



CARING
SUPPORTING
PROTECTING

www.ttchildren.org



WHO WE ARE

The Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (the Authority), is a child-centered, family focused organisation which acts on behalf of children who are in need of care and protection.

The Authority's role is to listen and respond to the needs of children and parents, and to encourage a culture of respect and dignity for all children.





WHAT WE DO

The Authority provides a wide range of services to protect and support children and their families. These are listed below:

RECEIVING REPORTS ABOUT ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Persons with concerns regarding a child's safety can call the Authority's free, **24-hour hotline, 996 or 800-2014** or send an email to **registry@ttchildren.org**. All reports made are treated confidentially and are dealt with by trained staff.

INVESTIGATING REPORTS OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The Authority is mandated to investigate all reports of abuse. Once a report is received the investigation process is initiated to substantiate or not substantiate the allegation, with a view to determining whether the child is in need of care and protection and what interventions would be appropriate in the child's best interest. During its investigative process, the Authority, at all times, considers the rights of the parent to be heard and the right to a fair hearing.



CONDUCTING ASSESSMENTS

The Authority's Assessment Centre is at the heart of the new child protection system. At these child-friendly, “one-stop” centres, social workers, psychologists and medical professionals conduct a comprehensive assessment and prepare a tailored treatment plan for each child.

COORDINATING PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT

The treatment plan determines the care and best placement option for each child. The Authority links parents to services where they can receive advice and support to address their concerns. The Authority also provides support and training to persons and groups who work with children, including parents and NGOs.





MANAGING THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

The Authority is responsible for the Foster Care System. It identifies, screens and trains suitable persons to become foster parents. Children who are placed in Foster Care are monitored by the Authority. For further information contact the Foster Care Unit at fostercare@ttchildren.org or **627-0748 Ext 2012**.

MANAGING THE ADOPTION PROCESS

The Authority is responsible for making all arrangements for adoption. Adoption is a permanent placement option and seeks to encourage family environments of love and support. For further information contact the Adoption Unit at adoption@ttchildren.org or **627-0748 Ext 2170**.

LICENSING AND MONITORING COMMUNITY RESIDENCES

The Authority is responsible for licensing and monitoring all community residences (children's homes and rehabilitation centres) to ensure that the residences provide the best possible care for the children. For more information contact the Authority at licensing@ttchildren.org or **627-0748 Ext 2047**.



PROVIDING SUPPORT TO CHILD OFFENDERS

The Authority is responsible for providing support to child offenders by collaborating with a number of key stakeholders in the sector. Specifically, the Authority conducts assessments of child offenders where necessary, in order to determine their level of risk and to advise on targeted interventions. The Authority also advises the Court on a number of key areas, upon request. The aim is to rehabilitate child offenders so that they become contributing members of society.



PROMOTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

The Authority educates and sensitises the public on the rights of the child. It will advocate on behalf of children, to ensure their rights are upheld and they are treated with dignity and respect.



CHILDREN'S AUTHORITY HEAD OFFICE:

#35A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain, Trinidad.

• Tel: 627-0748, 623-7555, 625-7151

• Fax: 624-6316

• E-mail: info@ttchildren.org

HOTLINE: 996 or 800-2014

www.ttchildren.org