Place-based Suicide Prevention Trials

March 2022

Key Features of the place-based suicide prevention trial

- **Systems-based approach** in 12 communities, all 6 Vic PHNs - metro & regional, 18 LGAs
  - ➤ Locally developed in collaboration with key stakeholders, incl lived experience voices
- Co-investment with Primary Health Networks
- Implementation late 2017 to June 2022
- Suicide prevention strategies informed by evidence (including Lifespan model)
- Multi-level, complex, evolving/ adaptive design & implementation

Improve local suicide prevention systems → Improve suicide prevention capacity → Reduce self-harm and suicide

engagement awareness information change local great mentalhealth participation community programs stigma governance services involvement continue suicide outcomes structure prevention livedexperience sustainable impact people support training

This word cloud represents the most commonly used words in recent survey respondents' general feedback about the PBSPT, highlighting the collaborative approach and local impacts.

Multiphase evaluation approach

Nov 2017

Start

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2019

Establishment
Phase

2021

Summative
Phase

**Evaluation
Framework**
Collaborative planning
process

**Formative
Phase**

2018

2020
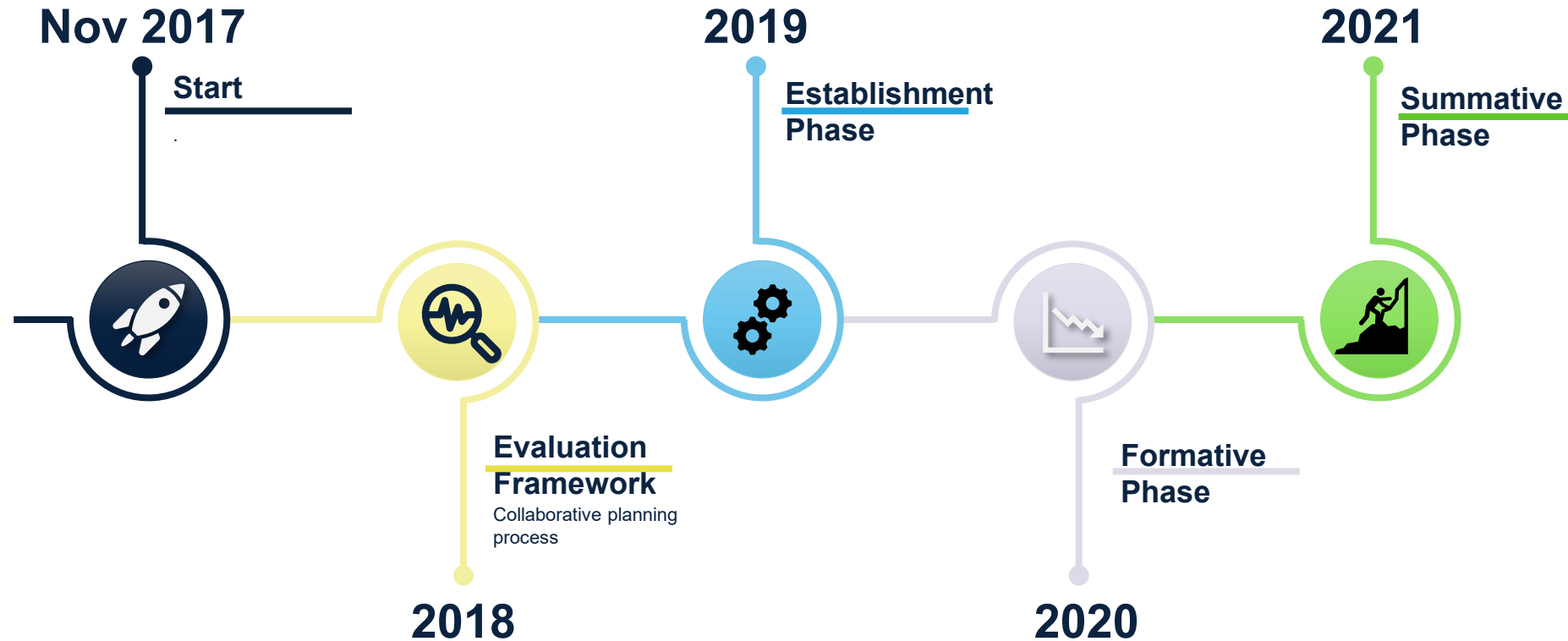
Monitoring data (Qrtly)	Community & stakeholder surveys – 3 time points	Interviews/groups discussions – 3 time points	Mixed model analyses

