

Remote Indigenous Child Witnesses of Domestic Violence Support Unit

May 2007



**Cape York/Gulf Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Child Care (RAATSICC) Advisory Association Inc.**

The RAATSICC Program began in Bamaga in 1990.

Our aim is to assist remote Indigenous communities to **promote the well being of children**

within their extended family and community, and

respond to their needs

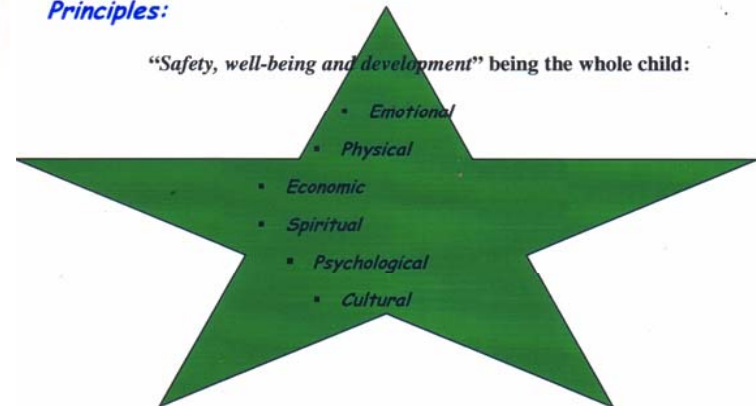
in a culturally appropriate and locality specific manner.

Cape & Gulf RAATSICC statement of values



Principles:

“Safety, well-being and development” being the whole child:



Program Outcomes

- 1) Provide training and education opportunities to Domestic & Family Violence workers.
- 2) Provide access for community-based workers to Therapeutic Register services.

Communities we service:

NPA Womens Shelter, Bamaga (servicing Bamaga, Injinoo, Seisia, Umagico, Injinoo)

Ma'aathan Womens Shelter, Aurukun

Yuenmanda Womens Shelter, Mornington Island

Jirray Womens Shelter, Hopevale

Kootana Womens Shelter, Palm Island

Yarrabah Womens Refuge, Yarrabah

Pythum Womens Shelter, Lockhart River

Draumalon Safe & Healing Centre, Napranum

Kowanyama Womens Shelter, Kowanyama

Pormpuraaw Womens Shelter, Pormpuraaw

Maguwa Ngutharra "Womens Shelter, Doomadgee

Lena Passi Womens Shelter, Thursday Island

*1) Provide training and education opportunities to
Domestic & Family Violence workers.*

Eg:

Cairns DV Workshop x2; Napranum CAFS Workshop

Hopevale DV Workshop; CP Risk Management Training

Yarrabah Girls Group; Pormpuraaw Workshop; NPA

Protective Behaviours Workshop; Self Care Workshop;

DV Court Assistance Network Meeting; DV Prevention

Month activities; Indigenous Law Conference; Child

Victims of DV Forum

2) Provide access for community-based workers to Therapeutic Register services.

- RAATSICC are funded to provide on-going support to workers through the administration of the **Therapeutic Register**.
- It is to target workers who assist and support children, young people who are victims of DV & FV. This initiative does not give provision to provide services directly to children and young people.

Why?

Only limited DV & FV workers in remote Indigenous communities have ever received on-going professional debriefing and/or supervision. This is usually up to the individual and/or organisation to arrange support for workers, but this of course came secondary to client-based and community obligations. This also can be a costly service of which many community organisations do not budget for.

What is it?

The Therapeutic Register is a database of specialist therapists available for workers in rural and remote RAATSICC umbrella communities, to assist them to provide quality information, support and response to clients experiencing domestic violence and / or family violence in their communities.

The therapeutic register includes **two types of services**:

The first service, "**Specialist Therapists**" is provided directly to community based workers in Cape York/Gulf remote indigenous communities. These specialists work in areas such as domestic violence and family violence, child protection, client support, sexual assault, suicide issues, and are able to provide one-on-one sessions via telephone or face to face or facilitate group work processes.

The second service available through the Therapeutic Register is "**Cross-Community Debriefing**". This process involves utilising existing RAATSICC members, (particularly individuals who successfully completed their Certificate IV in Workplace Assessment and Training) to support other community service workers in the network.

These workers are highly skilled shelter co-coordinators and CAFS workers with many years experience, trainers and other Indigenous workers with a high degree of skill and knowledge. This process gives opportunity for the community service providers to access and communicate issues and situations with others that may give more culturally appropriate options and assistance.

The goal of RAATSICC Therapeutic Response is to provide "Professional supervision and development" for all participants in the process.

