

CONFERENCE ABSTRACT

Dream Big, Act Big for Kids: Building the capacity of frontline staff to address the social determinants of health in patient care.

2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Integrated Care, Melbourne, 11-13 November 2019

Kelsa Laughlin, Peta Howie

Children's Health Queensland, South Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Introduction: Despite promising opportunities for addressing social need in frontline patient care, research shows health practitioners require further knowledge and support to increase their confidence to address the social conditions that underpin poor patient health. Dream Big, Act Big for Kids is an educational electronic publication that aims to increase health practitioner confidence and understanding of the SDoH in everyday practice.

Practice change implemented:

- Advisory Group created as 'brains trust' for Dream Big, Act Big for Kids
- Evaluation plan created to assess impact of Dream Big, Act Big for Kids on practitioner understanding, confidence, practice, and culture
- Evaluation feedback from each article used to develop further support resources and sequential publications

Aim and theory of change: Dream Big, Act Big for Kids aims to increase health practitioner understanding of and confidence to address the social determinants of poor health and wellbeing in children and their families. Each publication contains a translation of current research on the SDoH and other relevant topics, accompanied by videos for inspiration, reflective practice questions, support for communities of practice, and ideation tools for practice change.

Targeted population and stakeholders: All CHQ staff and broader health and community practitioners.

Timeline: The first Dream Big, Act Big for Kids article was published in April 2019, with the second due to be released in August 2019. Four articles will be published per year for two years.

Highlights:

- Tailoring translation of research to a local context and providing concrete examples of applications for practice
- Encouraging individual and team reflective practice
- Accompanying tools that support ideation and innovation
- An annual Dream Big, Act Big for Kids Service Award to recognise innovations for addressing the social determinants of health in practice

Comments on sustainability: Based on initial positive feedback, there is opportunity to keep producing Dream Big, Act Big for Kids articles to continue supporting health practitioners.

Comments on transferability: Dream Big, Act Big for Kids translates current research for best practice in patient care, but does so in the context of Queensland.

Conclusions:

- The first Dream Big, Act Big for Kids article was opened by 67% (3490) of CHQ staff, in addition to 119 non CHQ subscribers
- Over 87% agreed that they learnt something new, with the remainder being neutral.
- 87% also reported that they planned on implementing changes in their practice based on what they had learnt in the article.
- Qualitative feedback was positive, and readers made requests for further information, support resources, and training.

Discussions: Dream Big, Act Big for Kids is in its early roll-out phase, but initial evaluation feedback confirms health practitioners require more information on the SDoH and other related topics, in addition to further development of resources to support changes in practice.

Lessons learned: Dream Big, Act Big for Kids has had a wide organisational reach and enabled the project team to understand and better respond to the needs of health practitioners in building their capacity to address the SDoH in everyday practice.