

Research and Evaluation

Position Statement

Introduction

yourtown is committed to providing innovative, quality, evidence based services that support children, young people and their families, especially those who are marginalised and without voice.

yourtown ensures that its services, advocacy agenda, fundraising and corporate activities are informed by evidence. We recognise that to remain informed, relevant and accountable we must undertake research and evaluate our programs and corporate activities.

yourtown's Position

yourtown undertakes monitoring of client service activities and outcomes to assess our services ability to make a positive difference to the quality of life of clients and to measure our social impact.

Research undertaken informs advocacy activities designed to raise awareness about the issues that impair the life opportunities of children, young people and their families as well as to identify strategies that further their interests. Research and Program evaluations are also used to inform **yourtown's** strategic planning and internal business practices.

yourtown's research and evaluation activities are undertaken in-line with industry practice, and in accordance with recognised ethical standards. All activities are conducted with informed consent and in a respectful confidential manner that safeguards participants' interests and rights. **yourtown's** youth participation principles and strategies, including co-design activities are valued and inform our research and evaluation practice.

yourtown is committed to building organisation wide evaluation capacity and uses collaborative processes to maximise the use of information and evidence generated from research and evaluation to improve services and business decisions. We are also committed to sharing the findings from research and evaluation with participants, particularly with children and young people.

yourtown pursues partnerships and collaborative research opportunities to further the interests of clients, to advance advocacy objectives and to apply such knowledge to service design and delivery.