



Group Treatment

The first step is an assessment to determine if the group treatment program is a good fit for the child and family. If accepted into the program, children will learn:

- ✿ Rules about sexual behavior
- ✿ Privacy and boundary rules
- ✿ Coping skills and impulse control skills
- ✿ Social skills

Caregivers (parents, foster parents, grandparents) also must participate in the program. They learn:

- ✿ To distinguish normal from problematic sexual behaviors in children
- ✿ Appropriate responses to children's sexual behaviors
- ✿ Ways to prevent problematic sexual behavior
- ✿ Effective responses to other behavioral problems

Children and their caregivers meet at the same time in separate groups once a week in the early evening. Combined sessions occur where children and caregivers can practice new skills. Groups meet in the Lewisville office on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00.

**Children's Advocacy Center
for Denton County**

**1854 Cain Drive
Lewisville, TX 75077**

For more information or to refer a child:

**Call or email a Clinical Supervisor at
(972) 538-9611 or (972) 538-9616
cari@cacdc.org or angi@cacdc.org**

For more information on this subject, visit:

**www.NCSBY.org
www.icctc.org
www.nctsn.org**

A Treatment Program for Families of Children with Problematic Sexual Behavior

Some sexual play among young children, such as playing doctor or looking at private parts, may be considered normal. However, some sexual behaviors are inappropriate and potentially harmful to children. For example, some children display intrusive, aggressive, or coercive sexual behaviors. The Assessment and Treatment Program for Children with Problematic Sexual Behavior serves families of children with problematic sexual behavior.

There isn't one type of child who develops problematic sexual behavior. Both boys and girls can have problematic sexual behavior. While some of the children have been sexually abused, many have not. Most children who have been sexually abused do not have problematic sexual behavior. Research suggests that many factors can contribute to developing problematic sexual behavior, including:

- 🌿 Family sexuality patterns
- 🌿 Exposure to sexual material
- 🌿 Exposure to family violence
- 🌿 Physical abuse
- 🌿 Other non-sexual behavior problems

This evidence based pioneering program is nationally recognized for its success in treating children.



Help Begins with a Phone Call

Many youngsters with problematic sexual behavior can be helped with outpatient treatment from 12 to 18 weeks. Research indicates they can live at home and attend school and other activities without jeopardizing the safety of other children. The research also shows, most of these children do not continue to have sexual behavior problems into adolescence and adulthood.

Programs are available for school-age children (ages 7 to 12 years) and their caregivers. Behaviors for which children are referred include:

- 🌿 Repeatedly exposing themselves to others
- 🌿 Excessive masturbation
- 🌿 Failure to recognize socially acceptable physical boundaries
- 🌿 Aggressive sexual acts.

Who Can Refer to this Program?

Our assessment and group therapy services are provided without cost to the family. Contact us if you know a child who might benefit from this program. We accept referrals from:

- 🌿 Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- 🌿 Mental health professionals
- 🌿 Law enforcement
- 🌿 Cases that meet the CAC criteria