



# waves

Waitakere Anti-Violence Essential Services

**WAVES Trust Inter-Agency Meeting  
June 5th, 2012 10–12noon  
Kelston Community Centre  
(Corner of Great North Road and Awaroa Road)**

**Present:** Poto Williams, Jo Richdale, Deirdre Tollestrup, Deborah Yates (Waves Trust); Kimiyo Yamasaki (Unitec Student); Kelly Maung (Auckland Council); Andrea Partington (CADS West); Gary Sutcliffe (Waitakere Health Link); Michelle Hazeldine (CYFS); Joane Harris (Aged Concern); Ann Ross (Waves Trust-Minute Taker); Jane Bruce (Dayspring Trust); Susan Armstrong (Women's Centre Waitakere); Leanne Frost (Vision West Counselling Centre); Togia Lanefale (Man Alive); Karin Fraser (Man Alive); Jim Hayes (Man Alive); Nicci Tatena (Challenge Trust); Nelly Kalizinje (CADS West); Roselyn Prasad (CYFS); Angela Culpin (ARPHS); Gaye Guptill (MSD-WINZ); Osaiasi Kupu (The Project); Leanne Brownie (MOJ); Liz Roberts (Family Works); Denny Hanson; Tups (Man Alive); Va'a Malo (Man Alive); Pat (Age Concern)

**Apologies:** Tiaria Fletcher and the Lifewise team; Elaine Dyer (Violence Free Waitakere); Samuel Cho (The Asian Network Inc.); Tahi Tait (Waipareira Trust); Natalie Dillon (Waitakere District Court Victim Advisor); Teresa Jooste (Te Ukaipo).

**Welcome:** Opening at 10:10 Karakia by Deirdre Tollestrup.

**Introductions:** There was a round of introductions with people giving a brief overview of the services they provided.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2012 were moved as accepted by Kelly Maung, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Armstrong.

**Matters Arising :** None

**Men's Services: MAN ALIVE**

Jim spoke about the services that are run by Man Alive who have been providing services for 15 years. They are a MOJ accredited provider. Living Without Violence programmes try to cater with all ethnicities as best they can. It can be run one on one or as a group. They try to get men to step up before they are made to. A range of programmes are offered post the Living Without Violence programme. They also work closely with WATCS and Western Refuge.

Men In Change is another support group run by Man Alive which is run weekly.

There is a Men in Relationships programme as well.

Youth Services are for 7 to 12 year olds. It is an eight week group programme Man Alive run. Youth services include the parent or caregivers who are invited in several times during the programme.

After the age of 12 the service changes to a one on one service for youth. Karin spoke of her role in Man Alive. She answers the Web site enquiries and most importantly is the 1<sup>st</sup> contact that men see when they access Man Alive services. Karin books them in to be assessed and gives them her full attention to support them in this first crucial step they are taking in turning their lives around.

Togia's role is also crucial in that he helps men with the day to day issues they bring with them. Accommodation is often an issue with men sleeping in cars. Togia helps them with accommodation etc so that the men can focus on the programme they are enrolled in. He helps them connect with whanau and their heritage where this will help.

Men are welcome to come back to Man Alive any time they want to.

Programmes are run from Man Alive in Henderson as well as Helensville one day a week, Panmure, and 6 or 7 programmes are run up North.

Man Alive is men running programmes for men, as men often feel more comfortable associating with other men.

While men may be mandated to attend programmes they are also able to attend through self- referral. Man Alive are given government subsidies but they are asked for a contribution if possible.

### **THE PROJECT**

Ozee gave an overview of the Project and its services which are provided in Samoan, Tongan and English.

The men's stopping violence programme run by the Project is called Fa'afaletui.

Ozee gave a Tongan perspective saying that language is often a barrier when people come to NZ and that he explains to them that violence is more than just hitting, it can be verbal, sexual, financial etc.

Va'a gave a Samoan perspective and said that they had to get past the mindset of 'my lawyer told me to come'. He encouraged them to do the course to be a better father. Va'a asked 2 things of the men 1) to have the courage to acknowledge and accept responsibility for their behaviour and 2) honesty.

Fa'afaletui runs for 15 weeks and as Va'a points out to the men, it's a short term commitment for a long term gain. The English programme is for men who don't speak their native language.

At the end of the programme there is a graduation where wives, partners and children are invited. This is to acknowledge the men have come through the programme and have made changes.

