

# Whāngaia: Waitematā Bulletin

## From the Director

Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Whāngaia Bulletin. It feels like only yesterday that the 1<sup>st</sup> edition went out but in reality it has been several weeks and so it's high time for a catch up with stakeholders to give you more insight into our progress towards operationalising Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke in the Waitematā District. I would like to begin by thanking all of our Government partners and NGOs for supporting the Stakeholders' 5F Readiness Meeting, which was led by Dr Cathie Collinson at the Corban's Estate venue on the 31<sup>st</sup> May. The vibe was extremely positive and the conversations occurring between our stakeholders and Police showed a high level of interest in what lies ahead for all of us in the Family Harm space.

We intend to build on the 5F readiness meetings with a number of smaller, less formal meetings with stakeholders, culminating in a hui to be held at Hoani Waititi Marae on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Thanks to our partners from WAVES, Family Action and the Family Violence Prevention Network: North Shore for agreeing to work with us in planning the agenda for this hui to make sure it is meaningful for all involved. I look forward to seeing you at the hui.

## Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke Progress

Work on the implementation of Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke is multi-dimensional and dynamic. We have been establishing partnerships with stakeholders in both the government and non-government sectors; preparing for the introduction of the IT platform, CMS; ordering the hardware for the Hub; and fulfilling the requirements to advertise for the kaiāwhina positions. These will be advertised on the NZ Police website at <http://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/working-police> and, if you are thinking about applying, check out all the information on the recruitment process page: <http://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/working-police/recruitment-process>. We are very excited about the role of kaiāwhina and having them join us and working alongside the Family Intervention Teams. And, watching the Hub take shape as you'll see below.

## Meet the Team

### Detective Senior Sergeant Kelly Farrant

I have been a Detective in the Criminal Investigation Branch since 2002. Many of you will know me from my days as the Detective Sergeant, Family Violence at Waitakere. At that time I was in charge of growing our team from two to 11 staff and implementing the FVIARS as we know it now.

Now in charge of Family Violence for Waitematā, I am incredibly excited about the pending implementation of Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke and the opportunities to work together and collaboratively with our partners to reduce family harm in our District. The prospects that a shared



work space, increased police deployment and an 'eyes wide open' approach will provide are immeasurable but the magic WILL come when we work together, united and as a team to prevent crime and victimisation.

Please feel free to give me a call or come and visit. I would love to hear what's going on in your work spaces and discuss ideas to improve the way we do things.

## News and Views

### Our Hub

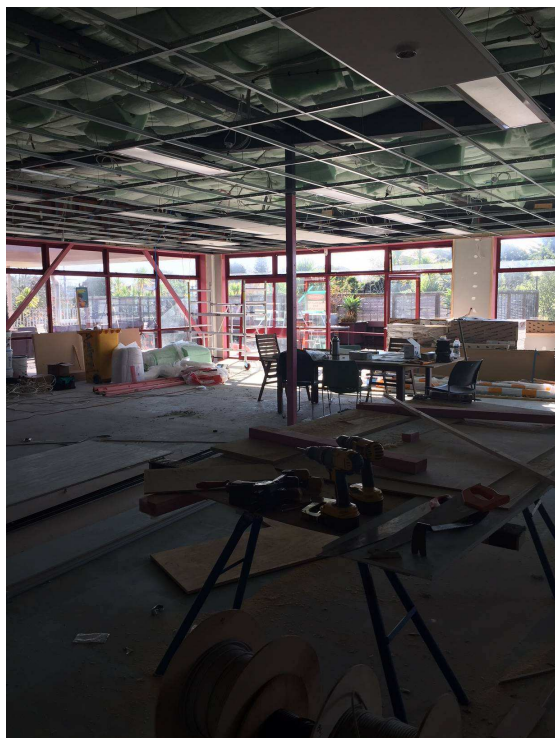
Take a look! We are very excited about the modern, flexible space being created for the Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke Hub and want to share the design with you. There are multiple flexible working spaces and three closed offices with the largest accommodating the SAM table. A utility space is to the left of the main entrance and behind that a 'quiet' withdrawal room.

The floor plan is shown in the drawings below and the photographs show the progress to date. The aluminium framework demarcates the space where the SAM table will be and the two private spaces for small meetings.

We're on track for completion of this space 1 July and will look to transition staff into it soon after that date.

# NZ POLICE Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke 51-37890





These photos show the site under construction as at 13 June 2018 with the SAM room taking shape.



