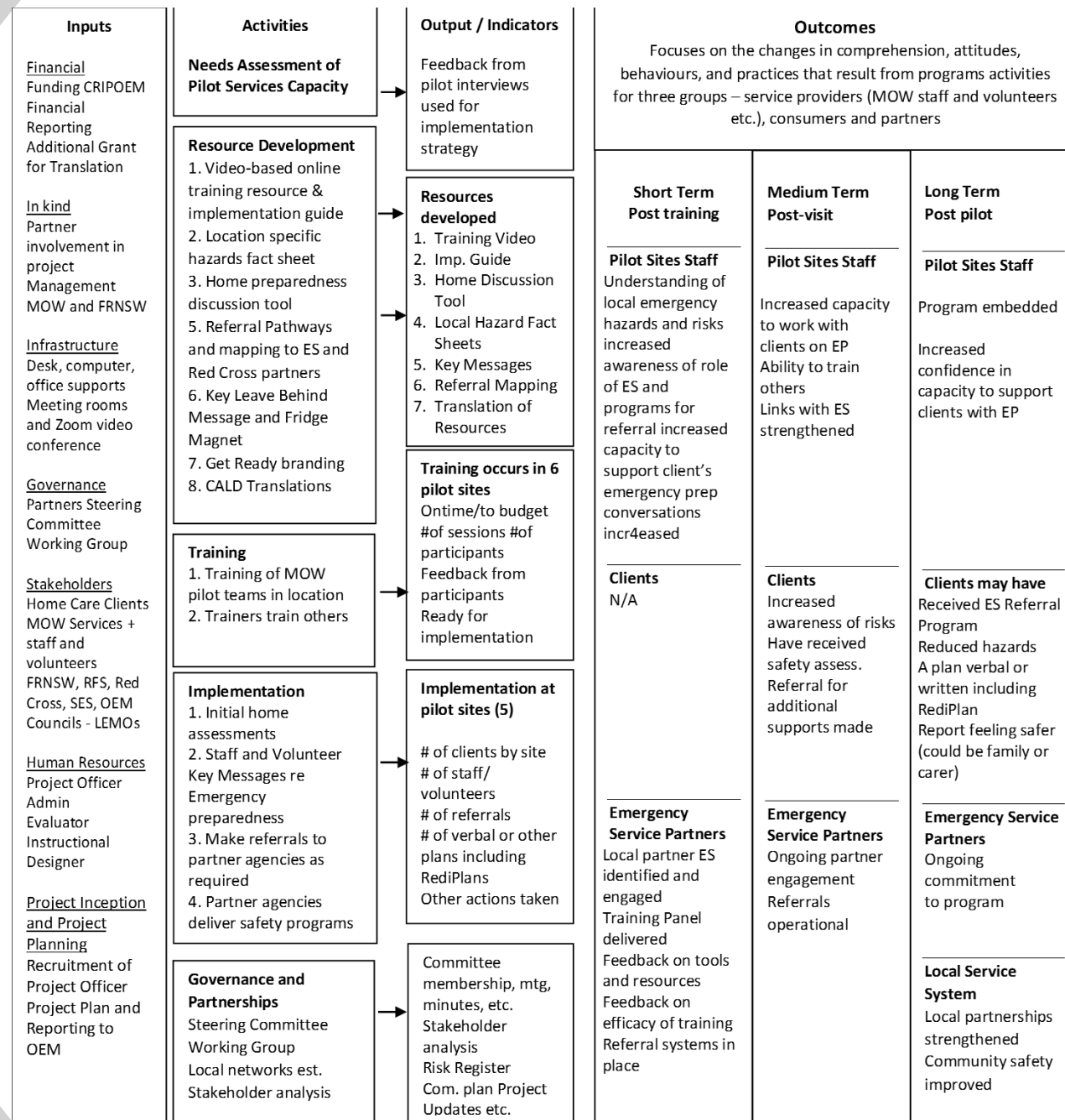
Example 1: Community strengthening stream

