


**Outcomes Practice
Evidence Network
Child and Family
Services**

**A vehicle for strengthening the evidence
base for Victoria's child, youth and
family services**

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Outcomes Practice and Evidence Network (OPEN)

OPEN supporting an **outcomes-focused, learning culture** in the child, youth and family sectors through strengthening evidence practice – the use, sharing and building of evidence about what works to deliver the best outcomes for clients.

This means OPEN's job is to support organisations to

- **capture and share what they learn** in delivering their services,
- **draw on what other people have learnt** either from the sector or from research and evaluation
- **to continuously improve practice and the outcomes we deliver for clients**

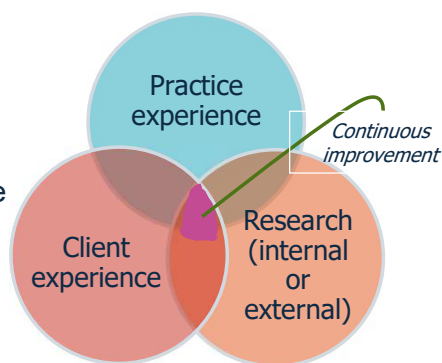
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Quick overview of terms -

Outcomes – the difference we make / the result achieved from our action

Evidence –All three types of evidence are needed to ensure a thorough insight into what may have the greatest likelihood of success within the context and client group.

You should be drawing from data from all three types of evidence.



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Bridge the gap between research and practice in child and family services

Strengthen our shared knowledge about what works for children, young people & families

Make better use of data, incorporating practice expertise and client values and feedback

Support the sector to create, share and use the best available evidence



www.outcomes.org

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OPEN Events Program

See www.outcomes.org/events

Innovative and promising programs from across the sector

- ✓ Youth in Focus – Insights into At risk young people
- ✓ Lessons about EBP – PuP and Family Foundations
- ✓ Childrens rights and wellbeing into the digital worlds

Embedding Evidence Into practice

- ✓ Key success factors for embedding evidence – The journey of Windermere and SVA (May 2022)
- ✓ Getting started on a shoestring – Family Life and Lighthouse Foundation.

OPEN Symposium (Next – Oct 2022)

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Embedding evaluation into practice – everyday evaluation

Why 'everyday evaluation' ?


To support organisations to use evaluation tools to help **with designing and measuring outcomes**, so you can:

- ✓ Understand the difference we are making – outcomes for clients
- ✓ Identify how to improve our work to make even more difference

Our model

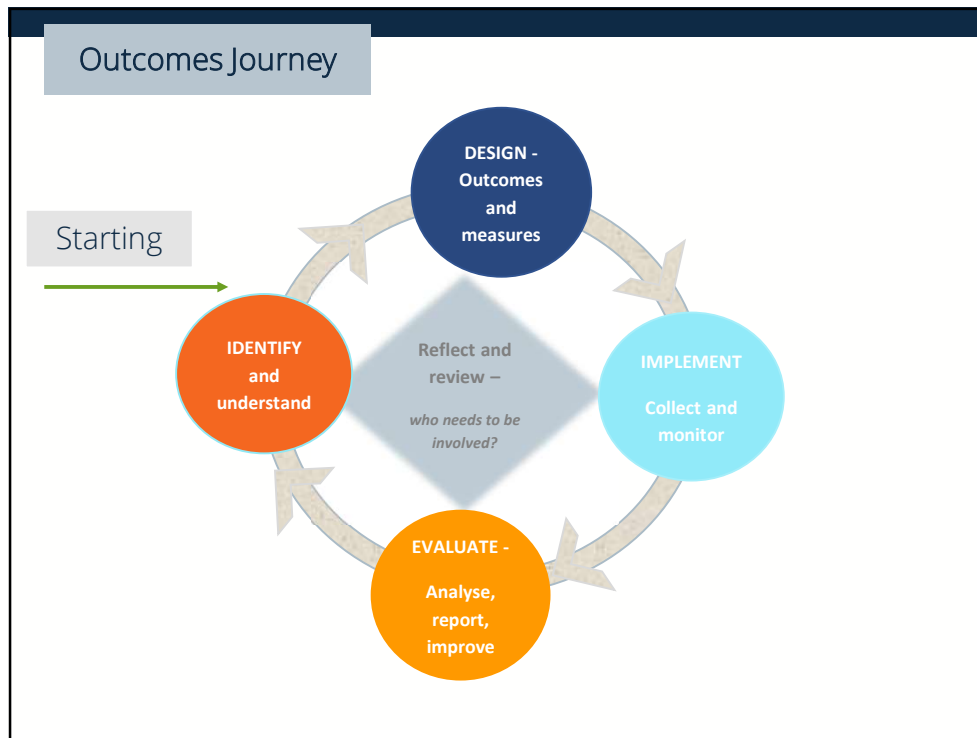
- ✓ Start where you are – the goal is improvement NOT perfection
- ✓ Action learning model – learn through doing -
'Teach a woman to fish and you feed her for a lifetime'
- ✓ **Evaluation is best viewed as a process, not a one-off event and starts at the beginning of a program**

