



Evaluation Summary

On behalf of Healthy Communities Mid North Coast, the Mid North Coast Local Health District’s Health Promotion and Clinical Governance teams collaborated to evaluate the outcomes and effectiveness of the Healthy Communities Mid North Coast Childhood Obesity Prevention and Management Action Plan July 2018 – June 2023 (the Plan).

The focus areas of the evaluation were to understand:

- Perceptions of the Plan from Health Promotion staff, Healthy Community Advisory Committee (HCAC) partners
- The effectiveness of the HCAC partnership model and insights for improvement
- Identifying key successes and barriers of projects and/or initiatives

The evaluation methods were:



Online Microsoft Form survey



Online focus group

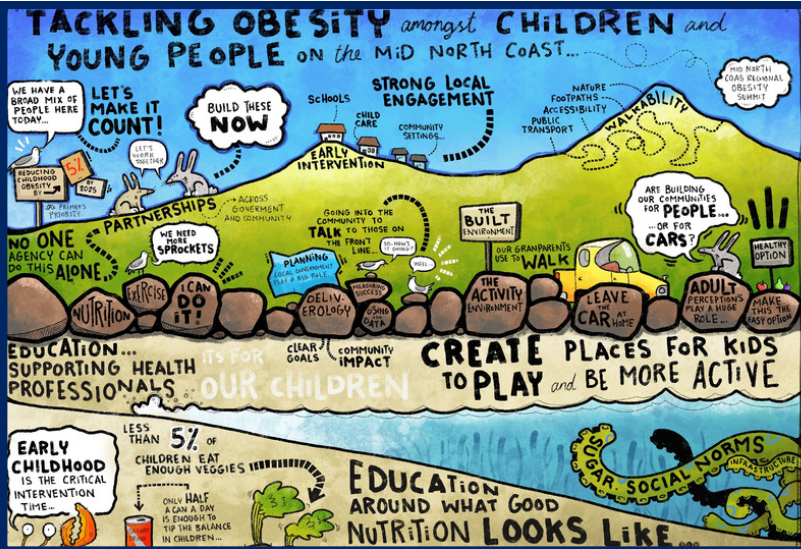


Individual interviews

Findings

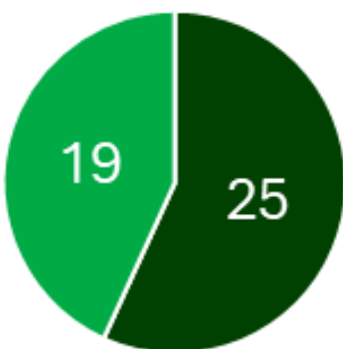
Perceptions of the Plan from:

- Health promotion staff
- Healthy Community Advisory Committee (HCAC) members and partners

