**WORKING WITH DIVERSE FAMILIES TRANSCRIPT**

Andrew McMahon: One of the biggest challenges that we face delivering supported playgroups is that as we're a state-wide organisation we deal with communities obviously all over the state. So that includes those very isolated ones, the regional ones. It's important to make it clear how challenging it is not only to work in those communities across the state, but to work with people in those communities.

 Like we all know, the success of these playgroups is based on people. So it's very important that through these supported programs we have flexibility and are able to mould the program to still reach the same outcomes and to have similar delivery across the state. But to make sure that we're meeting community's needs. To do that we need to listen to the community, we need to listen to the families, we need to listen to all the stakeholders.

 We're an organisation that works primarily from Brisbane as a head office. We have regional offices. But there are so many communities out there that we rely on strong partners to basically give us the ins and outs, the culturally specific considerations we need to take into community. The make-up of the community, the organisations that already exist. It's important that when you're looking at doing a supported playgroup there is a lot of flexibility in how you reach those goals.

Pam Dunn: Our supported playgroup supports young mothers and we celebrate the fact that they’ve chosen to be young mums. We've set our sights up as being comfortable and welcoming and non-judgemental. I think that's the most important thing is just to respect their choice to become a mother.

Sarah Irwin: We have a lot of different families that come out from the community, a lot of different cultural backgrounds. We’re all inclusive and we try to make everyone feel comfortable at group. We like to involve different cultures in playgroup. We encourage different cultural backgrounds to introduce their songs to playgroup, their foods, and their activities, we love it.

Andrew McMahon: These supported playgroups really do help some families that have isolation issues, like I said. But there may be a parent - and I say mums, but dads as well too - who have postnatal depression. It maybe something as simple as making that parent feel valued that their role and their job, they're doing the best they can. A playgroup may stop that parent from slipping into postnatal depression. So if we can help those parents as well too and carers from slipping into that, then that goes a long way to using resources elsewhere as well.

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