DV Resources developed & distributed to communities

Domestic Violence Kit, D&FV Prevention Month stickers & postcards, White Ribbon Day resources, Therapeutic Register Brochures & Posters, Selena Solomon Posters, Hopevale Womens Shelter Cards & Stickers.



Cape York/Gulf
R.A.A.T.S.I.C.C.
Advisory Assoc Inc.

*'protect pikini
blo u me way
blo mepla'*

1300 663 411
4030 0900
info@raatsicc.org.au
www.raatsicc.org.au

**VIOLENCE HURTS
OUR CHILDREN**



Cape York/Gulf
R.A.A.T.S.I.C.C.
Advisory Association Inc.



**Child Protection
Resource Kit**

The Department of
Remote Area Indigenous Child Placement & Family Support Program
Funded by Department of Communities

**PROTECTING KIDS:
Our Way**

Cape York/Gulf R.A.A.T.S.I.C.C. Advisory Association Inc. - 1300 663 411

**Too much fighting
is not good for our
community, think
before you act.**

Gladya Bambar


Protecting Kids Our Way

Cape York/Gulf Remote Area Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Child Care Advisory Association Inc. - 1300 663 411

Cape York/Gulf RAATSICC Advisory Association Inc.
(Remote Area Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Child Care)

RAATSICC PROGRAMS

- Childcare Training Strategy
- Child Witnesses of DV Training Coordinator, Kootana Womens Centre
- Child Placement & Family Support
- Advisory Program
- Resource Unit




Selena Solomon

"At Kootana we have children in care as well as mothers accessing our service, and because of the support from RAATSICC we are able to cope and provide assistance that is more sustainable."

"RAATSICC is totally committed to Palm Island and other remote area communities with their ongoing support."

"to promote the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children within their extended family and community, and respond to their needs in a culturally appropriate manner"

CAPE YORK/GULF RAATSICC
ADVISORY ASSOCIATION INC
PO Box 4242, Cairns QLD 4870
Phone: 1300 663 411
WWW.RAATSICC.ORG.AU
FUNDED BY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES



What community workers are requesting support with.....

Training and Education for Workers

Orientation, SAAP/SMART, Resource Development, Data Collection, Child Protection Policy

Assistance with Community Education

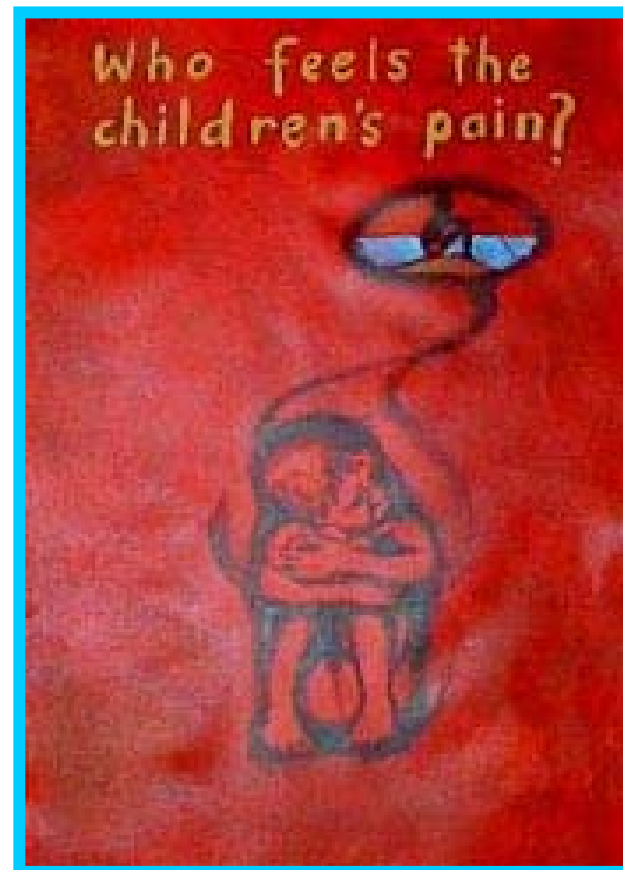
Developing new and innovative resources
Delivery of ongoing community education and awareness programs

Assets & Equipment

Goods for children entering shelter (toys, clothes, etc)
Client packs for those entering shelters (info, clothes, toiletries, etc.)

Professional Support

Assess to professional debriefing and support
Services (Therapeutic Register)



Thank you for your attention.



RAATSICC Contact Details:

Phone: 1300 663 411

Postal: PO Box 6242MC, Cairns Qld 4870

Website: www.raatsicc.org.au

Cape York/Gulf RAATSICC Advisory Association

"to promote the well being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children within the extended family and cultural community"