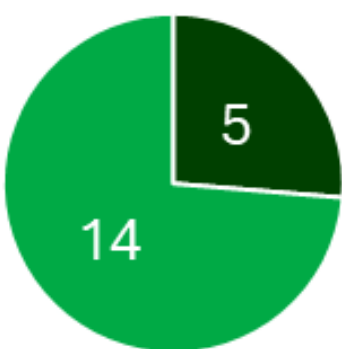


Online Microsoft Forms survey

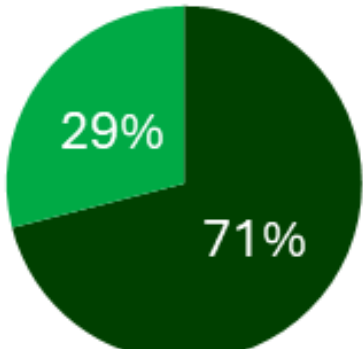
Demographics



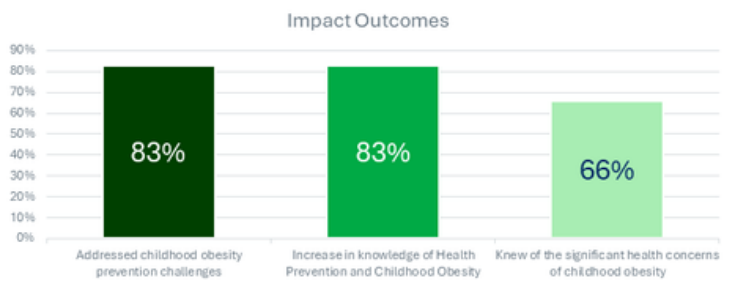
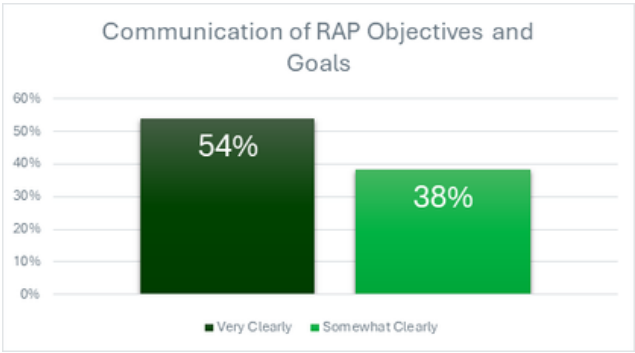
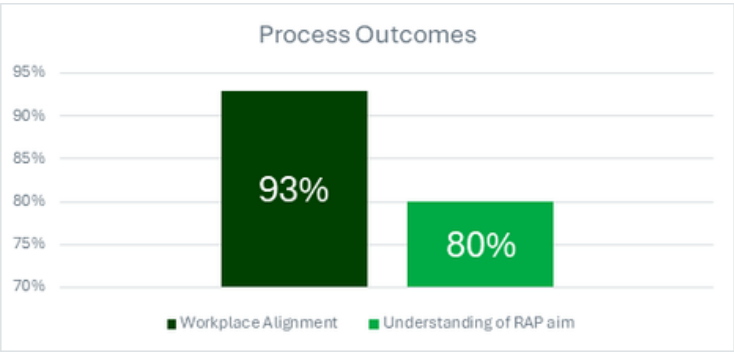
■ Invited to Participate
■ Respondants



■ HCAC Members
■ Non-HCAC Members



■ MNCLHD Staff Member
■ Other





Reflections from the online focus group and individual interviews

Always given the opportunity to engage, always sort of thanked for participation and encouraged to bring thoughts to the table.

...holding the summit with a purpose of actually developing a regional action plan, it meant that we could come together and have a focus on that premier’s priority and really pull together coordinated approach of actions from lots of different agencies through the planning session to create a regional action plan...

I feel like when we did the Innovation Fund and opened it up from just being about physical activity and healthy eating by making it more about holistic...

I sit on a few committees, and I would say this is probably the most well organised one.

I think they’re very productive they're not meetings that you go on to feeling like you've wasted your time.

I think it was that sense of common purpose, a sense of it was a bit of a change platform when this whole thing was launched, they were involved in the start, there was codesign. It wasn't that prescriptive, one government department dominating another sort of stuff that often happens.

I think co-design is the element and the most important aspect when you look at the innovation fund because you know communities get to drive what they see as the need in their community.



Recommendations

- 1. Stakeholder engagement
- 2. Health promotion operational excellence
- 3. Future strategic directions



Stakeholder engagement



- 1.Stakeholder engagement between Mid North Coast Local Health District and partner agencies should be prioritised
- 2.Enhance community consultation to ensure projects and initiatives are community-led and have a community focus
- 3.Co-design project and initiatives with Aboriginal stakeholders where possible
- 4.Enhance project alignment with the strategic priorities of our stakeholders and partner organisations
- 5.Seek opportunities to strengthen partnerships with non-government organisations
- 6.Enhance opportunities to partner or outsource projects and initiatives to Aboriginal organisations
- 7.Strengthen stakeholder engagement, communication and input into reporting.

Health promotion operational excellence



- 1.Enhance staff capability to act as resource providers to support community-led projects and initiatives
- 2.Streamline the reporting and implementation measures of the action plan.

Future strategic directions



- 1.Undertake a systems mapping process to identify community initiatives and inform future planning for Healthy Communities
- 2.Broaden the focus of future action plan to include wellbeing, priority populations, age-related focus, chronic illness risk factors, social and emotional health
- 3.Strengthen local partnerships with stakeholders who align with future priorities for Healthy Communities
- 4.Maintain the cultural appropriateness of projects and initiatives through inclusive co-design practices with communities
- 5.Ensure action planning aligns with the overall vision in health promotion with clearly defined and quantifiable strategic priorities and targets
- 6.Improve alignment between action plan and staff deliverables.

Thank you to those who contributed their time and effort to this evaluation.

A full evaluation report is available at www.healthycommunitiesmnc.com.au.
To contact, email mnclhd-hcac@health.nsw.gov.au