

HEALING IS POSSIBLE

Sexual abuse can be a difficult experience for a child, as well as for the parent(s), sibling(s), and other people in the child's life. The extent to which a child is affected by sexual abuse may depend on a number of factors, including the child's age, the amount of support the child receives, the frequency, duration, and type of abuse, and the relationship the child has with the offender. The effects of sexual abuse can be distressing, but they don't have to be permanent.

It is possible to heal.

It is even possible to thrive.

About Knowles Centre Inc.

Knowles Centre is a community-based, non-profit social service agency for children, adolescents and young adults facing difficult times in their lives. It began as a home for boys in 1907, and today, provides group care treatment, treatment foster care, independent living, day treatment and sexual abuse treatment programs plus a range of support services to young people from Manitoba and other communities throughout Canada.

We offer a range of therapeutic and skills-based programs that help young people and their families to address past struggles, to develop healthier relationships and ways of life, and to reach their full potential in the future.

Knowles Centre is a registered, non-profit, charitable organization and is governed by an elected Board of Directors. Knowles Centre is accredited by the Council on Accreditation.

For more information on the Sexual Abuse Treatment Program (SATP) at Knowles Centre, contact us at:

Knowles Centre Inc.
Sexual Abuse Treatment Program
2065 Henderson Highway
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2G 1P7

Phone: (204) 339-1951
Fax: (204) 334-4173
Email: SATP@knowlescentre.org
Web: www.knowlescentre.org



A United Way
Funded Agency



KNOWLES CENTRE INC.

Helping Individuals Find Their Path:
Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

A young girl with long brown hair, wearing a red top, is shown in profile, blowing a dandelion seed head. The background is a soft-focus green field.

**Sexual Abuse
Treatment Program**

We Can Help

Knowles Centre's Sexual Abuse Treatment Program (SATP) assists children and families in recognizing how abuse may have affected them, and helps them in coping with past sexual abuse experiences in a positive way.

The SATP is located on a scenic property. Our therapist has graduate-level training in counseling/therapy skills and receives ongoing supervision and training in the treatment of sexual abuse.

Through play, individual, and family therapy, our therapist works with children and families in a way that is safe and empowering for them. Group therapy is offered when presenting issues and numbers allow. The program also has access to a consulting psychiatrist.

The SATP is completely funded by the United Way of Winnipeg. There is no cost to families who wish to access the program.



Clients We See

Males and females, aged 4 to 21 years, may be referred to the program if they have previously made a disclosure of sexual abuse by a family member or third party, or if they have a sibling who has made such a disclosure. Services will be prioritized to clients who are 18 years of age and younger.

Non-offending parent(s) or guardian(s) may also be referred to the program if they are caring for, or have previously cared for, a child who has made a disclosure.

To be considered for admission to the SATP, several additional criteria must be met:

- An abuse investigation has been completed by a Child & Family Services Agency and/or police and there is substantial reason to believe that the allegations are true. There are no outstanding legal issues (e.g., custody/access issues).
- Children are currently living in a safe environment away from the alleged offender(s), and any contact that occurs is part of a planned and supervised reunification process.
- Children have access to supervised transportation to and from therapy sessions.
- Children's parent(s) or guardian(s) are willing to participate in the assessment and treatment process.

Families referred to the program will be asked to participate in an intake process with our therapist to determine which services may be most appropriate in meeting their needs.

Services We Provide

- Inform and educate children and families about the nature and impact of sexual abuse.
- Create a safe and comfortable forum in which to discuss sexual abuse and identify and express associated feelings (e.g., anger, guilt).
- Help children and families learn how to manage feelings in a constructive and age-appropriate way.
- Create a safe and comfortable forum in which to discuss healthy relationships and sexuality.
- Help children and families work through a range of behavioural concerns, including problematic sexual behaviour.
- Enhance clients' knowledge of personal safety, as well as their ability to recognize and respond to situations that may be abusive, exploitative, or unsafe.
- Collaborate with other systems/professionals (e.g., school personnel) in order to meet the specific needs of children and families.
- Help children and families identify and access a personal support network.

Should clients require services that are not available through the SATP, they will be referred to alternative resources in the community.