

Kylie Slattery

Families, Youth and Community Care Queensland has recently released a Child Abuse Prevention Public Speaking Kit. The Kit was developed by the Department's Positive Parenting Coordination Section, in response to an identified community need for resource support in the provision of education and information on child abuse and its prevention.

The Kit is designed to assist those who work in government departments, community organisations, parent groups and other areas where there is a need to present material about child abuse prevention and the role of the community. It can be used with a range of audiences, and is particularly appropriate for presentations to the general public, parents, foster carers and those who work directly with families and children. Trainers who use the Child Abuse Prevention Public Speaking Kit are not required to have a sophisticated knowledge of child protection procedures – the materials for presentation are self-explanatory and a list of agencies and departments is provided for people requiring further information or assistance.

The Kit includes: Tips on public speaking; Session plans for workshops; Activity sheets; Overhead transparency masters and handouts; A list of available services and agencies; A guide to contact and referral and; Evaluation forms. At the end of the

presentation on child abuse prevention, participants will have a stronger understanding of what constitutes child abuse and neglect. They will be able to:

- Identify behaviours considered harmful to children and some of the causes, contexts and consequences;
- Identify a range of approaches to understanding child abuse;
- Identify risk factors and warning signs of child abuse and neglect;
- Promote preventative procedures and positive parenting strategies for care providers;
- Identify the benefits of early identification and intervention;
- Promote a wide range of child abuse prevention activities that can be undertaken by communities and;
- Be aware of the range and function of services which offer support to families.

The Child Abuse Prevention Public Speaking Kit is available for purchase from the Positive Parenting Coordination Section at FYCCQ – Tel: (07) 3224 7588. The price of the Kit is \$40 (plus GST & postage). It will also soon be available on the Department's website – www.families.qld.gov.au

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