

Safeguarding Children and Young People Statement

UnitingCare Children, Young People and Families is a Service Group of UnitingCare NSW.ACT. We are a non-government community services organisation.

Our vision: Safe children, strong families, inclusive communities in a just society.

UnitingCare Children, Young People and Families brings the following agencies together to provide a network of services and supports for children, young people and their families; and for people with disabilities and their carers and families:

- UnitingCare Burnside
- UnitingCare Unifam Counselling and Mediation
- The Institute of Family Practice
- UnitingCare Disability.

We work across areas including (but not limited to) mediation and dispute resolution in the family law context; early intervention and prevention to prevent child abuse and neglect; individual, couple and family counselling; family support and more intensive family interventions; services for young people at risk of homelessness; out-of-home care for children and young people who have been statutorily removed; aftercare for young people leaving care; support for people with disabilities to live independently in the community; and a range of community building and development services. We also provide training internally and to other organisations in areas of clinical practice, child and family welfare, and management.

We work across NSW in areas in metropolitan Sydney, the South West of Sydney, Western Sydney, the Central Coast, the mid North Coast and the far West of NSW.

We respect and support the rights of children and young people and are committed to their safety, welfare and wellbeing. We have strong organisational processes that make this commitment a reality. This commitment is supported by our vision, Strategic Plan, organisational policy and procedure, which require staff to recognise and respond to children at risk of harm and make relevant reports, our Code of Conduct and Principles of Practice, which underpins the way we deliver services and states unequivocally that:

The safety, welfare and wellbeing of children is of paramount concern in all we do.

This means we will use our skills and resources to safeguard all children and young people who come into contact with our services from:

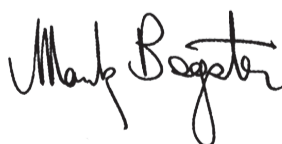
- Sexual abuse
- Physical abuse
- Emotional or psychological abuse
- Neglect
- The impact of living with or experiencing domestic violence
- Systems abuse.

This commitment is supported by UnitingCare NSW.ACT, the UnitingCare Children, Young People and Families Board, our Executive team and all staff.

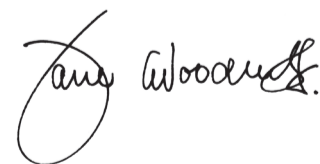
Approved and endorsed by:



Rev Harry Herbert
Director
UnitingCare NSW.ACT



Mark Bagster
Chair
UnitingCare Children, Young
People and Families Board



Jane Woodruff
Director
UnitingCare Children, Young People
and Families