

Our commitment to

safety & wellbeing of children & young people

Investing In Our Youth (IIOY) is committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of children, young people and adults who interact with, or are supported by, our services and programs, especially the most vulnerable. We acknowledge all children and young people have the right to feel safe, to be safe and to be heard. IIOY has zero tolerance to all forms of child abuse and violence and condemns all forms of exploitation, abuse, and harm of children. The safety and wellbeing of children and young people is placed at the centre of our values and actions. IIOY is guided by the <u>10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations</u>, developed by the Human Rights Commission.

We have policies and procedures in place to protect all program participants from harm. Screening measures are used when recruiting for positions that involve working directly with children and young people. All board, staff, volunteers, and contractors undertake orientation in our policies and procedures, as well as providing a National Police Check and Working with Children Check which are renewed every three years. We have moral obligations to contact authorities when we are concerned about a child or young person's safety, which we follow rigorously. We are committed to preventing child abuse by identifying risks early and removing and reducing these risks. We are committed to ensuring our staff and volunteers are educated on child abuse risks and mandatory reporting requirements.

We promote diversity, and people from all cultures and backgrounds are welcome. We give particular attention to promoting the cultural safety, participation, and empowerment of:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people
Children and young people from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
Children and young people with disability.

If you would like to find out more about IIOY's commitment to child safety, or if you want to raise a concern directly or would like specific information about IIOY's policy, you can contact our CEO, Nicky Smith at <u>ceo@iioy.org.au</u> or 0497 866 951.

If you are a child, young person or parent/carer needing support you can contact Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 or headspace on 1800 650 890. If you are concerned about a child in immediate danger call Police on 000. If you are concerned about a child's wellbeing that does not require immediate Policy attention contact Department of Communities on 1800 273 889.

Nicola Smith Chief Executive Officer

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