Just imagine you are 10 years old, you’re in a foreign place, you can’t speak the language, you know no-one around you, people look different and they are asking you to tell them (in that foreign language) about an intimately personal and horrific abuse experience.’

This is what is often facing young indigenous children when they are reporting abuse. If they are strong enough to report, they must be heard.

WHERE CAN I GO FOR HELP?

Cairns Child Protection & Investigation Unit
07 4030 7089

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crimestoppers</td>
<td>1800 333 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids Helpline</td>
<td>1800 55 1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Safety Services</td>
<td>1800 177 135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parentline</td>
<td>1300 301 300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHERE CAN I GO FOR HELP?

SPEAK UP.
BE STRONG.
BE HEARD.

IF A CRIME IS HAPPENING NOW
Call Triple Zero 000
If not, think PoliceLink 131 444

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Cairns Child Protection & Investigation Unit
Email: CairnsCPIU@police.qld.gov.au

THIS PROGRAM INVOLVES
THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITIES:

- Aurukun
- Kowanyama
- Pormpuraaw
- Weipa
- Wujal Wujal
- Cooktown
- Hopevale
- Cairns
- Laura
- Coen
- Torres Strait
- Bamaga & NPA
- Lockhart River
- Yarrabah
- Mossman
- Napranum

SPEAK UP.
- Report Sexual Assault
- Report Child Abuse
- Report Child Neglect
WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT?

CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN INCLUDE:

Physical Abuse or Torture:
• Punching, kicking, shaking or throwing a baby or child.
• Hitting with a stick or something hard.
• Burning, strangling or stopping a child breathing.

Emotional or Psychological Abuse:
• Shouting, swearing and screaming at a child often.
• Family punching, kicking and bashing each other in front of children.
• Treating children in changing ways - good then bad, friendly then unfriendly, caring then not caring. Children get scared and are not sure what to expect.

Neglect (not caring or thinking about a child’s needs):
• Not giving a child good food or drinks.
• Not watching them enough, not making sure they are safe.
• Not caring for children when they are sick.
• Not visiting the clinic / health centre when your child is sick.
• Not spending time with your child.
• Not helping them go to school.

Sexual Abuse or Exploitation:
• Touching a child in a sexual way.
• Having sex with a child.
• Asking a child to touch you and do sexual things to you.
• Having sex in front of a child.

People who commit these crimes may be:
• Parents, step-parents, grandparents.
• Uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, cousins.
• Neighbours, family friends, strangers.
• People in positions of power.

WHAT IS CONSENT?

Consent means freely and voluntarily given by a person with the capacity to give consent. A person’s consent to an act is not freely and voluntarily given if it is obtained by force; by threat/intimidation; or by fear of physical harm.

THINK ABOUT YOUR SAFETY

Be aware of your surroundings. When you are in a situation that doesn’t feel right - Get out of there!

If something is happening that you don’t like and you feel unsafe - Speak up!

Workshops

Specialist Police from the Child Protection & Investigation Unit travel to communities to speak to:
• Men, women and children;
• Community groups;
• Government employees; and
• Other people who have contact with children.

Police will discuss with them their concerns. They can also inform these people and groups what is a crime, what they can do about it, and what happens if they tell the police.

REMEMBER!
TELL SOMEONE

• It is an adults job to keep children safe.
• Don’t let pride or shame stand in your way. It is never too late to ask for help.
• What is more important? Protecting a child, or protecting someone who is hurting a child?
• If you think you know someone who is abusing a child, do not confront them. Talk to an expert first.
• Even if you don’t want to get involved, you may be the only person who can help stop a child being abused.
• People sometimes harm children without intending to, but there is never any excuse for abusing a child.

IF YOU SEE THIS HAPPENING TO A CHILD, SPEAK UP.

SPEAK UP. BE STRONG. BE HEARD.