



**THE SALVATION ARMY
WESTERN AUSTRALIA DIVISION**

PASTORAL RESPONSE UNIT

**KEY AVENUES OF ASSISTANCE
IN RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ABUSE
BY A PERSON IN
THE SALVATION ARMY**

***A statement by Commissioner Norman Howe
Territorial Commander, Australia Southern Territory:***

"The Salvation Army acknowledges with deep regret the trauma suffered by survivors of sexual abuse by Allan Smith before he was dismissed as an officer of The Salvation Army. The severe and tragic impact of sexual abuse requires that we respond with compassion and justice. We therefore pledge our support to survivors and their families through the assistance to be offered with the establishment of our pastoral response unit."

A definition of sexual abuse

Sexual abuse can be any form of sexual violence including misconduct, harassment or sexual assault (which is a criminal offence). It is an abuse of power and a betrayal of trust.

The Salvation Army pastoral response unit will seek to ensure that survivors of sexual abuse are:

- * Believed, acknowledged and supported
- * Treated with dignity, respect, sensitivity and understanding
- * Provided with options, information, resources and referral
- * Able to retain privacy and confidentiality
- * Provided with the highest standards of pastoral and mental health care
- * Encouraged, to seek justice through the legal system and, where appropriate, through The Salvation Army complaints procedures including mediation and compensation

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

The survivors of sexual abuse are encouraged to contact the following people in Western Australia:

Major Merylyn McKenzie, Pastoral Response Unit Coordinator.

Assists survivors, their families and supporters to access:

- * Pastoral support services including therapeutic counselling
- * Provide representation through The Salvation Army complaint procedures

Phone number **REDACTED**

Colonel Joyce Fischer and Major Robert McDonald, Pastoral Support Carers.

Pastoral support carers for survivors, families and supporters who feel they have experienced harm and distress. They will provide information and advice on the range of assistance available.

Colonel Joyce Fischer

Phone number **REDACTED**

Major Robert McDonald

Phone number **REDACTED**

Major Garth McKenzie, Divisional Commander, Western Australia Division.

The administrator appointed to receive formal complaints.

Phone number **REDACTED**

John Dalziel, Official Spokesman.

Responsible for all media statements on behalf of The Salvation Army.

Phone numbers **REDACTED** (business hours)
REDACTED (after hours), mobile **REDACTED**