

Professionals Working with Vulnerable Children

We are pleased to offer this one-day knowledge symposium designed to provide information on current understanding on brain development in the early years specific to vulnerable children.

This symposium will provide delegates with a deeper knowledge and understanding of child brain development from multiple areas of research.



Dates

25th October 2016

Times

10.00 – 4pm

Venue

Barge Showgrounds
Event Centre
474 Maunu Road
Whangarei, NZ

Cost

\$149.50 per person (incl GST)

We provide



Morning tea and Lunch



Workshop notes



Certificate

Register

www.brainwave.org.nz/pwvc1

Our ultimate goal is that all children in New Zealand get a good start in life, in a safe, secure and nurturing environment, free from abuse and neglect.

Course Content

Attendees will better understand how factors in utero and in their early years can influence brain development. These factors can have a significant and long term impact on how a child behaves, responds emotionally, learns at school and ultimately becomes a productive person in society. **It is never too late to make an impact!**

"I wanted to say how much I enjoyed the day. It was incredibly informative. I have learned so much that has really influenced my thinking"

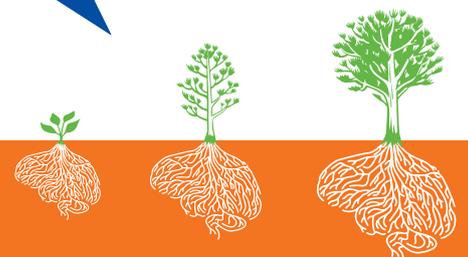
Delegate, 2015

"This programme has made a difference in how I think about client's experiences which will impact my decisions around interventions"

Delegate, 2015

Programme Enquiries

Email: info@brainwave.org.nz





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Topics Covered

Risk and Protective Factors

The symposia will examine how risk and protective factors can occur at many levels including within the child, parent, family and wider community and all of these can influence long term outcomes. We will examine how particular factors such as prenatal alcohol exposure and maltreatment can hinder development.

Early Experiences Shape Brain Architecture

The brain is complex and highly interrelated however different areas have primary responsibility for controlling different activities. Delegates will gain an understanding of the basic architecture of the brain, the complex interplay between genes and experiences, and the amazing capabilities of babies to respond to sensory information in their world.

Relationships and Attachment

Babies are profoundly affected by the emotional states and behavior of the adults around them. The back-and-forth process of interactive relationships known as serve and return is fundamental to the wiring of the brain. Quality and quantity of time, attunement, responsiveness and the rupture and repair process can impact on the nature of the attachment process and subsequent development of a child.

Stress and Self Regulation

Not all stress is created equal. Learning how to cope with adversity is an important part of healthy development. Moderate, short-lived stress responses in the body can promote growth, and with time and effective support self-regulation. In contrast, toxic stress is the strong activation of the body's stress management system in the absence of protective adult support. Without caring adults to buffer children, the stress caused by poverty, neglect, abuse, or maternal depression can weaken the architecture of the developing brain, with long-term consequences for learning, behaviour, and both physical and mental health.

As a result of attending, you will:

- Be able to plan to provide an environment where children can be safe and have the opportunity to work through the challenges they have faced and reach their potential.
- Provide experiences that are health promoting for a child's development.
- Understand risk and protective factors.
- Be aware when a child may be at risk.
- Identify ways to meet the emotional and social needs of children in your care.
- Identify ways to support a child in times of stress.

Prerequisites

- This symposium is for professionals working with children who are at significant risk of harm to their wellbeing - now and into the future - as a consequence of the environment in which they are being raised.

Core Trainers

Maria McKenzie: Maria has a Masters in Educational Psychology. She has worked in the education sector for the past twenty years as a counselor, resource teacher, advisor and classroom teacher. Maria is the Brainwave National Coach and Programme Developer as well as the Schools Project Leader and an Educator/Kaiako.

Hilary Nobilo: Hilary has a Master's in Perinatal and Infant Mental Health, a Post Graduate Diploma in Child Advocacy and a Post Graduate Certificate in Community Child Health. Hilary has had a significant career working alongside families with young children with a focus on child development. She has also spent a number of years working with children taken from their families for care and protection reasons.