

Contents

Foreword	v
Acknowledgments	vi
About the authors	vi
Executive summary	1
1. Introduction	9
2. The Audit process	10
Terminology	10
Scope of the Audit	12
Date collection	12
Classifying the programs	14
Criteria for inclusion	16
3. Child abuse prevention: a national overview	17
Trends in prevention	17
Child protection: the shift to a ‘family support’ approach	19
The Commonwealth’s role in prevention	21
Australian Capital Territory	22
New South Wales	23
Northern Territory	26
Queensland	29
South Australia	30
Tasmania	32
Victoria	33
Western Australian	34
The non-government sector	36
4. Overview of the programs	37
Presentation of the programs	37
Program types	37
Geographical location	38
Types of maltreatment	42
Levels of prevention	46
Target groups	49
5. Community education programs	51
Parent education	54
School-based programs	55
Levels of prevention and types of maltreatment	55
In summary	55
6. Personal safety or protective behaviours programs	58
Describing the Audit programs	58
Personal safety in context	59

7. Family support programs	65
Primary programs	65
Secondary prevention	66
Tertiary programs	67
Parent education	68
Home visiting programs	69
Early intervention	71
In summary	72
8. Child-focused programs	74
Substitute care services	75
Working with adolescents	77
9. Child and Family Centres	79
10. Offender programs	81
Audit programs	82
Secondary programs	83
In summary	83
11. Special populations	84
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs	84
Non-English-speaking background programs	88
Disability programs	90
Mental illness	92
In summary	94
12. Program evaluations	96
Program evaluation in Australia	98
The National Audit	99
In summary	101
13. General discussion	102
An holistic approach to prevention programs	102
Adapting programs for Australian conditions	104
Program evaluation research	107
Generalisability	109
In conclusion	110
References	111
Appendix 1	122
The child abuse prevention programs database	122
Index 1	124
Service providers and child abuse prevention programs included in the Audit by geographical location	125
Index 2	162
Child abuse prevention: type of program and geographical location	163

Organisation of this report

The report is organised to first, provide a description of the audit process, second, an overview of current Commonwealth and State/Territory policy and initiatives, and third, a detailed analysis of the 1814 programs collected for the Audit. The latter have been divided according to type of program, geographical location and on a number of program criteria (for example, level of prevention, target population, type of program evaluation undertaken). Descriptions of a large variety of programs are provided to highlight areas of interest, innovation or best practice. Because of the number of programs included, it was not possible to highlight every program in the report.

Therefore, to guide readers' exploration and identification of particular programs or program types, two indexes are provided at the end of the publication: the first is an index of all child abuse prevention programs and service providers included in the Audit, by geographical location (page 124); the second is an index of program types and geographical location (page 162). More detailed information about each prevention program included in the Audit is provided in the Child Abuse Prevention Programs database developed by the National Clearinghouse. Information on how to access and use the database is provided in Appendix 1 (page 122).