



# SOCIAL WORK & EVALUATION

Catherine Mann (MSW)

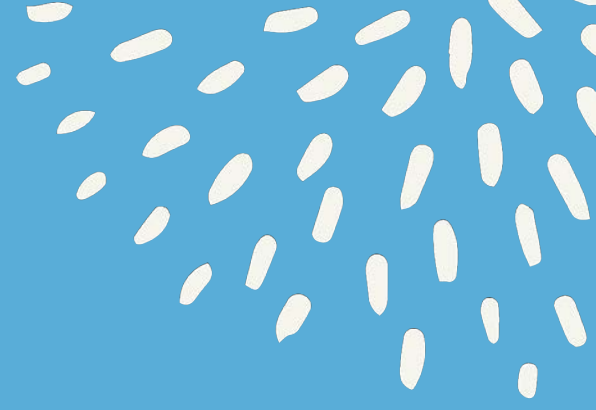
Research & Evaluation Coordinator

BRISBANE  
YOUTH SERVICE



# Acknowledgement of Country





# Reflection on: Practice in the Not For Profit sector

BRISBANE  
YOUTH SERVICE

# What is Social Work?



- Values-based
- Ethically bound
- Support the most vulnerable in our communities

# 3 Core Principles

We are bound by the following:



**Respect for Persons**



**Social Justice**



**Professional  
Integrity**

# Respect for Persons

- unique, inherent equal worth
- right to:
  - wellbeing
  - self-fulfilment
  - self-determination
  - culture
  - sustainable environment

AASW (2020)



# Social Justice

- Uphold human rights
- Justice & social fairness
- Reduce barriers and expand choices
- Advocate for change



BRISBANE  
YOUTH SERVICE

# Professional Integrity

- Honesty
- Trustworthiness
- Good character

AASW (2020)





# 3 Ways of Working

Three key theories or approaches used in Social Work include:



Trauma-Informed



Holistic



Culturally Safe

# Trauma Informed

## 5-Principles

- Safety
- Choice
- Collaboration
- **Trustworthiness**
- Empowerment



# Trauma Informed

Gathering information from other sources  
before interviewing evaluation participants

**Consent! Consent! Consent!**



# Holistic

Whole Person/Program/Project in the context it sits

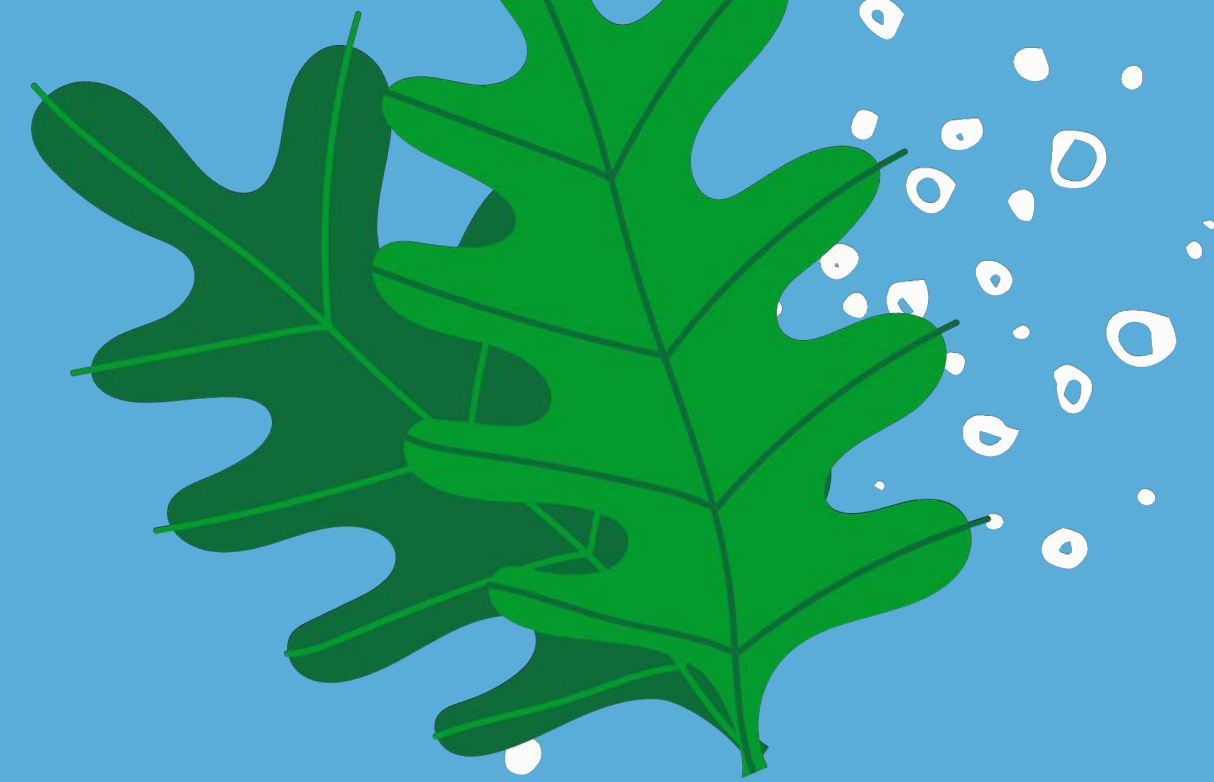
- Family
- Organisational
- Community
- Government



