

Whāngaia: Waitematā Bulletin

From the Director

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Waitematā Whāngaia Nga Pa Harakeke Bulletin.

Since the release of the last bulletin we have achieved some exciting milestones on the journey towards rolling out Whāngaia Nga Pa Harakeke across the Waitemata Police District. These include delivering the 3rd stakeholders readiness Hui at Hoani Waititi Marae on the 10th of August and welcoming the first of our government agency partners into the Whāngaia Nga Pa Harakeke hub in a full time capacity.

To the Hui! Thank you to all the participants who attended our Hui at the Hoani Waititi Marae. With more than 70 attendees it was a fantastic opportunity to delivery more information on what Whāngaia Nga Pa Harakeke could look like going forward. It was also a time to appreciate existing relationships that police have with government agency and NGO service providers, and establish new relationships with those groups we have yet to connect with.

We were honoured that Sir Pita Sharples and Dame June Mariu took the time to participate in the Mihi Whakatau. It was also extremely pleasing that Dame June was able to stay on after the opening to listen to some of the information that we had to share.

The day would not have been possible without the assistance of Shane White and his team: Rocky, Novey, Vern and their people working behind the scenes. Nor would the Hui have come together so well if not for the ongoing support received from Michelle Clayton from Family Action, Tiaria Fletcher from Waves and Deb Humphries from the Family violence Prevention Network: North Shore.



During the Hui I spoke of my new appreciation of “relationships vs. partnerships”. For those of you who attended I hope you took from this that police in Waitematā are in no way presumptive around our place in the Family Harm service space. Nor will we rest on our laurels in regards to how we operate alongside other service providers. I am acutely aware that in many cases we have a long way to go to take new relationships to a place where we can operate in true partnership. I acknowledge that is especially the case in respect of our relationship with Iwi.

What I am assured of is that my team and I continue to strive for improved performance around how we respond to episodes of Family Harm by engaging with, and working alongside, government and community based subject matter experts to get the best results for victims, tamariki, perpetrators and the community.

Detective Inspector Brett Batty

Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke Progress

Hui

We had some robust discussion and have had some great feedback:

Congratulations on starting this wonderful project. It is a team effort that helps to resolve these on-going issues of family violence and the more people focused on identifying issues and working towards a better outcome. The more likely we are going to see progress for less family violence and reoffending. We are all here for the same goal.....

Thank you for a very informative conference.....It wasn't without some hard questioning. From my perspective, I would like to acknowledge the great work and effort you are all taking to incorporate more opportunities to provide needed care within our West Auckland community. Awesome!

We are very interested in a database to receive information on Family Harm victims that we can offer supports to, breaking down silos and supporting our most vulnerable

We are fully committed to the long term relationship that we have had with you all and there are some areas that I will work to develop to support you better in the work you are doing.

If you haven't completed and returned your questionnaire, it's not too late. We really need to know which service providers are willing to receive referrals from the SAM table, what services are delivered etc., and how many licences will be required from service providers to access the Family Safety System (FSS).

News and Views

The Initial Blessing

On a day that reflected the light that our work will bring to whanau suffering family harm, Kaumatua Pāpa Fred Holloway blessed the Hub. His prayers were for all who work in the space, the work that we undertake and the whanau who will receive the support of the police, iwi, government agencies and service providers.



Staff have settled into the new office environment and the family harm and youth services staff have quickly adapted to the flexible, bright space. Frontline staff are able to seek advice and guidance from these specialists either in the open office or the meeting rooms.



Meet the Team

Helene Greening

Tena koutou katoa

My name is Helene Greening and I am honoured to be a part of the Whangaia Nga Pa Harakeke team as at 06 August 2018, in the newly established role of Family Violence Response Specialist (West). I am on secondment from Oranga Tamariki to Police for 12 months as we venture into this exciting time of a shared response to meaningfully address incidents of family harm in the Waitemata District. I feel inspired and hopeful about the intention of this new way of working because we will be aspiring to understand what causational factors sit behind the actions of family harm as we engage with whanau, build strong partnerships with community service providers, source and link in the right community agencies for whanau that seek to meet and address their specific needs. When I say “whanau” I am referring to the tamaiti or tamariki, the offender, the victim/s and the significant people in their family who are also affected by the violence.

I am heading into my 14th year of working for Oranga Tamariki, where I first began my career as a Care & Protection social worker in 2005. For the last 9 years I have been in the role of social work supervisor, where I have had the privilege of supporting, mentoring, and working alongside committed and resilient social workers. I have been primarily based at the Waitakere site although have had the additional experience of several secondments over the years that have included working rurally on the West Coast following the Christchurch earthquake, assisting other sites in times of crisis, and in Advisor roles for the Oranga Tamariki Auckland Regional Office.



I have a keen interest and strength in data analysis, in terms of understanding the whakapapa of child abuse and generational experiences of abuse based on information held by Oranga Tamariki and from direct engagement in meaningful korero with whanau. I have appreciated the difficult and challenging experiences of working with whanau to support them to make positive decisions that can change the trajectory for their tamariki.

I want to be on the team that seeks to getting it right for children and am thankful for the opportunity to work with such dedicated and passionate people. Thank you for making me feel so welcome. I am happy to respond to any enquiries you may have about Oranga Tamariki.

GOOD NEWS STORIES

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Waitematā Police have partnered with the Big Brothers, Big Sisters Auckland mentoring programme to create a pilot project. Police will support the programme to create meaningful supervised matches between adult volunteers, tamariki and rangatahi aged between 7 to 11 years. Initially, the programme coordinator will sit alongside Police, based within Waitakere.

Local Police and the programme coordinator are focused on providing relationships for our youth that built trust, confidence and enduring friendships that unlock the potential of our youth in support of whanau.

In 2017, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Aotearoa provided over 720 tamariki and rangatahi with a trained mentor through 11 programmes across the country. Although this pilot project is in its infancy who hope to grow the capacity to support our communities.

We are currently seeking volunteers who can commit to one year of meeting / mentoring with a young person. If you know of any one that would like to know more about the mentor role or more about the pilot, contact Maree Severinsen, the Auckland Coordinator of Big Brothers, Big Sisters auckland@bigbrothersbigsisters.org.nz or Senior Sergeant Caroline Anderson, Waitemata Police, on 021 1914392.

Gandhi Nivas

Gandhi Nivas was officially opened by the Honourable Iain Lees-Galloway, Minister for ACC who announced a further \$1.7m over the next three years to support the expansion of Gandhi Nivas,

Men are referred to Gandhi Nivas by police and have either been issued a Police Safety Order or are involved in family harm. They get help within 24 hours and their victims and whanau do not have to leave their homes because the men are offered free accommodation and counselling services.

<https://gandhinivas.nz/>



Sergeant Tim Stevens



Congratulations to Tim who was recently promoted! This a great achievement and very well-deserved. Here he is receiving his new sergeant's epaulettes from Detective Senior Sergeant Kelly Farrant and Detective Sergeant G Scott.

5F training material

Remember the 5F training material is now available and published on the Police website at www.police.govt.nz/fh-resources

Contributions

We would love to hear from you! Please send your Good New Story to us at wnph.waitemata@police.govt.nz

Contact Us

Detective Inspector Brett BATTY Brett.Batty@police.govt.nz 021192 0537

D/Senior Sergeant Kelly FARRANT Kelly.Farrant@police.govt.nz 021 191 4375

Senior Sergeant Wendy Pickering Wendy.Pickering@police.govt.nz 021 191 4174

Dr Cathie COLLINSON Catherine.Collinson@police.govt.nz



Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke - Thriving Children, Strong Families, Resilient Communities