

Innovative Solutions Support Funded Projects 2017



In partnership with



All projects were based on the specific barriers to inclusion faced by a service when including children with additional needs. The outcome of each project demonstrated the genuine inclusion of a child/ren, a change in educator practices and the ability to sustain this change once the project had ended.

- **Specialist advice & support from Allied Health Professionals** such as speech pathologists, occupational therapists, behaviour specialists and autism spectrum disorder specialists tailored to address the specific barriers to inclusion at the service and build educator capacity.
- **Mentoring & advice from Aboriginal Elders/community members** to facilitate connections and relationships with local Aboriginal families and the community, and build educator confidence and knowledge.
- **Supporting children and educators to engage and learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture** through projects lead by Elders/community members such as Bush Kindy, establishing and maintaining a community garden program and an art program.
- **Bicultural support** through engaging bilingual/bicultural support workers and consultancy support to settle new children and families and build educator capacity.
- **Facilitated cross cultural lullaby sessions for FDC educators** to assist educators to build their confidence and knowledge in the use of lullabies to support the inclusion of young children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- **Targeted specialist training** to provide educators with the specific skills and knowledge essential to the inclusion of a child with a serious medical condition.
- **OSHC activity based learning projects** designed to include children presenting with disruptive behaviours, through building educator confidence and skills and fostering the development of relationships with peers and educators. These included Taekwondo sessions and facilitated sports based programs to help children learn the skills and rules to play sports including football, soccer, cricket and basketball.
- **Early childhood curriculum based projects** designed to assist children to identify, express and manage their emotions, while educators learned to identify triggers for children presenting with challenging behaviours and strategies to help guide children; including art programs and Yoga sessions. Music based programs where educators learned to use different mediums to support children's communication and social development.