



Find Support

When a child or young person has made a disclosure of sexual abuse, it can also be an overwhelming time for a parent/carer to hear that their child has been harmed. As a parent, you might experience your own distressing emotions, like anger, sadness and feeling at a loss of how to help your child. At this critical time, knowing where to find the appropriate support can be difficult. It is equally important that you follow your obligation to report as soon as practically possible.

WHO CAN REFER YOU AND OR YOUR CHILD TO A SERVICE?

Parents/carers can self-refer to some service providers, and if in doubt, there are a range of services that will provide you with support in relation to finding the most appropriate service to support your child/children and you. Options to contact a support service may depend on your circumstances. Sometimes relevant authorities who have received a report, such as Child Safety and Police, might make a referral to another service. Alternatively, General Practitioners, community agencies and schools may support by making a referral on your behalf.

HOW WE CAN HELP

You can contact the Bravehearts Information and Support Line between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday AEST on 1800 272 831. We will be able to provide you with support and guidance on how to proceed with protecting and supporting your loved one(s) and help you identify local support services who may be able to support you.

Bravehearts provides counselling services to:

- Children and young people under the age of 18 who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing child sexual abuse within defined catchment areas across the Gold Coast, South Queensland and North Brisbane areas. For children and young people outside of these areas, Bravehearts' Information and Support Line will assist you in locating the most appropriate service for you and your child(ren).
- In addition to supporting the children and young people impacted by child sexual abuse, we also provide support to their non-offending family members, including parents, siblings, grandparents and others.
- Children under 12 engaging in harmful sexual behaviour are eligible for our free counselling support services in the areas listed above.
- Young people between 13-17 years who have engaged or are at risk of engaging in harmful sexual behaviour through our Turning Corners Program, across Queensland.

WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?

A range of support services are available for children or young people and their non-offending family members who have been impacted by child sexual abuse. Some options to consider are:

- Counselling
- Protective behaviours education for you and your children/children
- Parent support groups
- Family support

OUT OF HOURS SUPPORT

You can contact the below services if you are in crisis or require after hours assistance.

Police Link – 131 444

1800 RESPECT – 1800 737 732

Relationships Australia – 1300 364 277

Kids Help Line – 1800 551 800

Lifeline – 13 11 14

13YARN – 13 92 76

**IF A CHILD IS AT IMMEDIATE RISK OF HARM,
PLEASE CALL 000**