# **SCOPE**

## **Systemic Counselling for Optimal Placement Experience**

The aim of the SCOPE program is to provide individualised assessment, therapeutic intervention and support to children and young people who are in the care of the Department of Communities, Child Safety Services. This service is applicable to children and young people who have moderate to complex needs, and who are aged between 5 and 17 years of age.

This service may include emotional and psychological counselling for children and young people, and holistic and integrated work with their support systems, including foster carers, schools, health care systems, and recreational activities.

Foster carers are significant people in the lives of these children. The SCOPE program aims to provide them with support in undertaking their carer role, as well as assistance with behaviour management skills and techniques.

The SCOPE program works in collaboration with all the stakeholders involved in the child's life to bring about optimal outcomes for children and young people. Stakeholders may include the Department of Child Safety, parents and extended family groupings, foster carers and foster care agencies, the Department of Education, and health care professionals.

### Services provided by the SCOPE program

- conducts initial and ongoing assessments of the child's needs
- provides counselling for the children and carers as required
- provides behaviour management support and strategies to foster carers, parents, families and schools
- provides access to therapeutic groups for children as needs are identified
- supports people via home visits, email and telephone calls
- provides recommendations concerning ongoing training, education and support of foster carers
- liaises with all stakeholders relevant to the child's welfare

#### Role of the foster carer

- to be an active part of the SCOPE program with UnitingCare Community and the Department of Communities, Child Safety
- to provide consistent feedback to SCOPE in relation to the child's progress
- to continue to provide a high level of care to the child
- to access further information and support which may contribute to the best outcome for the child/young person
- to assist in the fulfilment of the goals and case plans related to the child or young person

### Make a donation

By giving a donation you will help UnitingCare Community continue to provide its counselling services and support programs free of charge to the local community. To donate, please phone our Ipswich office on 3816 9600 or visit www.uccommunity.org.au



### **Contact**

#### Counselling services

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