



**Office of Safeguarding
Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle**

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Healing and Support

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

Healing and Support

ZIMMERMAN SERVICE

The Healing and Support Service provides a supportive response to those who have been affected by sexual abuse as a child or as an adult perpetrated by those employed or in the service of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. This involves working with those who were abused and their partners, parents, siblings or children.

Healing and Support Services acts as the person's advocate both within the diocese and to the wider community.



Healing is a journey – a process,
not an event. SURVIVOR

What we do

Healing and Support works directly with individuals to support and promote their personal and unique journey towards healing, which may include:

- ▶ meeting with the person and facilitating counselling with external counsellors as needed
- ▶ supporting the person to make a statement to Police or other statutory authorities as he/she discloses his/her abuse
- ▶ supporting the person, their family and friends through the criminal process in their quest for justice or a civil process in search of restitution
- ▶ advocating to the diocese or other Church authorities on behalf of the person or groups of people who have been adversely affected
- ▶ supporting the person and their family through periods of distress caused by physical, emotional or spiritual crisis
- ▶ building support networks and liaising with external networks on the person's behalf.