

Refuge Therapeutic Support Program

Fact sheet

The Alannah
and Madeline
Foundation



Keeping children safe from violence

Our history

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation is a national charity protecting children from violence and its devastating impact.

The Foundation was set up in memory of Alannah and Madeline Mikac, aged 6 and 3, who were tragically killed with their mother and 32 others at Port Arthur, Tasmania on 28 April 1996.

We care for children who have experienced or witnessed serious violence. We also run programs that prevent violence and advocate for children's safety and wellbeing. Our vision is that every child will live in a safe and supportive environment.

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An initiative of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation, the Refuge Therapeutic Support Program funds much-needed therapy for children affected by violence.

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation makes grants of \$5,000 available for a range of group therapeutic programs for children residing in domestic violence refuges across Australia.

The purpose of the Refuge Therapeutic Support Program is to assist refuges in providing therapeutic intervention for children who may be distressed or traumatised by their family situation as soon as possible after they have been removed to safety.

The funding pays for qualified and skilled therapists, identified by refuges, to run fortnightly group therapeutic sessions that have been specifically designed for children who have experienced significant violence in the home.

A range of group therapeutic strategies would be considered, including: art, pet and music therapy, plus psychotherapy groups.

In order to be eligible for funding through this program, refuges need to identify and employ a suitably qualified therapist. Please visit amf.org.au/rtsp to read the qualification requirements.

For more information visit amf.org.au or call 1300 720 747.



“We utilised the funding to run weekly art therapy classes. We have seen families with poor communication skills and interaction learning to respect each other. We have witnessed a child become far less insecure when unable to see their mother, and children with significant behavioural problems learning healthier ways to express their anger.”
Delvena Women's Refuge