

WHAT IS RHAP? The Residential Historical Abuse Program (RHAP) funds counselling for adults who were sexually abused as children.

People often experience distress, anxiety, pain or other problems as a result of childhood sexual abuse.

If you were sexually abused when you were a child living in a provincial government foster home, group home, or residential facility, you may be eligible to have RHAP pay for your counselling.

WHAT IS SEXUAL ABUSE? Child sexual abuse is any sexual contact between an older, more powerful person and a child. This may involve kissing, fondling, sexual intercourse, and/or being encouraged to sexually touch your own body or someone else's. Other examples include being photographed for sexual purposes, being asked to expose your body or being forced into sexual activity with other children.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? To qualify for RHAP, you must sign a statement that says:

- you currently live in British Columbia and are over 19 years old
- you were under the age of 19 when you were sexually abused
- at the time of the abuse, you were living in a home or residential facility funded by the Province of British Columbia

MUST I REPORT THE ABUSE? You do not have to file a police report or prove that you were sexually abused to be eligible for RHAP. However, you will be required to identify the home or facility where the abuse took place.

If there are any children living there now who may need protection, the appropriate government ministry and/or the police may contact you for more information.

If you receive counselling through RHAP, you still have the right to take legal action through either the criminal or civil court. You are free to discuss legal or compensation issues with a lawyer, file a report with the police or apply for assistance through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Program.

HOW DO I FIND A COUNSELLOR? When the application process is complete, the RHAP Coordinator will contact you by telephone or mail. If you do not have a counsellor, the Coordinator can help you find one. If you already have a counsellor, the Coordinator will ensure that they meet Vancouver Coastal Health's professional standards. RHAP arranges payment directly with your counsellor. You and your counsellor will develop a personal treatment plan that may include individual, group or family counselling.

HOW DO I APPLY? If you think you qualify for RHAP, fill out the application form on the reverse side of this brochure.

You can mail it to:
RHAP Coordinator for VCH
302 - 2233 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V6J 3H9
or fax it to:
604-263-4436

**If you have any questions,
please call 604-730-0188**

Residential Historical Abuse Program

The Residential Historical Abuse Program funds professional counselling for adults who were sexually abused as children while living in a provincially funded residence.

For more information, please call

604-730-0188
Collect calls accepted



APPLICATION TO RECEIVE RHAP FUNDING FOR COUNSELLING

- To be eligible to receive counselling under this program, you must be able to make the following statement:
 “I currently live in British Columbia and believe I was sexually abused while living in a residence or facility funded by the government of British Columbia. I was less than 19 years old when this abuse began.”
 - If the information you provide indicates that there are children currently living in the residence in which you were abused, there is a legal obligation to ensure that they do not remain at risk. If this is the case, someone from the appropriate government Ministry may contact you for further information.
 - Records to verify your residency will be located at the Social Services office nearest your **last** foster home if you were in one. This may be different from the place where you report having been abused. Therefore, we need information about you, your **last** foster home and the residence where the abuse took place.
- I believe I am eligible to receive counselling services through RHAP.
 - I give permission for RHAP to show this application to the appropriate government Ministry in order to confirm my residency.
 - I understand someone may contact me if there are children currently at risk in the same residence.
 - I give permission to RHAP to share information about me with an appropriate counsellor or counselling agency

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

CONSENT

First Name:	Middle Name:	Last Name:
Previous Names, if different:		
Current Mailing Address:	Number	Street City Postal Code
Current Phone Number:	Date of Birth (year/month/day):	Personal Health Number:

Name of Residence:	In what years did you live here?	
Residence Address:	Number	Street City Postal Code
Name(s) of your Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) when you entered the residence:		
Was this residence a Foster Home? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
If no , where was your last foster home? (Name the town or city that was closest to your foster home, if the foster home was in a rural area.) _____		
What year did you leave your last foster home? _____		
From:	To:	

Are you currently receiving counselling?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Name of Counsellor	Name of Program/Agency
	Phone Number

Please send the completed application to:

RHAP Coordinator for VCHA 302 – 2233 Burrard Street Vancouver, BC V6J 3H9 Phone: 604-730-0188 Fax: 604-263-4436	For RHAP Use	Faxed for residential confirmation: Date Approved: <input type="checkbox"/> Not approved Client # 40 - Applicant Notified	Counsellor Notified
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