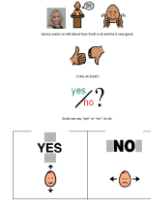




Supporting Complex Needs & Homelessness Through Positive Behaviour Support in Australia

By Jessica Degrassi (Autism Spectrum Australia) 2020

Before we begin...



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This is Scott

- Scott loves drawing, filing papers, walking, playing basketball, cooking and playing in his bowling league
- Scott is enthusiastic, always wants to try new things and gives everyone the thumbs up to check how they are
- Scott lives in Independent Living with 1:1 support from disability support workers from My Goal Australia, and one other resident



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Scott's Story – the first month

Relinquished to emergency

Secluded, physically & chemically restrained daily for three months

Build the team & positive relationships

Initial behaviour support strategies



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Build the team & positive relationships

Initial behaviour support strategies

- Initial Strategies
- Regular predictable access to preferred activities
 - Positive relationships
 - Choice and control
 - Visual supports
 - Stress prevention strategies



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Positive relationships

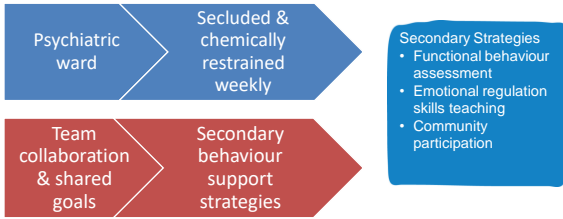
- Initially Scott had very few people in his life with whom he had positive relationships
- Building positive relationships included:
 - Developing a different belief system around Scott
 - Identifying and using favourite activities to engage
 - Using humour and laughter to engage
 - Sharing ideas and strategies for building relationships



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Scott's Story – the next three months



Team collaboration and communication

- Specialist support coordinator to continue to build the team
- Team communication twice a week
- Meetings scheduled once a month
- Trial and feedback of strategies and supports
- Assisting Scott's mother as his guardian to advocate

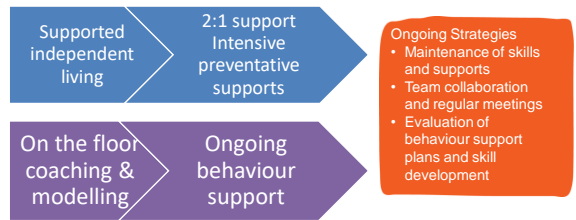


Shared values and goals with the individual



- Assessment using visual supports of what was important to Scott
- What was important to Scott was valued by all of Scott's team
- Positive behaviour support, good quality of life and developing positive relationships were valued by all of Scott's team
- Shared values and goals equated to the team working cohesively and in collaboration

Scott's Story – after hospital



On the floor coaching and modelling

- Contextual fit assessment for environment and support staff
- Feedback and input from disability support workers who worked with Scott daily was vital to the success of behaviour support plans



Future directions

- Aspect Therapy and My Goal Australia continue to work collaboratively using the previous principles to support a number of individuals with complex care needs
- Collaborative approaches minimise challenges of individualised funding for those with complex care needs
- Feedback to government about challenges and learnings from Scott's story



Thank you Scott

- Thank you Scott for the opportunity to work with and support you
- Thank you to your family and mum for wanting your story to be told to help others
- Thank you for everything we have learned from you, and how you have showed us the best way forward



Thank You

