

ccasa Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse

All Students

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Your children are invited to participate in the "Who Do You Tell?"™ Program ("WDYT?"™) (see enclosed pamphlet) at their school/agency between February 19, 2015 and May 28, 2015, during school hours.

In Canada, 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 9 boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18. Many children never tell anyone of their abuse and the long term effects can be devastating. For these reasons, we feel it is very important for children to attend the "Who Do You Tell?"™ Program. The "Who Do You Tell?"™ Program is a safety program, not a sexuality education program.

Since 1994 Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse (CCASA), Calgary's primary sexual abuse service, has delivered this safety program to children and their teachers in both the Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School District. The language and messages are created and presented for each age and grade level in alignment with the Board policies. These safety messages are presented in a fun and positive manner while children learn they can get help from trusted adults if they are confused or scared about a touch or behaviour.

The school provides classroom lists to the educators which are used for name tags and program statistics. Once the program is completed, the lists are destroyed. During the classroom presentations all children will be given an opportunity to request time to speak to a program educator privately to ask questions or share concerns they may have. Occasionally children have concerns which require the educators to obtain family contact information from the school in order to complete needed follow-up. It is the requirement of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act that parents are informed of and provide consent for the educators to have access to child and family contact information if required.

The issue of child sexual abuse is difficult for many parents, schools, and communities. This awareness has guided the design of the program to be comfortable, enjoyable, and respectful of children, their parents, and the school community. We invite parents and guardians to an information night at Chinook Winds on January 28th at 6:30 PM p.m. A "WDYT?"™ educator will discuss the content of the classroom program and issues surrounding child sexual abuse. This information night is intended for adults only. If you require additional information please contact CCASA at 403-237-6905 (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.).

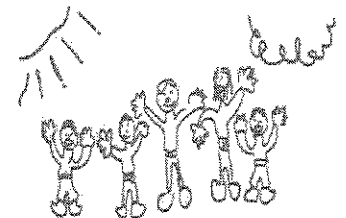
TO: Elementary School Principal

I WANT my child to participate in the "Who Do You Tell?"™ Program and to speak with CCASA Educators privately upon request. I consent to the school providing my child's name and if necessary, family contact information to the CCASA Educators.

I DO NOT WANT my child to participate in the program.

Child's Name _____ Teacher _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____



"Who Do You Tell?"™



Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse (CCASA)



Who Do You Tell? (WDYT)

Child Participant Information for Grades 4, 5, & 6

This information is confidential. It will be used to help identify the communities we are serving and will support us in developing programs that are useful to you. Providing this information about your child is optional and your child will still be able to attend the WDYT? program if you choose not to complete this form.

First 2 letters of your child's first name ____

First 2 letters of your child's last name ____

Your child's:

date of birth: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

Sex: Male Female Age: _____ Grade in school _____

What is your child's cultural background?

If Aboriginal Identity, please select 1 of the following:

First Nations ___ Métis ___ Inuit ___ Non-status ___ Bill C-31 status ___ Not applicable ___

What language do you speak most often at home?

Was your child born in Canada?

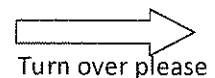
Yes ___ No ___ (if your answer is no, please answer the next 2 questions)

1. Where was your child born? _____

2. How long have you been in Canada? _____

What neighbourhood do you live in? _____

What are the first 3 digits of your postal code? ____



Who we are

CCASA is the primary sexual assault and sexual abuse crisis and education service provider for Calgary and surrounding areas. CCASA provides safe, accessible, professional services for people of all races, abilities, religions, sexual orientations, and genders.

Our Vision

Healthy communities free of sexual abuse and sexual assault.

Our Mission

Provide leadership to impact attitudes and actions around sexual abuse and sexual assault.

CCASA offers free and confidential services

- Individual Counselling
- Group Counselling *(sliding fee scale)
- 24-Hour Support and Information Line
- 24-Hour Toll Free Line (in Alberta)
- 24-Hour Hospital Accompaniment
- Public Education and Outreach
- Police And Court Education and Support (P.A.C.E.S.)

** There is a small fee for group counselling, however, no individual will be turned away if they cannot afford the fee.*

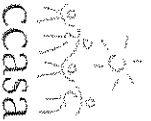
Arrangements for interpreters available upon request.

For more information on our programs and services as well as community engagement and volunteer opportunities please visit:

Website: calgarycasa.com

Phone: 403-237-6905

Fax: 403-264-8355



Dedicated to reducing the impact of sexual abuse and sexual assault

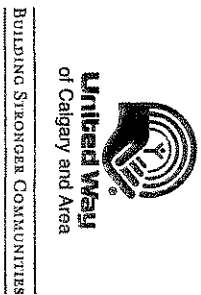
CCASA is a proud partner of

connect

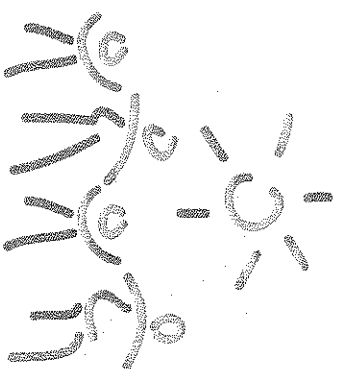
family & sexual abuse network

Connect Family and Sexual Abuse Network is a partnership between Calgary and area service providers who are working together to simplify access to essential services for individuals and families affected by family and sexual violence. For more information please visit the Connect website at connectnetwork.ca.

