



**CHILDREN'S
RESPONSE CENTER**
Services for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress

Children's Response Center
Overlake Hospital Medical Center
1120 112th Avenue NE
Suite 130, East Building
Bellevue, Washington 98004

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE CENTER IS MANAGED BY HARBORVIEW MEDICAL CENTER.

PLEASE CALL CHILDREN'S RESPONSE CENTER FOR MORE INFORMATION.
PHONE: **425.688.5130** WEB: www.ChildrensResponseCenter.org

Children's Response Center is committed to providing services to all individuals regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status or disability. Access and accommodations are provided to persons with disabilities and interpreters are available as needed.



**PREVENTION AND
EDUCATION SERVICES**

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE CENTER

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION SERVICES

Children's Response Center is committed to providing leadership in sexual assault and child abuse prevention and education services. The Center also promotes early detection, intervention and treatment of those affected.

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION SERVICES FOCUS ON THREE AREAS:

- Information and awareness
- Skill building
- Social change

INFORMATION AND AWARENESS:

Access to good information enhances awareness and appropriate responses. Through these efforts the Center helps others recognize the signs and effects of sexual assault and abuse.

The Center offers educational presentations that address the following issues:

- Incidence and prevalence of child maltreatment
- Early warning signs of child maltreatment
- Typical sex offender behaviors
- How to talk to children about sexual assault/abuse and safety
- Prevention strategies to increase safety for children and prevent sexual assault/abuse

These educational opportunities are designed specifically for community members to develop increased awareness and safety for children and families.

SKILL BUILDING:

It is necessary to build skills for detecting and responding to sexual assault occurrences in order to directly address child maltreatment and sexual assault.

The Center offers training programs to enable participants to gain familiarity with:

- Incidence and prevalence of child maltreatment
- Legal and operational definitions
- Indicators of child maltreatment and sexual assault
- Washington State mandatory reporting requirements
- Child Protective Services (CPS) referral process
- CPS risk assessment for families
- Methods for responding to child maltreatment and sexual assault
- Community resources

These training sessions are useful for health care professionals, educators, childcare workers and other professionals who work with children and have mandated reporting responsibilities.

SOCIAL CHANGE:

Social change action begins with individuals, and it takes a whole community to bring sustained change. The work to end sexual violence is strengthened by increasing knowledge and developing support networks in communities.

Children's Response Center conducts meetings and training sessions, facilitates projects and provides volunteer opportunities to mobilize communities to identify and eliminate the contributing factors that lead to sexual violence.

There are many ways that communities can become involved. As parents, leaders and caring individuals, community members can help organize educational meetings and projects that focus on safety and the prevention of sexual assault and abuse. Community development projects may encompass a wide range of activities and involve a diverse range of people from different groups, including schools, faith communities, camps and service organizations. The participation of community members in the development and implementation of a project, with guidance from the Center, is crucial in working toward eliminating sexual violence within the community.

EXAMPLES OF WAYS TO INFLUENCE SOCIAL CHANGE:

- High school students creating methods to educate fellow students and faculty about sexual harassment.
- Community members researching articles on the topic of sexual abuse and sharing the information with neighbors and friends.
- Individuals or groups organizing educational meetings focused on prevention and safety.
- Neighbors creating a "block watch" program in their community.

Social change, including an attitude and action supporting a "zero tolerance policy", is needed in all communities in order to fulfill a vision of all children having a safe and nurturing environment. Because each child deserves a home and community free of sexual assault, trauma and the pain and disruption these events cause, a community must work together to bring about this needed social change.

To request prevention and education services, please call (425) 688-5130