

Senate Inquiry into the prevalence of different types of speech, language and communication disorders and speech pathology services in Australia

Short Opening Presentation to the Standing Committee on Community Affairs By:

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Context

Rural/Remote/Indigenous
Identified Precursors

Socio-economic status

Educational attainment

Health attainment

Social integration

Culture – Indigenous (Kriol, additional language)

Traditional Service Models (curative) – Innovative Service Models
(Population Health, Primary Health Care)

Policy and Funding – Public Health/Primary Health Care preference
or curative or continuum

Research Agendas



Broken Hill Case Study – Key Points

Decades of entrenched inequity and fragmentation of service access and delivery

Speech Pathology Workforce deficits (public and private)

Flow on to Pre-Graduate Clinical Fieldwork Experiences and Opportunities

Tension across Public Departments – Frustration, ownership of issue – Silo approaches

Social Indicators – Lower socio-economic status, low employment opportunity, poorer health and education attainment, higher Indigenous populations

Geography – remote, isolation, access



Allied Health in Outback Schools Program Principles

Community-Campus Partnerships (community
priority/need)

Service-Learning

Solutions Focus

Cross-Sector Collaborations

Reality

Time, Trust, Turf, Transparency, Tenacity, Talk
Long term outcomes (across social determinants)

Cross cutting issues/shared responsibility



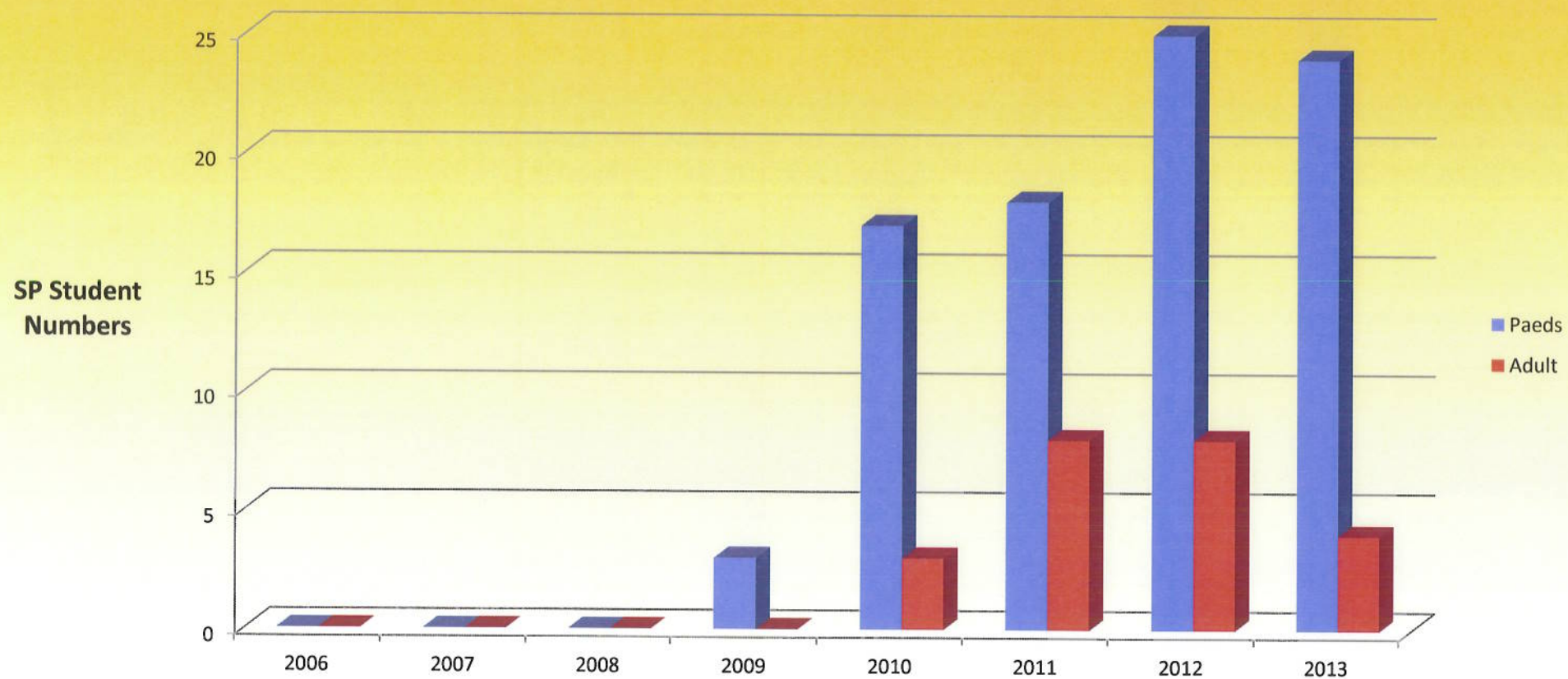
Impact

Kids (2013)

Activity	Pupil Numbers	Detail
Pupils Screened	253	11 Schools (Broken Hill, Menindee, Wilcannia – Public and Catholic) Kindergarten Children
Pupils Receiving Individual/Group Therapy	118	46%
Frequency of Issue		(1 or more)
• Speech	108	Fronting, Cluster reduction
• Language	99	Story telling
• Phonological Awareness	63	Pre literacy skills
Individual Pupil Sessions	80	One on one
Group Sessions	129	Approximately: 4-7 pupils in each session
Class Sessions	47	Approximately: 18-22 pupils in each class session



Pre-graduate Placements (Speech Pathology) 2000-2014



Strategic

School Health Hubs (DoHA 2011) Infrastructure

HWA (2011-2013) Clinical Placement Funding

Networked Specialist Centre (NSW DEC 2013) Policy

Integrated Care Strategy (NSW MoH 2014) Policy

Transferability

- Katherine NT
- Geraldton WA



Katherine NT
Speech Pathology Pilot
2013



Research

PhD – Phenomenological – Community, Allied Health Students,
Executive (Schools/BHUDRH)

Australian Research Council Submission – Quantitative – Kids,
families, teaching staff, students, academics, social networks

Inter-professional practice

Health workforce development

Policy and Funding

Currently no designated policy or funding streams associated with
these initiatives



Foundation Pillars

Community Engagement

Models

Workforce

Cross-sector

Policy

Funding

Research

