

## Feedback from Working cooperatively with separated fathers – Melbourne, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010

### Feedback from the end of course evaluation form

		Course feedback	Percentage
<b>No. of participants</b>		34	
<b>Length in days</b>		1	
<b>No. of completed evaluations</b>		24	71%
<b>Expectation?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>83%</b>
	Partly	3	13%
	No	0	0%
<b>Level of training</b>	Too High	0	0%
	<b>Just Right</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>92%</b>
	Too Low	2	8%
<b>Facilitators Attitude - Poor</b>	1	0	0%
	2	1	4%
	<b>Okay</b>	3	13%
	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33%</b>
	<b>Great</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Facilitators Knowledge - Poor</b>	1	0	0%
	2	1	4%
	<b>Okay</b>	3	13%
	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13%</b>
	<b>Great</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Way the workshop was run - Poor</b>	1	0	0%
	2	2	8%
	<b>Okay</b>	3	13%
	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33%</b>
	<b>Great</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Handouts</b>	not enough	0	0%
	Ok	7	29%
	<b>very useful</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>58%</b>

### Key outcomes

- 83% of participants thought the workshop *achieved what they expected*.
- 92% of the participants thought the workshop was pitched at the right level.
- 83% of participants reported the facilitator's attitude was *very good to great*.
- 88% of participants reported the facilitator's knowledge of the subject was *very good to great*.
- 87% of participants reported the way the course was run was *very good to great*
- 58% of participants who completed evaluations reported the handouts were very useful

## **Qualitative feedback**

### **Has the training program covered what you expected? If partly or no, why?**

- I had no clear expectations
- It's all about being flexible and receptive

### **What topic/issue has been the most important for you?**

- Everything
- Help seeking behaviours as control issue
- Hearing the dialogue that Ross has explored in his discussion – understanding the 'robust' nature of men engaging with
- Generative care
- All
- Understanding further how separated father could be thinking/ generative factor
- I appreciated specific examples of what the presenters have said to men – ways to rebut blame statements was good
- Understanding where men are at
- Practical strategies about how to talk to dads/strength based approach
- Practical approach
- Men's concerns about separation and responses to this
- Strategies/phrases to invite men to think differently
- Appropriate language and responses
- Speaking directly/what to say and what not to say
- Exploring men's anxieties
- Acknowledge, normalise, exploring and choice
- Techniques – engagement
- Ask a man to 'think about it' and he will probably do it
- How to reframe for men/ ANE ch = fantastic, analysis of blame game
- Working with men's experience of separation
- Practical solutions and strategies

### **What topic/ issue has been the least important for you?**

- Discussion on whether men and women CB for same reason
- The feelings of men (I acknowledge it is super critical but I feel I know this quite well)
- Some of the discussion of participants went on for a big long

### **What impact will this training have on your work?**

- Time to reflect
- None
- Increased capacity to appreciate where men are coming from when I hear things I don't necessarily like
- To deepen my ability to be with men as individuals and the mediation process – to support them and hold them in respectful, loving regard to enable them to flourish in the best way possible
- Mindful of thought process, reactions of men
- Greater insight, a few more tools.
- I am hoping to use some of the strategies when working with men
- In lots of ways. Lots of gems. Need time to digest it.
- Adds some strategies/understanding
- New ideas and approaches/ recognisable pain/fear behind the bad behaviours
- More practical approach
- Being open and honest with separated fathers about taking responsibilities

- I hope I will see the opportunities to use the work
- Starting to rethink some patterns – language of responses
- I will follow the advice
- Provided insight into working and supporting men
- I hope it will make me more aware of men; relevance, faith builder, honest vs. Direct methods
- Several positive changes
- I'm not sure yet
- Mindfulness re men's way of accessing help
- Increased skills re talking to men
- Helpful

**Any other comments about the training course**

- I have really enjoyed it.
- Thank-you. It was really interesting.
- More information: it was good to have discussion but more info/lecture would be a good mix.
- Totally disagree with comments re. Applications being able to be processed without certificates (unless of course legal exceptions apply). Very hard to be always talking about generalities when we are dealing with specific, unique individuals and their reactions within a very limited process.
- More please.
- Good course. Thank-you.
- Found it predicated on unhelpful stereotypes and thus contributed to their perpetration – this is harmful to men and women and needs to be acknowledgement that this content is relevant only to stereotypes about white, middle class, literate men.
- Thank-you!
- Great!
- Well done – it's a large group but working well
- Excellent