

Coral Tree Family Service



About us

Coral Tree Family Service is a NSW state-wide tertiary-referral service that aims to assist the families of children showing mental health, behavioural, emotional and relationship difficulties.

Referral criteria

Location

The family resides within NSW.

Age

The referred child is aged 0 – 12 years. The referred child must be under 13 years at completion of intervention. To allow for wait periods, referrals need to be made well in advance of this age.

Family

The entire family (everyone living in the same household as the referred child) needs to attend all assessments and interventions. The child needs to be in a stable living arrangement with parents/carers that are prepared to engage with a family-oriented approach.

Referrer commitment

The referring professional is providing and can continue to provide mental health intervention aimed at addressing the concerns related to the referred child, in the lead up to, and beyond, a family's involvement with Coral Tree.

Programs offered

Family Residential Program involves the family of the referred child attending a planned four-night residential stay (Monday to Friday). Goals are set at the beginning of a family's stay, and the 'living in' nature of the program allows for opportunities to find and practise new ways of relating and managing issues within a supported environment. This program is available to families who reside anywhere in NSW.

Clinical School Program is offered in partnership with Arndell School. Children attend the co-located school for up to three terms, while engaging therapeutically with Coral Tree. This program is available to families who reside within a manageable commuting distance.

Day Attendance Program involves a family attending for one day, to allow for an exploration of current concerns and consideration of a "question of the day". Typically, 'working points' are identified towards the end of the day attendance to assist the family and the referrer with ongoing treatment planning. This program is available to families who reside anywhere in NSW and for whom travelling to Sydney for one day is viable.

Case Consultation Program is available to mental health professionals in NSW Health services, who are seeking input from Coral Tree to support their work with families that are struggling to make progress. This can involve other professionals that are part of the network working with a family.



Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District

When to refer

Children are referred to Coral Tree when the difficulties are severe, complex or longstanding, and these difficulties may occur across home, school and/or social environments. Referral to Coral Tree should be considered when previous or ongoing mental health interventions have not shown the desired outcomes.

Who can refer

Referrals to Coral Tree are made by professionals providing specialist intervention addressing the mental health, behavioural, emotional and/or relationship difficulties of the referred child. This may include:

- Child and Youth/Adolescent Mental Health Service (CYMHS/CAMHS) Workers
- Staff providing counselling services within Community Health Centres
- Child Protection Counsellors
- Private Practitioners
- Those providing counselling services within Non-Government Organisations (NGOs).

Note: Coral Tree does not accept referrals from School Counsellors, GPs, Paediatricians or practitioners that are solely providing case management.

How to make a referral

The referring professional contacts the service to make an intake request. We can be contacted on (02) 9887 5830.

If the referral criteria are met, a referral package will be sent for completion by the referring professional.

Return the completed referral form to NSLHD-MACQ-CoralTreeFamilyService@health.nsw.gov.au or via fax on (02) 9887 2941

Coral Tree aims to provide feedback to the referrer within a fortnight of receiving a completed referral. If deemed appropriate to proceed towards a service, the family and referrer are invited to attend an assessment, in-person at Coral Tree or via videoconference (for those outside of the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area). This is to be attended by all those living with the referred child, and referrers are welcome to join, if the family believe this would be helpful. Following review of assessments, families and referrers are contacted by a member of the Coral Tree team and the next steps are discussed.

For further information

Coral Tree Family Service

Street address: 70a Badajoz Road, North Ryde 2113
On the grounds of Macquarie Hospital

Mailing address: PO Box 142, North Ryde NSW 1670

 **Phone: 9887 5830**

 **NSLHD-MACQ-CoralTreeFamilyService@health.nsw.gov.au**

 **<https://www.nslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/Services/Directory/Pages/CoralTree.aspx>**

If you need an interpreter to help you contact our service telephone the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS). The number is 131 450. Tell TIS the language you speak and the name and telephone number of our service. TIS is a free service.