

Statement of commitment to Child Safety

WWILD SVP Assoc. is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people who use our service, or interact with our service, including those with intellectual disability.

We are guided by the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* and the *National Child Safe Principles* which flow through all aspects of practice from leadership, policy development and implementation, recruitment of staff, intake referrals, direct client work, evaluation and complaints.

We respect the choice and voices of young people with diversity, from First Nations backgrounds, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds and those who identify as LGBTQIA+. Where possible and with the consent of the child and young person, we involve families and carers in our work.

We are committed to ensuring safe physical spaces, online spaces, and child-focused staff and client culture. This means supporting staff to recognize early signs, protect children and young people and feel confident to be champions for children and young people.

WWILD has a zero tolerance for abuse, neglect and exploitation of children and young people and seeks to act swiftly and protectively to prevent and minimize this and work within Child Safety systems.

Statement of commitment to Cultural Safety

WWILD is committed to ensuring its spaces, policies, practices, cultures and processes are culturally safe for its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse clients, workers, volunteers, students and stakeholders. This means providing an accessible, welcoming space that accommodates, integrates and celebrates the many cultures that clients come from. This also means recognising the intergenerational trauma caused to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through the ongoing impacts of colonisation, displacement, the Stolen Generations and other injustices.

We acknowledge there are unique cultural ways of understanding 'disability', and that service systems and approaches need to be designed in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Accordingly, we commit to a worker culture that reflects on its own cultural biases and always seeks to grow and improve. Our approach to our work is one of curiosity, collaboration and openness to learning and change around cultural knowledge and practice.

WWILD acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of Australia, and the important role First Nations people continue to play across our community. WWILD acknowledges the Turrbal and Jaggera peoples that are custodians of the land that WWILD meets on, as well as the Kabi Kabi and Bundjalung areas where we additionally meet.

We also acknowledge the diversity of clients and families from all over the world that come from different cultures, religious backgrounds, and language groups.