Evaluation considerations
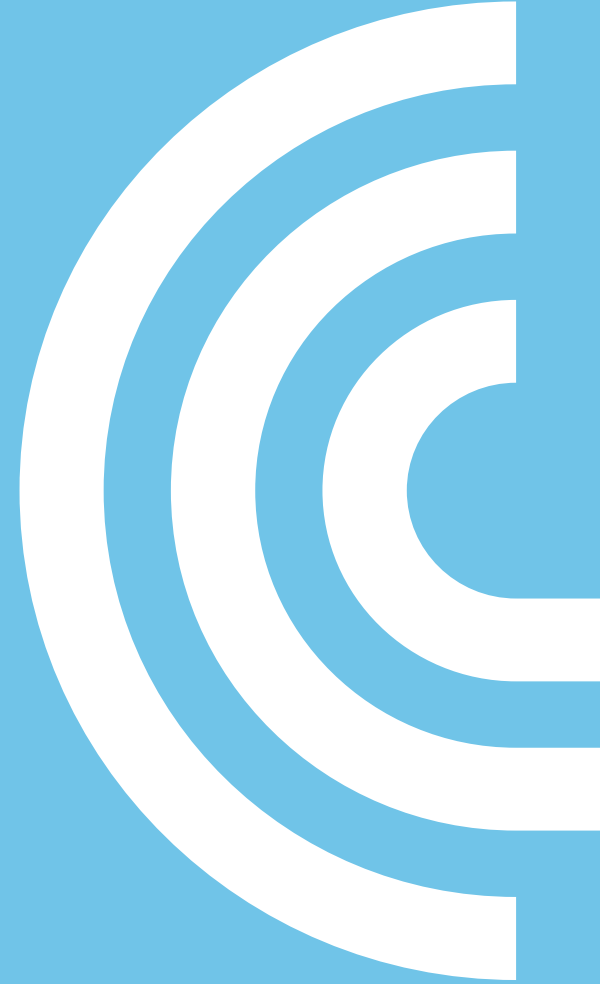
Embedding evaluation from the outset - supporting program design and planning, ongoing improvement

- Role identifying what an **improved community-based suicide prevention system** would look like, & indicators

- Methods embedded early

- Challenge working in a "grey area" - comfort with uncertainty & adaptive

- Considerable time and collaboration needed

- Pragmatic, real-world evaluation

- "Critical friend"

Supporting decision-making across the system

- Key consideration for design & reporting

- Iterative evaluation evidence at the community, regional and state-wide level

- Site dashboards (real-time), site evaluation reports, CoP, Steering Committee, local governance groups
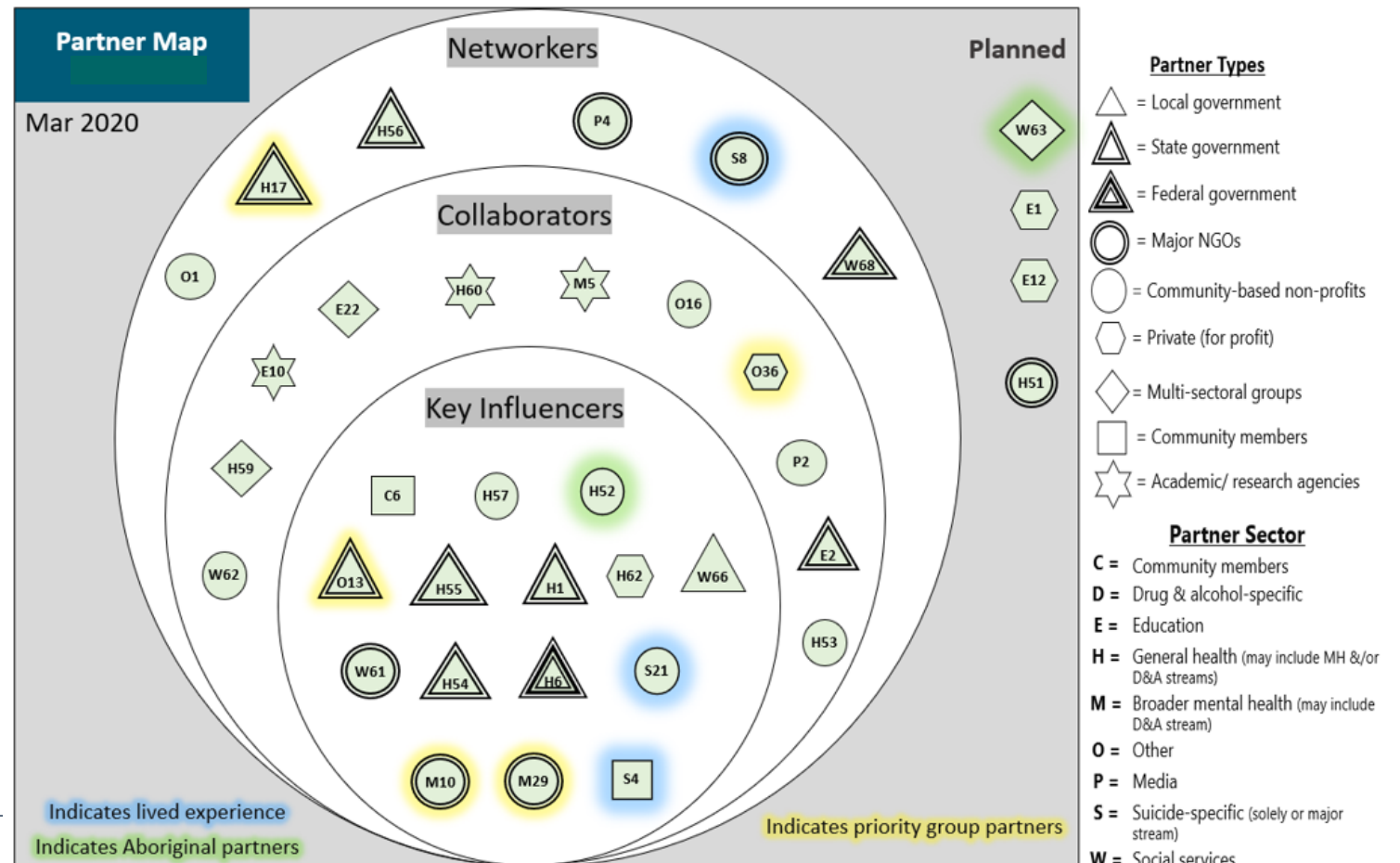
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