Health and Community Services Minister Jane Aagaard has launched Child Protection Week in the Northern Territory by signing a national pledge to take a stand to help stop child abuse.

Mrs Aagaard reinforced her commitment to children’s protection issues on the eve of National Child Protection Week (September 8-13), saying that long-standing issues involving child abuse and neglect in the Territory were being addressed by the Government as a matter of urgency.

"As the theme of Child Protection Week tells us, ‘Child Protection is Everyone’s business’, I remind all Territorians of their responsibilities to children," Mrs Aagaard said.

"I urge everyone to celebrate the vital role that families play in our community by taking part in activities organised by my Department and the National Association for Prevention Against Child Abuse (NAPCAN) during Child Protection Week."

The Government has injected $2.4 million in the past 18 months towards improving children and family services across the NT, including $930,000 for Indigenous child protection.

Mrs Aagaard said a comprehensive review of children’s protection services in the Territory is currently underway to address child abuse and neglect issues, particularly in Indigenous communities.

"The review will involve the development of a reform agenda for a better child protection system and will take account of the views of communities across the Northern Territory," she said.

"It will involve significant liaison with other stakeholders, including the National Child Protection Clearinghouse Senior Research Advisor Dr Adam Tomison, who is in Darwin and Alice Springs this week to present a series of seminars on child protection issues."

The NT Government has provided NAPCAN with $20,000 to work with the Health Department to conduct child protection projects during the week.

For information on community activities during Child Protection Week, contact Emma Cartwright at NAPCAN on 0419 849 548.