The Project was originally a sexual violence agency. Now it's core business is a family violence agency.

It was also acknowledged that the men attending group programmes may also have been victims of violence, especially as children.

Questions were asked:-

- 1) Where to from here? To which Jim replied that he would like to look at how we raise boys. He was concerned that preventative measures are not being funded and/or are being cut back. He was also concerned that police are not arresting offenders who are instead being given warnings so there were less referrals. It was felt therefore that offenders were not taking responsibility early enough and that men were not being mandated enough to attend programmes.

- 2) How are wives/partners involved in the programmes? with the concern being that women at home are not matching or supporting the programme change. At Man Alive the men are given a handbook which can be shared with their partner. Comment was made that sometimes there are restrictions to this if for example there was a restraining order in place. At The Project the men are encouraged to be the role model at home. They get a journal and some men go through the journal with their partners. With POL 400's some female staff contact the partners.

A loud round of applause was given to Man Alive and The Project.

**Leanne Brownie from the Ministry of Justice** acknowledged the work of Man Alive and The Project. She said that the programmes gave the men the chance to tell their stories which is a chance not every man will get in the wider community. She explained how the MOJ gave accreditation. She explained that facilitators of men's groups and women's groups can communicate to each other. She also said that with 185 ethnicities in South Auckland it was not always possible to provide services in all cases.

#### **Waitakere Taskforce on Family Violence update:**

Kelly said that there were a number of recommendations drawn from the regional hui that have been presented to the council. Council have endorsed the recommendations. The Clearing House is completing the hui report and the recommendations will be available on their website when finalised.

#### **Community Action on Alcohol:**

Angela Culpin said that this project is in its initial stages and that it is based in the Massey Henderson area. A needs assessment was completed in October and currently there is a lot happening especially with the Alcohol Reform Bill progressing its way through Parliament. When it is passed there will then be development of local alcohol policies.

Issues for consideration are:-

-Alcohol related harm

*Impact on police work*

*Family violence*

*Alcohol related crashes*

-In Massey Henderson 67% of people perceive alcohol and drugs to be a problem.

-What people think about alcohol policies

*Increase the minimum purchase age*

*Advertising*

-Community action

*Strengths-world champions are available to support the project*

*-Alcohol strategies are already in place*

*Barriers-Funding*

*-Culture*

*-Capacity*

-Awareness raising

*Media advocacy*

*Social marketing*

*Community events*

-Capacity building

*Building capacity of the communities*

-Partnership building

*Partnership with Maori*

*Working with established groups etc*

The first steering group meeting is on 23<sup>rd</sup> July at Auckland Council from 10 am until 12 noon . The group will be looking for partners to join in and for feedback.

Angela's contact details are phone 623 4600 X 27125, mobile 021 242 8933, and email [aculpin@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:aculpin@adhb.govt.nz)

**Women's Mental Health and Family Violence Project:**

Jo briefly explained this project which is being run in conjunction with the WDHB. It is looking at what happens to people who disclose mental health issues at family violence crisis services and Refuge etc. Currently women who disclose mental health issues are falling through the cracks in services. After completing the first stage of this project it is envisaged that resources will be developed to help crisis services so they can accept and support women with mental health issues.

**Charities Commission 'Audit and Assurance requirements':**

Poto explained that the Ministry of Economic Development are holding road shows so that charities can air their views on the discussion paper 'Auditing and Assurance for Larger Registered Charities. The paper proposes setting standards of auditing and assurance for all entities registered under the Charities Act 2005. For some charities this could impose a significant cost in both dollars and staff time.

Poto and Ann are attending the 5<sup>th</sup> June road show in Manurewa.

**'Schools' Response to Family Violence Project:**

Deborah is currently analysing data the schools have given her. Because of the current issues facing schools (class sizes) she has backed off slightly from approaching them. Deborah has met many agencies finding out what they do as part of the Schools Project. The analysis of data she is doing will lead to the next steps in the project.

**General Business/Announcements:**

None

Deirdre thanked everyone for their attendance, and especially thanked the men who came, and finished with the meeting with the Maori proverb 'What is the most important thing in the world? It is people! It is people! It is people! Karin sang a Maori song that incorporates this lovely proverb.

**Meeting Dates for 2012:**

August 7<sup>th</sup>  
October 16<sup>th</sup>  
December 4<sup>th</sup>

**Meeting Closed at: 12:15**