

# Whāngaia: Waitematā Bulletin

## From the Director

Welcome to the final edition of the Waitematā Whāngaia Nga Pa Harakeke Bulletin for 2018.

As we move into our peak demand period of December and January, our Safety Assessment Meeting team is routinely triaging in excess of 180 5F episodes per week. In November 2017 the number of 5F episodes recorded for the District was 855. For the same period in November 2018, we have recorded just over 1,000 family harm episodes, an increase of almost 15%. By the time we reach January 2019, we expect to see an increase of approximately 20% in 5F reporting across the District.

These are daunting figures but we should not let them detract from the fantastic progress achieved throughout the year. As you will see from the timeline created below, the Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke journey during 2018 has seen significant milestones achieved. As I reflect on these, I am reminded that for each step taken a huge amount of dedication, effort and commitment has been required by our work group and those that support us.

In the early stages of 2018, at a number of stakeholder readiness meetings, I reinforced that Police accepted we could not drive long term sustainable reductions in family harm alone: we needed partners who believed that there was an opportunity to work more efficiently in this space, were prepared to take some risks and join us in changing the way we had previously done our business.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those individuals, leaders, agencies and NGOs who have taken the leap with us this year. This has required that we come together with open minds, open hearts and the best intent to enhance the lives of victims, tamariki and perpetrators who have been negatively affected as a result of family harm.

As a collective, we have been able to overcome our differences, develop a high level of trust and confidence in one another and reinforce our intent to do the right thing, and save lives in our community.

Although support for Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke has come in many forms and from all corners of the community, I cannot close out 2018 without taking the opportunity to thank Jaimee BARWOOD, Regional Manager for Oranga Tamariki and Lynda CAMPBELL, Regional Manager for Department of Corrections, both of whom have been unwavering in their commitment to Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke. Their support has extended to committing fantastic staff from their respective organisations to our own. This brings me to Helene, Jennifer, Gemma and Silah, without whom the Safety Assessment Meeting table simply would not have been able to perform to the high level that it does. Their professionalism, energy and enthusiasm has been truly inspiring and all four are an absolute credit to their respective organisations.

I would also like to make particular mention of Michelle CLAYTON from Family Action, Tiaria FLETCHER from Waves and Deb HUMPHRIES from FVPN North Shore, all of whom have been critical in leading communication between Police and our community NGO partners. Their advice and insight has been invaluable.

Last but certainly not least I would like to recognise my own workgroup: Sergeant Simon BROWN in Waitemata North (Rodney); A/Sergeant Glen IRVINE in Waitemata East (North

Shore); Sergeant Tim STEVENS, A/Sergeant Kellie OSBORNE, A/Sergeant Samantha COX and A/Sergeant Doug FIELDING in Waitemata West (Waitakere); and my leadership team, Detective Senior Sergeant Kelly FARRANT, Senior Sergeant Wendy PICKERING and Dr Cathie COLLINSON.

I cannot overstate the dedication with which this work group and all of the Waitematā District Family Harm team have approached their duties. Every day I am in awe of the way in which these men and women carry out the business of the New Zealand Police and I am incredibly proud to be a part of such a fantastic work group.

A big **Thank You** to our amazing people who day in and day out, recognise risk, support our whānau and work with our partners for better outcomes.

So with that, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

I look forward to seeing you all again in 2019.



**Detective Inspector Brett Batty**

## Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke Progress

### A Time to Reflect...

The edition gives us an opportunity to reflect on 2018 and the progress we have made in the establishment of Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke. Year One - it certainly has been a milestone year beginning in February when a small team from Waitematā attended a training programme at the Police College introducing us to the new ways of investigation family harm – 5F. We were so impressed by the training, we decided that it needed to be shared with our NGOs and partner agencies and so it began.....

February	Safer Whānau Specialist Training at RNZPC
February	NGO consultations begin
March	5F training to all staff begins
April	Detective Inspector Brett Batty begins directorship
May	First monthly Whāngaia: Waitematā Bulletin published
May	5F goes live nation-wide
May	Delivery of first 5F training to NGOs
July	The Hub blessed by kaumātua, Pāpa Fred Holloway

July	Family Harm and Youth teams migrate to the Hub
August	Oranga Tamariki joins us in the Hub
August	Stakeholder Hui at Hoani Waititi Marae
September	Corrections join us in the Hub
September	Safety Assessment Meeting (SAM) table convenes for first time
October	Delivery of Family Safety System training for partners
October	Victim Video Statement training begins
November	Official opening of the Hub, café etc
November	Family Harm teams move to Prevention roster
November	Single source number system for agencies goes live
December	Victim Video Statement goes live
December	First VVS taken - defendant has plead guilty, awaiting sentencing
December	Operation STAR commences

## A Time to Plan

Reflecting on how far we have come in 2018 also provides an opportunity to plan ahead.

We have very much appreciated the support shown to us this year as we introduced 5F and established Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke from our partner agencies and particularly from NGOs who have been at the forefront of service provision for many, many years. We recognised that the Police changes in dealing with family harm would have an impact on established community practices. So during the transition phase from FVIARS to the new model it was important to learn from each other and discuss any concerns. We have learned a lot **Thank You** and continue to seek input so that we can continually improve for the benefit of our victims, tamariki and perpetrators.

Police see value in having regular meetings with key stakeholders.

What we would like now is feedback from our stakeholders..... what does ongoing communication look like to you?

Please let us know what would work for you..... [wnph.waitemata@police.govt.nz](mailto:wnph.waitemata@police.govt.nz)

## & Prevent

One tactic planned for the Christmas, New Year and holiday period is **Operation STAR**. The aim of Operation STAR is to prevent family harm episodes in what can be a time of pressure, stress and hardship within families and can trigger violence. During this time, Family Harm officers and sector partners are visiting a number of high-risk victims, perpetrators, tamariki and whānau throughout Waitemātā to support them so that they are safe from family harm.

As part of the operation, officers will be delivering a Christmas hamper and toy parcels. A big **Thank You**, 4thekids and the Life Trust Centre for these generous gifts that will contribute to our summer safety operation. .

# Meet the Team



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## Contributions

We would love to hear from you! Please send your *Good News Story* to us or tell us about your agency so we can highlight the great work you do in the community. The email address is [wnph.waitemata@police.govt.nz](mailto:wnph.waitemata@police.govt.nz) and the phone number is **09 477 5202 or extension 97802.**

## Contact Us

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Detective Inspector Brett BATTY	<a href="mailto:Brett.Batty@police.govt.nz">Brett.Batty@police.govt.nz</a>	021 192 0537
D/Senior Sergeant Kelly FARRANT	<a href="mailto:Kelly.Farrant@police.govt.nz">Kelly.Farrant@police.govt.nz</a>	021 191 4375
Senior Sergeant Wendy Pickering	<a href="mailto:Wendy.Pickering@police.govt.nz">Wendy.Pickering@police.govt.nz</a>	021 191 4174
Dr Cathie COLLINSON	<a href="mailto:Catherine.Collinson@police.govt.nz">Catherine.Collinson@police.govt.nz</a>	



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