

The voice of all people living with HIV

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Introduction:

Positive Life NSW (Positive Life) is committed to protecting the interests, safety, and wellbeing of all children and young people. We have zero tolerance for child abuse.

Everyone at Positive Life is responsible for the care and protection of children accessing our services and reporting information about child abuse. We support and respect all children, staff members, Board members, student placements, volunteers, community members, and clients. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is:

- 1. To facilitate the prevention of child abuse occurring within Positive Life.
- 2. To work towards an organisational culture of child safety.
- 3. To prevent child abuse within Positive Life.
- 4. To ensure that all parties are aware of their responsibilities for identifying possible occasions for child abuse and for establishing controls and procedures for preventing such abuse and/or detecting such abuse when it occurs.
- 5. To provide guidance to staff/volunteers/contractors as to action that should be taken where they suspect any abuse within or outside of the organisation.
- 6. To provide a clear statement to staff/volunteers/contractors forbidding any such abuse.
- 7. To provide assurance that any and all suspected abuse will be reported and fully investigated.

All children, regardless of their gender, race, religious beliefs, age, disability, sexual orientation, or family or social background, have equal rights to protection from abuse.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be fully investigated and consistently with our robust policies and procedures. We have legal and moral obligations to contact authorities if we are concerned about a child's safety, which we adhere to rigorously.

Positive Life is committed to preventing child abuse and has robust human resource and recruitment practices for new and existing Board members, staff members,

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student placements, and volunteers to identify risks early, and remove and reduce these risks. Positive Life is committed to regular training and education practices for our Board members, staff, student placements, and volunteers on child abuse risks.

We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.

We have specific policies and procedures in place that support our Board members, staff members, student placements, and volunteers to achieve these commitments.