CURRENT SITUATION	ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES	EVIDENCE	OUTPUTS	THEORY OF CHANGE	CLIENT OUTCOMES DESCRIBE THE OUTCOMES FOR CLIENTS/COMMUNITIES ACHIEVED FOR EACH SERVICE TYPE
<p>Our district has a high level of unemployment (12.5%, NSW average 6.3%; Census 2016). The unemployment rate for people aged 15-24 is 21% (Census 2016). Historically, the local economy mainly relied on the agricultural and manufacturing industries. However over the last 10 years the jobs in these areas have been shrinking (Census 2016). Education levels are low, only 6% of people had a bachelor degree level or above. This is much less than the NSW average of 23.4% (Census 2016). Compounding this, 25% of households have no access to the internet (Census 2016). Due to the changing local economy and the fact that family and friends do not always have the knowledge or resources to facilitate employment pathways, the unemployment rate is rising amongst young people. If these young people are not supported to find meaningful employment they may experience a sense of disconnection from the community, mental and physical health issues and they will be extremely economically disadvantaged.</p>	<p>TEI Program Activity: Program activity 1: develop community connection</p> <p>TEI Service Type: Community engagement</p> <p>Service Description: Employment fair (yearly event)</p> <p>TEI Program Activity: Program activity 3: provide community support</p> <p>TEI Service Type: Facilitate employment pathways</p> <p>Service Description: resume writing workshops employment skills development volunteering/internships encouraging entrepreneurship workshops</p> <p>TEI Program Activity: Program activity 3: provide community support</p> <p>TEI Service Type: Information, advice, referral</p>	<p>Five core preconditions are necessary for the positive and sustainable engagement of young people in the labour market:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stable economic supports supportive relationships and networks a capacity to assess new employment opportunities, on both the supply and demand sides of the labour market provision of supports for the formation of job readiness and employability skills the opportunity to undertake skill development which is formally recognised and valued by both the labour market and the jobseeker. <p>Reference: Smith Family. (2014). Young people's successful transition to work: what are the pre-conditions?</p>	<p>Number of sessions Number of participants Demographics of participants Number of clients referred to other services Number of clients given the opportunity to volunteer Number of participants who report they are satisfied with the service provided Number of participants who report being treated with respect</p>	<p>An annual Youth Employment Fair will expose young people to the supports available to them as they transition from school to the workforce,</p> <p>Through our workshops young people will be supported to develop resumes to maximise their chances of gaining an interview and ultimately, employment.</p> <p>Young people will have the opportunity to attend information sessions with employers to understand what qualifications are needed and how they can obtain these. For example anyone wanting to work on a construction site will need a White Card.</p> <p>Furthermore, young people will be supported to obtain the right qualifications and volunteer or do an internship to build their local experience. By developing relevant experience and having the necessary qualifications, local young people will be more attractive to employers.</p> <p>Young people will also be educated on their rights as an employee to ensure that they can identify if the minimum wage and appropriate conditions are not being offered.</p> <p>Young people will also be encouraged to develop their entrepreneurial skills through workshops with local business owners.</p> <p>Young people will also be referred to other relevant services such as health, social services where the need is identified.</p> <p>Together these activities will ensure that local young people are in the best position possible to join the local workforce and settle into the community.</p>	<p>Social and Community</p> <p>Increased participation in community events/increased sense of belonging to the community.</p> <p>Increase in formal and informal networks</p> <p>Empowerment</p> <p>Increased client reported self-determination</p> <p>Increased confidence when applying for jobs Increased confidence when attending interviews</p> <p>Education and Skills</p> <p>Increased school attendance and achievement</p> <p>Increased understanding of how to apply for employment opportunities Increased ability to apply for employment opportunities</p> <p>Economic</p> <p>Sustained participation in employment</p> <p>Increase in the number of job interviews offered Increase in number of clients who are employed</p>

SHS PROGRAM LOGIC TEMPLATE

CURRENT SITUATION AND NEED	PROGRAM ACTIVITY	MECHANISMS OF CHANGE	OUTPUTS	SHORT TERM OUTCOMES PRIMARY ATTRIBUTED TO THE SHS PROGRAM	MEDIUM TERM OUTCOMES PRIMARY ATTRIBUTED TO THE SPECIALIST SHS PROGRAM. SOME SHARED ATTRIBUTION.	LONGER TERM OUTCOMES MOSTLY REQUIRE SHARED ATTRIBUTION ACROSS ALL SERVICE SYSTEM PARTNERS
<p>Identify the current situation this program seeks to change.</p> <p>1.</p>		<p>A program logic is complemented by a theory (or theories) of change. Put simply, a theory of change describes why you expect an intended outcome to be achieved through your actions. A program has only one logic, but it can have many theories – depending on the number of activities and complexity of the service being delivered. It is good practice to draw on research literature to develop your theory of change. It is generally communicated in narrative-style.</p> <p>This column brings the elements of your program logic in to a clear logical statement. It is a 'check' that together, your activities and outcomes make sense and flow on from one another.</p>	<p>Outputs are measures of what you are doing, how much of it and with who.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many groups will you run? 2. How many people will attend the groups? 3. What are the demographics of those who attended? 	<p>Human Services Outcomes Framework</p> <p>Social and Community</p> <p>Empowerment</p> <p>Education and Skills</p> <p>Economic</p> <p>Safety</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Home</p>	-	

STANDARD PROGRAM LOGIC TEMPLATE





Theory of Change

Q&A

Enjoy...

