

Working in Partnership Towards the Reunification of Children to their Birth Families

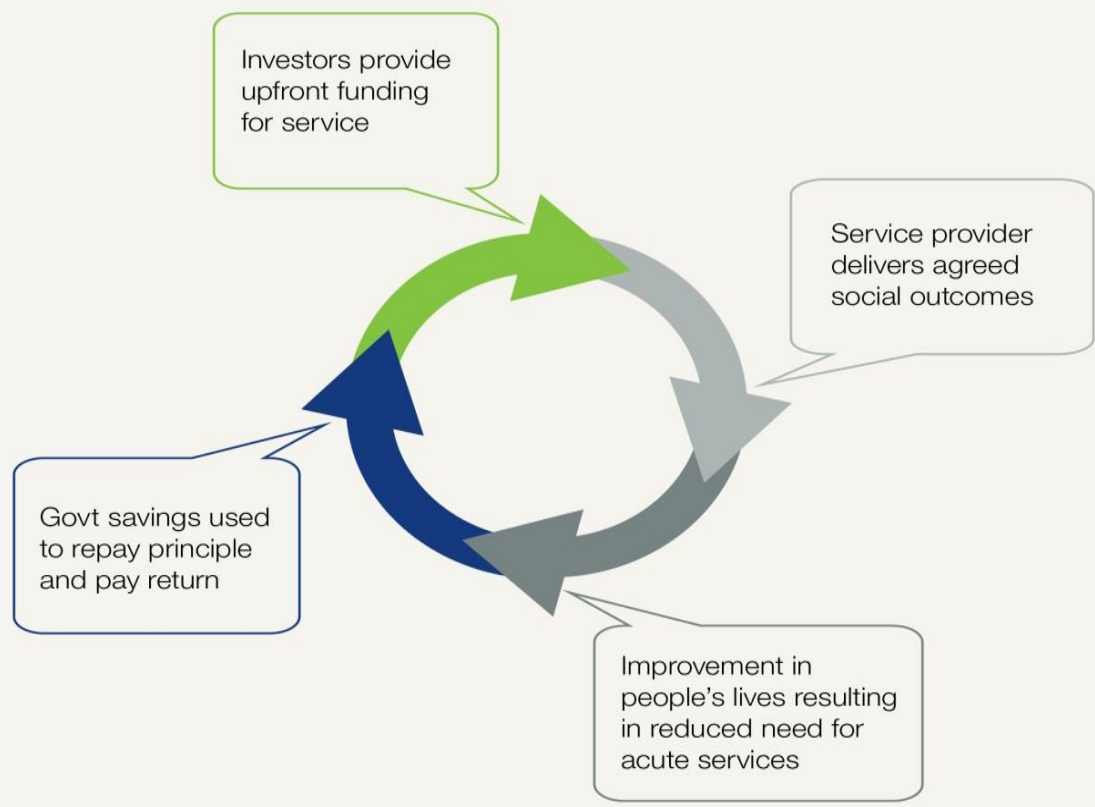


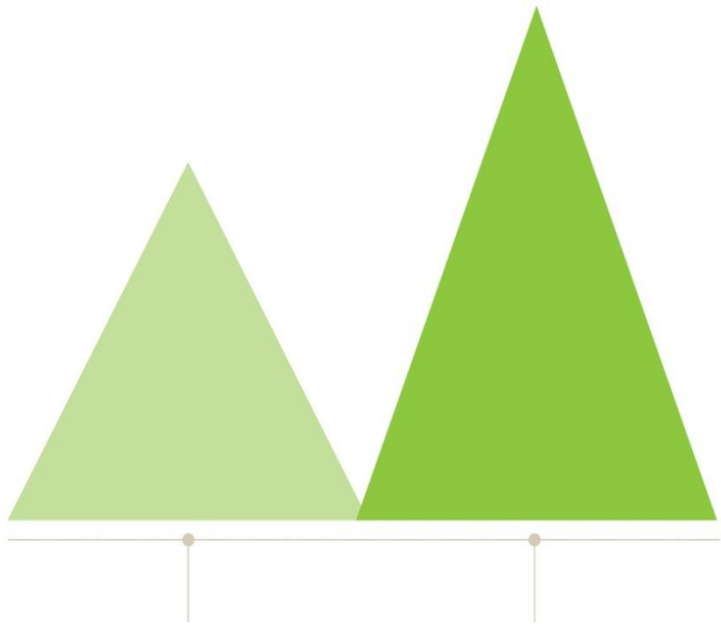
What is Newpin?

- Started in the UK and brought to Australia in 1998
- Intensive centre based , group work program for parents seeking the reunification of their children from care
- Underpinned by attachment theory and trauma informed practice
- Requires a commitment of two days a week for around eighteen months
- It's all about relationships.....



What is a Social Benefit Bond (SBB)?

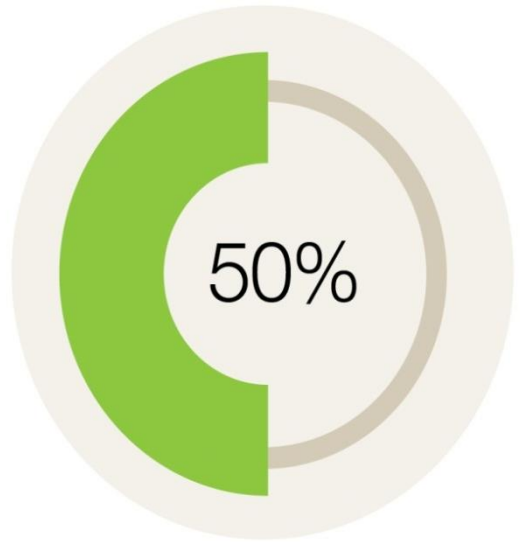




9,273

18,950

Children & young people in OOHC risen from 9,273 as at 30 June 2002 to 18,950 as at 30 June 2014