# Holistic

For example:

- Program targeting homelessness for young people in Brisbane
  - Family
  - Organisational
  - Community
  - Government



# Culturally safe

Acknowledging past and ongoing trauma

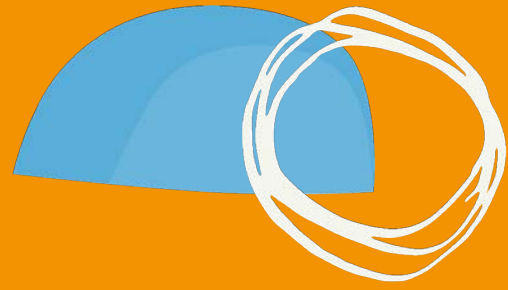
Comprehensive cultural safety training -  
ongoing process



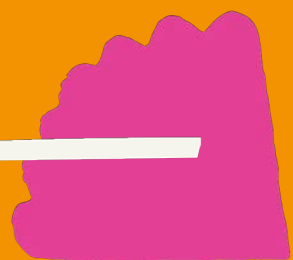
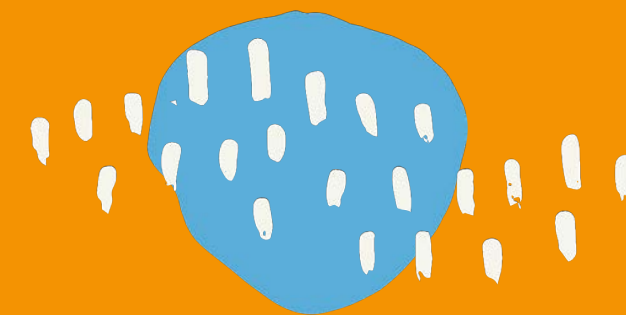
# Culturally safe

- Own cultural lens
- Curiosity
- Critical reflection





HOW DOES THIS  
APPLY TO  
EVALUATION?





# Stakeholder Engagement

- Colleagues
- Clients
- Evaluation commissioners



BRISBANE  
YOUTH SERVICE

# Accessible Data Collection

- Non-standardise tools, tested by participants
- Alternative methods for collecting and recording outcomes
- Multiple ways to provide data



# Evaluation Approaches

- Pragmatic Evaluation
- Participatory Evaluation
- Evaluation Capacity Building
- Most Significant Change stories



# Let's Summarize!

1

Social Work values based

2

Trauma-Informed, Holistic, Culturally Safe

3

Social Work ways of working offer  
a different lens to Evaluation