Girl Fishing created by befx - www.froonk.com



A cartoon illustration of a young girl with blonde hair in a ponytail, wearing a red and white striped shirt, blue shorts, and green boots. She is holding a fishing rod with a green lure and a bucket. The fishing rod is curved as if she has just caught something.

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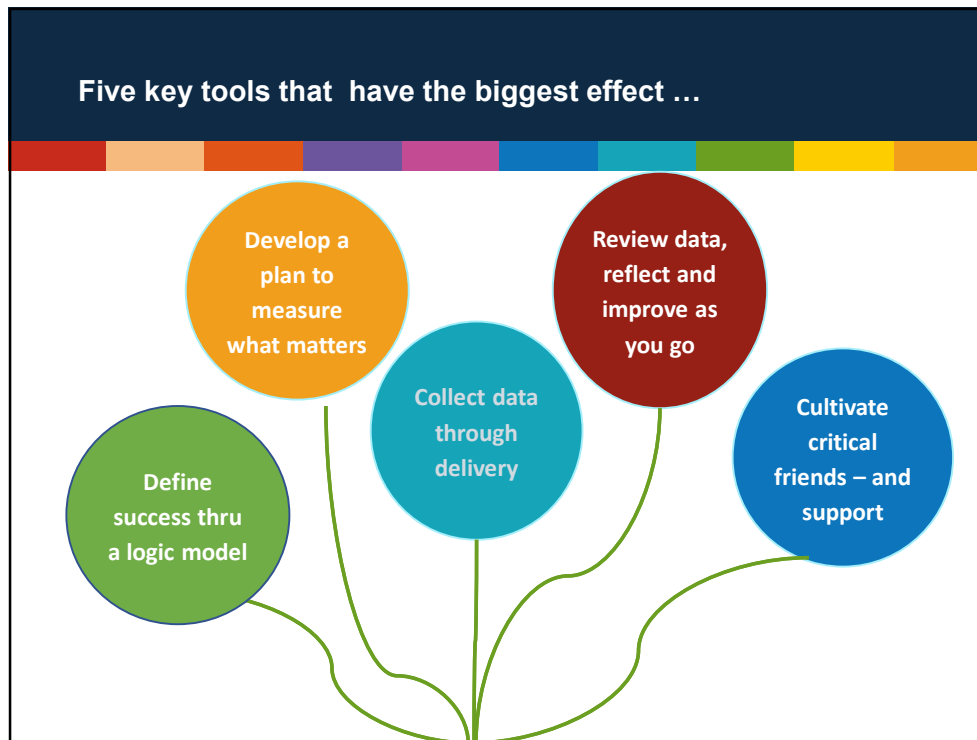


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Why – what value can this bring?

- Understand the difference you have made and how you can improve
- Communicate your outcomes and the value of your program to others
- Support client involvement in the service or program
- Demonstrate the value of your program which can mean more funding to do further work
- Helps you define and build agreement about 'what success looks like' – results – improves your program design
- Helps you clearly explain how your program works to other – powerful communication tool

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Thank you!



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