



Be Their Hero:

Practical Parent Tools to Keep Children Safe

Community-facing prevention education

Delivered through Children and Parenting Support Services (CaPSS)



Acknowledgement of Country

I acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects to their Elders past and present.

I extend that respect to all First Nations people here today.

From local concern to a practical response

How can families ask better safety questions and escalate concerns when needed?

PROGRAM RESPONSE

Community concern became a service design problem

- Parents and carers reached out for clear, practical guidance
- Be Their Hero builds knowledge, confidence and protective action
- Parents can ask, document, seek evidence and escalate concerns

Why upstream capability matters

62.2%

Australian adults
reported at least one
type of child
maltreatment before
age 18

ACMS lifetime prevalence

39.4%

Reported two or more
types of child
maltreatment

Multi-type harm is common

1 in 32

Australian children
had contact with the
child protection in
2023–24

Annual system contact

**DIRECT IMPLICATION
FOR BE THEIR HERO**

**Prevention must
work across
settings, risks and
all adults.**

Family safety culture,
child voice, online and
peer risk, trusted
services, disclosure and
reporting.

**Build community capability upstream,
while strengthening expectations of services and systems.**

The intervention pathway

A practical sequence: rights → risk literacy → evidence-seeking → escalation → support

1

Rights

**Safety + voice
adult & service
responsibility**

2

Notice

**Behaviour
changes /
Online risk /
environment**

3

Ask

**Evidence
Not for
reassurance**

4

Escalate

**Document concerns
Use available
services- process
Report**

5

Support

**Calm
Believe
Protect
Connect**

From delivery to evaluation

1 Delivery

Parent & carer child-safety workshop delivered through CaPSS

2 Useful now

Preliminary delivery feedback suggests feasibility, acceptability and perceived usefulness

3 Evaluate next

Confidence, knowledge, action, escalation and accessibility

Shift: from reassurance-seeking to evidence-seeking adults and accountable systems.



Let's be their hero

Thank you

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CaPSS



CHANGING FAMILIES
9th-11th September 2026 Melbourne/Naarm **IN CHANGING TIMES**