Engaging the Village

Child Protection Training in Practice

*Embedding Child Awareness as Everyone’s Business*

Productive Futures  ♂ Safe Families  ♂ Healthy Communities
About the YWCA NSW

• Part of the largest women’s network in the world
• Community strategy ‘Y It Takes a Village’
• Registered Training Organisation
• Supported over 32,000 clients last year across NSW
  • Productive Futures (Long term mentoring, School Support, Youth Education Workshops)
  • Safe Families (Supported accommodation for young parents, Domestic Violence Support Service, Respectful Relationships Programs, Homeless Brokerage)
  • Healthy Communities (Breast Cancer Exercise Program, Social Inclusion Programs for socially isolated housing estate residents)
Accredited 2 Day Child Protection Training Program
Identify and Respond to Children & Young People at Risk

We know it takes a village to raise a child and that child protection should be everyone's business!

YWCA NSW is now offering accredited training to ensure both staff and valued community partners have the latest updates in child protection legislation since the implementation of the Keep Them Safe reform.

Facilitated by Paul Filipczyk, a training consultant and psychologist who has specialised in child protection for 20 years.

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

Build upon your work practices with the latest tools and information
Report indications of possible risk in line with the latest changes to legislation
Apply ethical and nurturing practices in work with children and young people.
Facilitator & Assessor

- Paul Filipczyk
- 20 years experience in child protection
- Qualifications in Psychology & Welfare (and Cert IV Workplace Training & Assessment)
- Trainer and clinical supervisor for NSW Community Services
Participant Demographics

Gender

- Female: 88%
- Male: 12%
Participant Demographics

Cultural Diversity

- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander: 4%
- English as a second language: 19%
- Other: 77%
Participant Demographics

Experience in Child Protection

Length of Involvement in Sector

- 5+ years: 51%
- 3-5 years: 12%
- 1-3 years: 16%
- less than 1 year: 21%

Experience in reporting

- Yes: 51%
- No: 49%

(Have you ever made a report?)

Productive Futures  Safe Families  Healthy Communities
Participant Demographics

Experience in Child Protection

Prior training in Child Protection

- No training: 34%
- Prior training: 66%
Participant Demographics

Child Protection Policies in Place

- Yes: 78%
- No: 15%
- Unsure: 7%
Participant Demographics

Common Challenges

74% of workers identified challenges

Support for young People 16 years+

Access to debriefing, supervision and training

Lack of debrief/supervision… limited resources for middle years target group

Knowledge (What is the process? Legal system and changing processes)

Skills (How do I make the decision to report or not?)

Worries and Concerns (What will happen to the child, will I damage my relationship with my client?)

Frustration about the system (cases don’t ‘fit the box’, not getting help or follow up)

Making a correct informed decision as the impact on the family can be negative if incorrectly identified and reported.

Feeling sorrow, when the report has been made and the child is still at risk

Confidentiality and breaking client trust, lack of certainty in risk of harm, lack of follow up

Hard to get the child/ren or young people to talk about what happened to them.

What reporting is necessary for over 16 especially if they live independently.

The frustration of the process and if it doesn't fit the tick boxes.
## Engaging the Village

### How much did we do?

Table 1: Workshop Location and Participant Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>YWCA NSW Staff</th>
<th>Community partners</th>
<th>Total number of participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>26-27 September 2012</td>
<td>Nowra</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2-3 October 2012</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>8-9 October 2012</td>
<td>Lismore</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>18-19 October 2012</td>
<td>Lismore</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-2 November 2012</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>15-16 November 2012</td>
<td>Campbelltown</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3-4 December 2012</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>5-6 December 2012</td>
<td>Nowra</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>11-12 December 2012</td>
<td>Campbelltown</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>13-14 December 2012</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>53</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Child Protection Staff Training Project

How well did we do it?

“Paul was fantastic! I really enjoyed the course and I learnt a lot! The content was relevant and well presented. The venue was excellent.”

“The trainer and information was really good, I learnt a lot.”

“The content was all relevant and well delivered. Appreciation for the case studies and the stories shared by the trainer.”
"Excellent course and feel more confident in this area now and look forward to sharing the knowledge with work colleagues. Would recommend this course."
Child Protection Staff Training Project

How well did we do it?

“This was the best course I have done. Full of content and useful information that would definitely help me at work.”
Child Protection Staff Training Project

Did we make a difference?

Participant confidence in responding to risk

“I feel very confident and very pleased with the training program”

“Paul is such a great communicator; there was not one moment that I did not feel engaged and stimulated. I am so pleased that I volunteered to take this training course. It has increased my knowledge and I feel that I will return to my volunteer work as a telephone support worker with greater confidence.”
Child Protection as EVERYONE’s business

- Feedback from non-community service staff
- Approaches for educating the general community
  - Appropriate education that combines awareness raising with practical skills in maintaining respectful relationships and protective behaviours
Child Protection Staff Training Project

Key Learnings

• 20 – 40% attrition rate for workers attending the course
• Identify learners with additional needs and discuss their learning and assessment procedure before the course (if practicable)
• Finding a high quality, experienced trainer is vital for successful delivery and participant satisfaction
• Assessment tools should be re-reviewed and updated regularly to ensure they are accessible to your group

Next Steps

• Explore options for additional delivery in Sydney and Campbelltown Regions for those workers who have limited budgets or access to child protection training
• Refresher sessions for workers every 1-2 years
• R&D on engaging non-community service staff in education