



Child and Family Therapeutic Service

Counselling services for families
affected by child sexual abuse



Who can access CAFTS?

- Children under the age of 18 years who have experienced sexual abuse and their families
- Adolescents and children who have, or are at risk of engaging in concerning, problematic or sexually abusive behaviours and their parents and siblings
- Parents and families who require support to address the impact of sexual abuse on themselves, in order to provide a safe and protective environment

Confidentiality

Our focus is on the safety and wellbeing of children and as such we work collaboratively with children, parents and other agencies involved with the family. Whilst all information will be treated with respect, there are limitations to confidentiality around the disclosure of harm, or potential for harm to children or others.

Contact CAFTS

Referrals can be made by the Department for Child Protection, other agencies or family members.

For additional information about CAFTS, or to make a referral please contact:

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Child and Family Therapeutic Service
UnitingCare West

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UnitingCare West is committed to achieving justice, hope and opportunity for all, and works to support and empower in particular those most in need in the WA community. It is a not-for-profit community services organisation and part of the mission of the Uniting Church in Australia and UnitingCare national network.



Justice, Hope and Opportunity for all

Caring



Connecting



Protecting



What is 'CAFTS'?

The Child and Family Therapeutic Service (CAFTS) offers free counselling to children, adolescents and families who have been impacted by child sexual abuse.

The experience of sexual abuse for children is traumatic. It often results in them feeling confused, frightened and alone. For families it can lead to worry, shame and disconnection from each other.

CAFTS provides an attuned, attentive therapeutic approach based on individual circumstances, developmental level and child/family needs.

CAFTS offers group counselling programs to children, adolescents and their parents or caregivers.

CAFTS aims to educate parents, carers, schools and communities on child sexual abuse and abuse prevention programmes.

“Children have the right to grow and develop in a safe, nurturing environment”

“We believe all children have the right to live without fear of abuse”

What does counselling achieve?

- It supports children to find safety in relationships that matter to them the most
- It helps everyone in the family to make sense of their experiences
- It assists children and families to connect and care after the abuse has stopped

In addition when CAFTS provides counselling to young people who have engaged in concerning, problematic or sexually abusive behaviours and their families, they are:

- Supported to understand and address the origins of their behaviour
- Resourced to engage respectfully in relationships with others
- Enabled to develop a more positive sense of themselves

All family members are an integral part of counselling at CAFTS.