

ACHIEVEMENTS

CFSS provide a flexible creative approach treating each child, young person and family as individual.

Some of our achievements have been:

- Enabling a number of children to remain at home through providing additional support in the evenings and weekends when problems can arise.
- Offering befriending, activity based support for a number of socially isolated children.
- Long term support for a number of children/young people who have experienced traumatic life events.
- Establishing and running appropriate groups for the children/young people referred to Action for Children
- Working with families and their children through their problems with their co-operation.
- Providing a keyworker for each individual child/young person.
- Creating positive, safe social situations for children/young people to meet and mix with others.

For further information please contact:

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EILEAN SIAR

CHILDREN & FAMILIES SUPPORT SERVICE



In Partnership with



INTRODUCTION

The Children and Families Support Service is based at the Action for Children Scotland, Resource Centre, 30 Bayhead Street, Stornoway which acts as the focal point for the whole Western Isles Project.

AIMS OF SERVICE

The service works with children, young people and their families who have been identified as requiring help by either the Social Work Department, The Children's Hearing system or by families making self referrals. The referral criteria aims to cover children and young people who range from 0 years to 18 years of age. By working in partnership with other agencies the service hopes to provide a creative, flexible approach in order to address the issues which have been identified.

Individual, group or family work, are the main methods of working at the present time.

Action plans are drawn up by the service and relevant agencies involved with the referrer and their families in order to create clear guidelines and consistency which assists in the monitoring of the service being provided. Reviews are held regularly in order to ensure these action plans are being used to their fullest potential.

REFERRAL AND PARTNERSHIP

By working in partnership with the local authority Social Work Team and other relevant agencies we aim to provide a flexible, personal service. Assessments take place if the panel regard the referral to be appropriate. A worker from Children and Families Support Service will then carry out a four to six week assessment. This will

involve home visits and activities which are relevant in assisting the worker in their assessment.

There is no minimal length of time allocated in which a child, young person or family are given as regards length of time they receive a service. Where possible the service aims to identify community resources as an option for moving on from the project but this is not always appropriate.

AREAS OF WORK

The main issues which have been the focus of the work include family breakdowns and dysfunction, misuse of alcohol and drugs, child protection, offending and personal development. A range of approaches will be used when working through these issues which may also result in working collaboratively with other specialist agencies e.g. Lifestyle, Health Promotions and Health Visitors.