50%

More than 50% (over \$800 million) of Community Services investment in services is done via NGOs



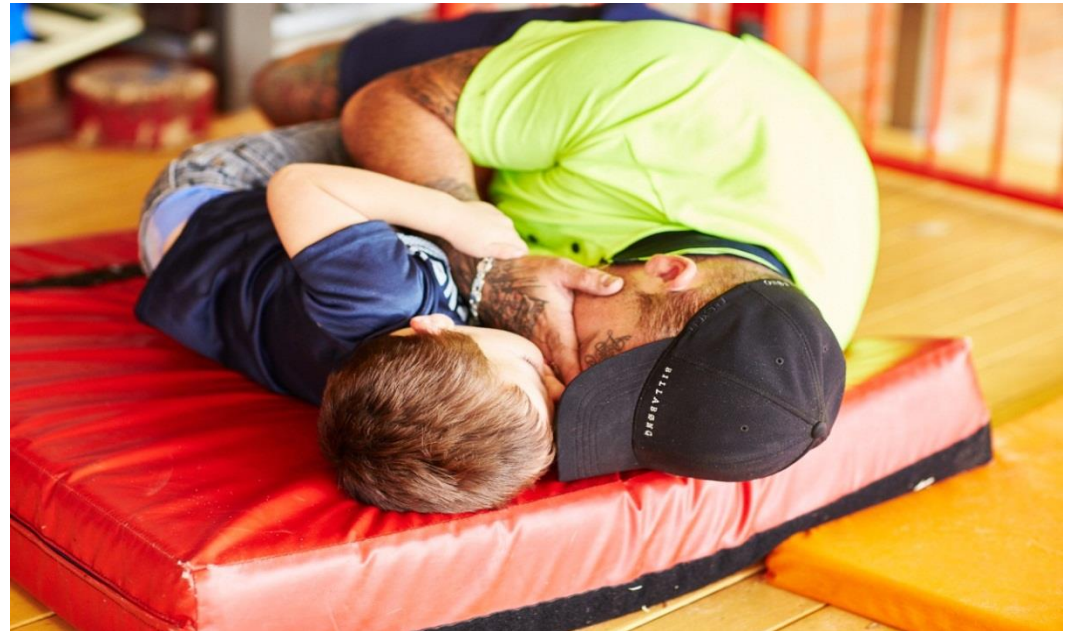
Building Relationships



- **Joint Development Stage**
- **Variety of Skills**
- **Divergent Group**
- **Operationalizing the SBB**

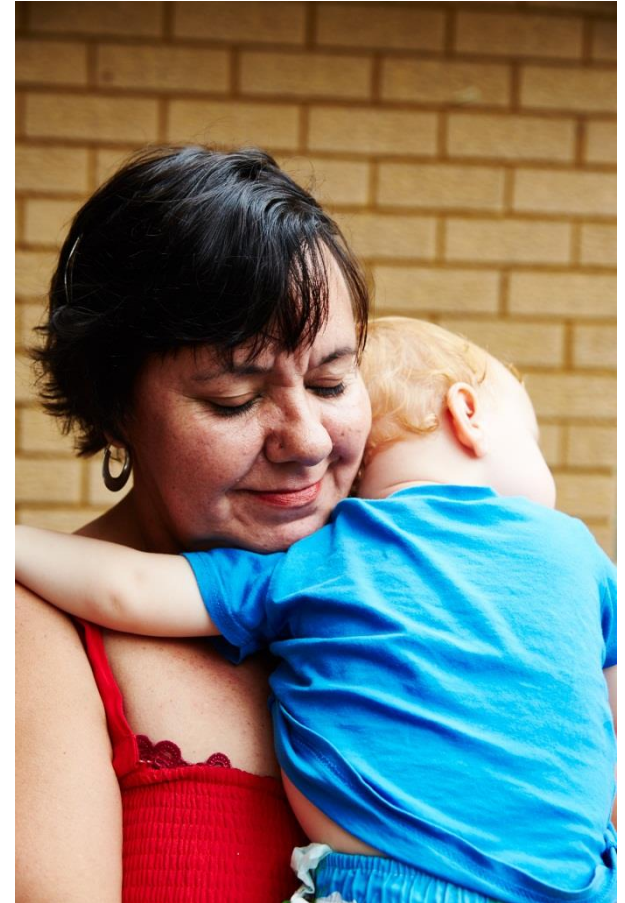
Ethical Questions

- Cash for kids
- Avoiding cherry picking
- Reaching targets
- Reporting outcomes
- Revisiting



Challenges within the Partnership

- **Changing staff members' perceptions within Newpin and FACS**
- **Clarifying roles**





Newpin's input to FACS

- Presentations by Newpin parents to managers' meetings
- Hot desk within local area offices
- Newpin parent focus group – developing new care plans
- Participating in reunification training for caseworkers

FACS' input to Newpin

- **Legal training on the Child protection legislation**
- **Briefing on new Safe Home for Life Reforms**
- **Writing good reports and case notes**
- **Participating in FACS' group supervision**



Key messages



- Important to have regular and open communication
- Be open to feedback
- Trust that colleagues also have the best interest of the child and their family at heart

It's all about relationships

**“Fire can warm or consume,
water can quench or drown,
wind can caress or cut.**

**And so it is with human
relationships;
we can both create and
destroy,
nurture and terrorize,
traumatize and heal each
other”**



**Bruce Perry
Senior Fellow of The Child Trauma
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