

“Beyond a practice-research bridge”:

project conceptualisation,
implementation, and dissemination by an
internal social work intermediary
in Singapore

Teo Meiyl Stella, Koh Hui Nee Jennifer & Jin Yao Kwan

“Beyond a practice-research bridge”: project conceptualisation, implementation, and dissemination by an internal social work intermediary in Singapore

Stella Meiyi Teo¹, Jennifer Hui Nee Koh¹, & Jin Yao Kwan²

¹ Impact & Research, Transformation Office, TOUCH Community Services, Singapore

² Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado, USA

Abstract

Despite shifting attention from whether practice research is advantageous to doing practice research better, the organisational role of internal social work intermediaries beyond initiating practice-research partnerships, especially in Asia, is less understood. Using a multi-modal qualitative case study approach, across project conceptualisation, implementation, and dissemination, we first documented the initial benefits and challenges of an internal Singaporean social work intermediary bridging practitioners and researchers. Subsequently, we described how the intermediary seized opportunities and went beyond mere stakeholder bridging by defining engagement terms and creating, using, and opening up a practice-research space. Implications for internal intermediaries and organisational functions are discussed.

Access/Cite This Article

The full research article is published online on 19 July 2023 in the *Asia Pacific Journal of Social Work and Development*, 33(4), 345-360. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02185385.2023.2238686>

© 2023 TOUCH Community Services

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of TOUCH Community Services, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other non-commercial uses permitted by copyright law.

For permission requests or general enquiries, please email TOUCH Community Services at impactnresearch@touch.org.sg, addressed to the Impact & Research Department.