



Working with police and community stakeholders  
towards community safety and wellbeing:  
collaborative processes in Tasmania, Australia

Isabelle Bartkowiak-Théron

# Background

LEPH conference attendance

2012-14 idea of 'regional nodes' / 'city labs' proposal

→ consolidating research on the topic of LEPH in Tasmania

- geographic and demographic size of Tasmania
- excellent relationships between TILES & industry / government
  - current research expertise within TILES and UTAS
    - considering circle of actors and logistics



# The questions

How can agencies collaborate better?

How can collaborative practice lead to a better  
integration of service delivery?

# Beginnings: What would a CI initiative in TAS look like?

- Existing models: collective impact
  - Visit to Edmonton (Danielle Campbell – Reach Edmonton)
  - Tasmania initiatives (Burnie Works)
- 2016-2017 seminar and launch of the consultation, café-conversations, ongoing networking
- Coordination of 20 stakeholders
- 2018 - Prof development workshops for industry + short reports



# Unanimous results: collaboration is possible & needed

- “You can’t arrest your way out of a health problem” (TasPol Dep Commissioner)
- “We amplify the benefits when we work together. If we can’t do it here, no one will be able to do it anywhere” (Final workshop conclusion)
- Workshops = reassurance

Aligning with what is specific to Tasmania		
Smallest state	Poorest state	Aging state
Literacy (48%)	AOD	Strong networks
1 state 1 University	CLEPH GLEPHA	Buy-in, from industry (collaboration & integration = sword of Damocles)
reduction of Tasmania's overall population	reduction in crime rates particularly youth crime	severe budget cuts
rationalisation of public service (especially in health, which conflicted with requests that health be more responsible for some initiatives then under TasPol governance, especially in the area of early intervention)		strategic regrouping of gvt areas

# 2019

## WHAT NOW?

Lots of agreement - Lots of buy-in

Where do we start?

## TRAINING

“Police officers often arrive too late at the scene of a crime (death, overdose). Health practitioners are often involved at that stage too. First responders know about each other; they are not trained to work together. They are trained extensively to intervene in crisis situations; they are rarely trained to work in a preventative manner. There exists profuse evidence that access to health and primary health prevention reduces crime, and provides ways to tackle issues before they escalate into crisis, delinquency or criminal activities. Accordingly, this project aims to deliver *new collaborative educational services* to improve specialised agencies’ capacity to work with each other in addressing complex social issues such as *domestic violence*, and behaviours associated with *mental ill-health* or *drug and alcohol use*.

# The idea and happy turns of events

- Training everyone in trauma-informed practice/care/policing

Word of mouth  
Networking  
Trust

ADF (2 pilot sites)

Capacity to train in  
TIP / ACE

- Same 3 principles
  - Same training
  - Same delivery
  - TOGETHER
  - 2 pilots sites

Local government  
(2 sites)

CSIRO

DPAC

Politics

# Nascent collaborative leadership

Glenorchy

Bec Enders (Mayor – 2016)

## Huon Valley Safer Families Partnership

- Huon Domestic Violence Service
- South East Aboriginal Corporation
- Sexual Assault Support Services
- Jocelyn McConnell, Sexual Assault Support Services
- Social workers at Huon Community Health Centre
- Real Estate (Business)
- [Tasmania Police](#)
- Huon Community Network
- Council (local government)
- Community members
- Housing
- UTAS (TILES)





# September 2019



Isa BartkowiakThéron

@isabtkwk



The #LEPH team @TILES\_UTAS @UTAS\_ conducted today an important stakeholder workshop. We are at the stage of fine tuning what will become our 5-10 year applied research agenda. I feel privileged to be supported by such a large group of #academics & #practitioners #traumainformed



Alison Lai and 9 others



6:28 PM · Sep 26, 2019 · Twitter for Android

# The future

## One project

3 grant applications

3 different angles

3 methods

## One goal

to create a community of practice

empowering stakeholders

creating a shared language

fostering understanding & collaboration



**Dr Isabelle Bartkowiak-Théron**

(LEPH research stream leader, senior researcher, TILES, UTAS)

[Isabelle.bartkowiaktheron@utas.edu.au](mailto:Isabelle.bartkowiaktheron@utas.edu.au)

TILES LEPH:

[Leph.tiles@utas.edu.au](mailto:Leph.tiles@utas.edu.au)

<http://www.utas.edu.au/tiles>

<https://www.utas.edu.au/tiles/research/research-streams/law-enforcement-and-public-health>