Thank you to our funders



CCASA would also like to thank The Printing House LTD. for their quality work, efficiency, and unparalleled customer service.



ccasa

Calgary Communities
Against Sexual Abuse

“Who Do You Tell?”™

A child sexual abuse safety and empowerment program presented by CCASA

24-Hour Support and Information Line

403-237-5888

24-Hour Toll-Free

1-877-237-5888

TTY Line: 403-508-7888

Email/Online

info@calgarycasa.com

calgarycasa.com

CCASA

Suite 700, 910 7th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3N8

What is the “Who Do You Tell?”™ (“WDYT?”™) Program?

The “WDYT?”™ educational program offers the facts about child sexual abuse and empowers children, their parents and teachers to speak openly about the issue. CCASA has owned and delivered this program since 1994. The program is offered in Public, Catholic and Private schools in Calgary and around Alberta.

The goals of the program are to:

- Encourage adults to be the primary educators of the children in their lives regarding sexual abuse
- Educate children about child sexual abuse
- Give the message that sexual abuse is wrong and hurtful to people
- Provide support and referrals to individuals impacted by child sexual abuse
- Act as a resource to parents, teachers, and other professionals concerned with child sexual abuse issues

Key messages to children will include:

1. You have the right to say “NO”
2. Sexual abuse is **NEVER** a child’s fault
3. Tell an adult that you trust

Who delivers the “Who Do You Tell?”™ Program?

Two experienced educators will deliver the “WDYT?”™ program to elementary schools and other children’s programs. The educators work closely with school and children’s program staff as well as support services in the community.

Is the “Who Do You Tell?”™ Program for children of all ages?

“WDYT?”™ is delivered to individual classes beginning in Kindergarten to grade six. The “WDYT?”™ program content is adapted to the ages of the children.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Is this going to frighten my child and make them afraid of “Nice, Okay Touches”?

The “WDYT?”™ program is designed to educate and empower children to recognize their right to make decisions about their body and which touches are okay for them. From our experience and research, educating children about their bodies and different kinds of touches empowers rather than frightens them.

Is this going to put ideas in their heads?

What about false reports?

Children rarely lie about sexual abuse. In fact, children are more likely to minimize and not come forward to get help in order to protect the offender and themselves from possible consequences.

Is this a sex education program?

The “WDYT?”™ program educates children about abusive behaviours and provides support and strategies for getting help. Materials in this program are in no way sexually explicit and the program content is adapted to the ages of the children.

Why is the “Who Do You Tell?”™ Program information important for children?

Learning about sexual abuse will help children understand they have the right to respond assertively to inappropriate sexual touching or behaviours by adults or other children/youth. Although sexual abuse can be difficult to discuss, such discussions encourage children to talk about child sexual abuse. They also help them understand what it is, that if it happens it is never a child’s fault and that the most important thing to do is to tell an adult they trust.

Did you know...

- One in four girls and one in nine boys will be sexually abused by age 17 (Badgley, 1984)
- Only 17% of parents provide their children with child sexual abuse information (Tutty, 1996)
- 80-85% of the time, child sexual abuse offenders are known to the child (Stats Can, 1996)
- Child sexual abuse can happen to any child and the majority of cases go undetected and unreported

What to do if a child tells you about sexual abuse...

- Believe the child and remain calm
- Tell the child it is not his or her fault
- Do not question why they didn’t tell sooner
- Tell the child you will try to help
- Report the abuse
- Support the child and get support for yourself
- Call CCASA’s Support and Information Line

**It is not important to know the details of the abuse in order to help a child*

Some indicators of child sexual abuse may include:

- Pain in genital area
- Difficulty walking, sitting, or going to the washroom
- Sexualized behaviour or sexual knowledge beyond the child’s age
- Regression in behaviour or skills, e.g. thumb sucking or bedwetting
- Fear of specific adults or of a specific gender
- Any signs of chronic stress such as: sleep disturbances, depression, withdrawal, or anxiety

There may not always be obvious signs of sexual abuse. If you see any noticeable behavioural changes, it is important to talk to children, as this may be an indicator of stress.

Under the Alberta Government Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act (2012), if there is reason to believe a child has been or is at risk of abuse or neglect by a parent or guardian it must be reported to Calgary and Area Child and Family Services.

Reporting Child Abuse

Calgary and Area Child and Family Services
403-297-2995 (24 hrs.)

Calgary Police Service – Child Abuse Unit
403-266-1234 (24 hrs.) 403-428-2211 (bus. hrs.)

Child Abuse Hotline
1-800-387-5437