

**preci**  
PROFESSIONALS & RESEARCHERS IN  
EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION

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# Siana Heath

**A transformative journey: refining early childhood intervention through interdisciplinary approaches and innovative practice models**



# Phase 1- MDT Audits and Team Meetings

- ORS registered to provide Early Childhood Supports in 2021
- The Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Manager role was developed in 2022, the intent of this role was to support the multidisciplinary collaboration for children who accessed 3 or more services at ORS as it was recognized that services lacked collaboration
- The MDT manager role was a clinical excellence role with the intention of improving client outcomes and clinical supervision for staff
- All cases had a file audit conducted and team meetings established. Each child had an MDT plan developed that documented clearly the goals and next actions of each discipline



# Phase 2- Interdisciplinary Training

- Through the MDT audits and meetings, key learnings objectives were developed for special interest groups. SIGs are run monthly by Learning and Development Managers or Senior Practitioners with specialisations
- The training was provided interdisciplinary to support collaborative team based approaches to therapy and to increase awareness of the scope various disciplines
- Special interest groups included
  - Working with children
  - Out of Home Care
  - Neurodiversity Affirming Practice
  - Trauma Informed Practice



# Phase 3- Key Worker

- With the continued evidence for the key worker approach, ORS began delivering services using the Key Worker model in November 2023.
- The intention of moving to this model was to
  - Support improved client outcomes through interdisciplinary team collaboration
  - Address the extensive waitlists for therapy across multiple regions that ORS supports

# Conclusions

- Practitioners reported improvements in their understanding of other disciplines, facilitation of better client outcomes, promotion of family-centered practice and improved confidence they were providing evidence-based practice.
- Challenges have included
  - knowledge and understanding of the key worker model both by families, allied health staff, medical and NDIS providers
  - A sense that “more is more” in early intervention and a consumer demand for intensive services and multiple therapies
  - Appropriately experienced staff to deliver KW intervention

