

Sexual abuse training for health professionals



- Are sex offenders 'wired differently' or can their behavior be 'unlearned'?
- The protective carer says they will protect but can they? What do they need to help them to be able to understand what has happened to their family and for them to be able to move on safely?
- What is sexual exploitation – does it differ from child sexual abuse?
- Do we use the same approach with adult women who perpetrate sex offences as we do with adult male sex offenders?

It is essential for health staff to have the opportunity to debate and discuss these questions, and many more, in order to explore the complexity of child sexual abuse to help them to work confidently and knowledgeably with families where sexual offending has been investigated, whether the offences are contact abuse, or through downloading abusive images of children from the internet.

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation is expert in the field of child sexual abuse. Our high quality training is delivered by experienced and knowledgeable practitioners, it is grounded in up-to-date research and it is presented in a way that will make it immediately usable to members of the group in their work.

Courses offered by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation that will enhance understanding and develop skills in this area of work include;



A one-day course; child sexual exploitation - what's love got to do with it

Child sexual exploitation is a definition that helps us to name and to understand the different ways a child and/or young person can be manipulated; it also helps professionals to recognise the manipulation of all involved by the offender.

This training will help staff from all health related services develop their knowledge and understanding about child sexual exploitation. It will draw on the most recent research, practice and court experience to help them develop a greater understanding and knowledge about the process of sexual exploitation. The course will:

- Provide a definition of sexual exploitation of children and young people
- Explore the complexity of consent
- Identify opportunities for intervention by understanding the behaviour of the offender and the impact issues for the young person
- Identify methods to assist with prosecution

A one-day course for understanding child sexual abusers

The training course provides a broad and informative overview of child sexual abuse by an adult male offender, it explores different ways of understanding sexual offending. Based on research, experience and current practice the course covers;

- Models to understand behaviour
- The process of sexually abusive behaviour in a variety of contexts
- The impact of child sexual abuse
- What we mean by risk and risk management
- What is included in defensible decision making

A one-day course; women who sexually abuse children

This training course will provide staff with a broad and informative overview of child sexual abuse by an adult female offender. It will help them understand the wider implications of female sexual abuse and increase their confidence and knowledge when approaching these situations. Based on our experience, research and current practice the course covers;

- The challenges female abusers present to commonly held views about women's behaviour and how this can influence 'hearing' the victim's disclosure
- The prevalence of female sexual abuse of children
- Impact issues for victims and protective carers
- Common abuse patterns
- Skills to assist in engaging the women during the course of investigation, post investigation and assessment

Both 'understanding' and 'women who sexually abuse' can be offered at a foundation and a more advanced level

A one-day course; child sexual abuse and the internet

The considerable increase to the number of individuals being investigated, cautioned or convicted for internet offences poses particular challenges. This training explores how the internet is used as part of sexually abusive behaviour; it looks at what motivates different types of internet offender and some practical ways in which associated risks can be assessed. The course will enable health care staff to better understand;

- The different types of internet abuser, their characteristics and motivations
- The apparent similarities and differences between internet-only and contact offenders
- Understanding and managing specific risks

We have these and many more courses which can be tailored to meet the needs and experience of the participant group, and will draw up on expert knowledge, research, and case examples.

In addition to a comprehensive training programme, we provide an extensive range of assessment services, we work directly with sex offenders and their families, and we offer specialist case advice for professionals. In addition we have specialist staff who work with children and young people who are victims of child sexual abuse, and we also work with children and young people who commit sexually harmful behaviours.

To discuss your training requirements contact Nicola Wathen on 01527 591 922 or email nwathen@lucyfaithfull.org.uk

www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk/training