## Live!

The new approach to family harm took effect from 00hrs:00mins:01secs on 24 May. Now:

- Comms Centres dispatch frontline staff to a Family Harm Investigation (5F); or any event officers are dispatched to can be used to launch a Family Harm Investigation discovered to be Family Harm related;
- Staff complete a 5F Family Harm Investigation using the OnDuty app (or OnDuty Office);
- Staff undertake a quality 5F Family Harm Investigation at the scene using new risk measures. They create a frontline safety plan to focus on the safety of the victim and children for at least 72 hours post initial attendance and take appropriate action with the perpetrator.

'Go-Live' was the culmination of a huge amount of thinking, IT development, training and sheer hard work in response to the many staff who asked for changes in how we respond to Family Harm. This new approach is a real opportunity to make a significant difference in how we prevent and reduce family harm for victims, tamariki and aggressors.

## Waitematā Led the Way!

A Waitematā West response to a family harm episode was acknowledged as the first 5F that was dispatched and resulted through the new system. Congratulations to the first responders as they navigated the system perfectly, supported the victim with a safety plan, issued a PSO to the offender and referred him to Gandhi Nivas.

## 5F Training at WAVES

How fabulous it was to have 56 people come to 5F training in Henderson! We were overwhelmed by the high attendance and the interest throughout the session. Thank you to WAVES for organising it. We very much appreciate being able to share part of the Police Practice with our partners so there is an understanding of what the police officers have been trained in and the difference 5F will make to our victims, perpetrators and tamariki. 5F is transformational and enhancing the initial response at family harm episodes we will get better information for our partners so that the improved quality will enable appropriate responses and services to the whanau.

We gained some great insights from the small group activities and among these was the need to have new New Zealanders and ethnic communities aware of their rights to a non-violent relationship and services that are available to help.

## 4thekidz

Children's trauma packs have been kindly gifted to us from a Charitable Trust called 4thekidz. Pre-packed into age groups, police can give them to any children they deal with in the course of their duties, preferably however, children uplifted, found, or exposed to family harm.



The packs for children 10 years and older include a blanket, torch, teddy, pen and diary and for those four to nine years of age, a blanket, colouring book, felts and teddy.

Many thanks to Shona MaCarthy of 4thekidz (pictured above with the packs) and her team for these wonderful packs and making them available for our staff to give the kids. The packs will show them the community cares about them



## GOOD NEWS STORIES

1. This is an officer's personal note following an intense, prolonged and measured approach to a victim and his determination to be available with support for her and her tamariki who had been subjected to multiple episodes of family harm. She was reluctant to engage with Police and other services because of her history with them. Police had serious concerns for her safety because of her offender's behaviour and criminal past.

For me, I knew when she was ready I had to be there: use all the contacts available. I probably had only one chance and I wanted to be that person to give her an opportunity to be herself, return to normality.

The following day turned into night and I was trying to catch up and get across everything and admittedly it was getting 'heavy'. This was her response:

*I actually feel good about it this time. Like everyone...aka the justice system can see his ugly crazy. Thank you so much (officer's name) I appreciate your support especially for my kids. You make me feel safe. Forever I will remember you as one of my guardians.*

I keep this and often read it.... you know this is the why we do what we do. (The victim) is slowly but surely unpacking the trauma she had been subjected to, as well as the exposure of her tamariki to the harm."

2. A grateful victim wrote:

*"Thank you so much for all your follow ups, for all the calls and offering us reassurance whenever needed. I could not have wished for a better person to be assigned to this case. From being terrified and checking my car brakes every time when I sit in the car, to constantly checking all the doors and windows, we lived in fear. You have re-assured us, put plans into place and followed up with other agencies. You have the calmness, compassion and common sense and make a perfect Police officer, a person of trust. I hope that you get recognised for the amazing work that you do. If ever needed, you will be my best person to go to. Thank you again for everything."*

3. And, from Family Action:

Family Action was contacted by Police about a FVIARS Family Violence Report for a woman who had been in an abusive relationship with the father of her two children for over 20 years. The client's abusive partner had breached the original Police Safety Order and was arrested. The client was absolutely terrified to make a police statement despite the severe injuries inflicted on her including a broken orbital socket and two fractured ribs!

Family Action staff were able to meet the client at the hospital and welcome her into our Refuge where she could feel safe, and with their support she found the courage to make a Police statement. With the support from Police, Prosecutions, Victim Advisors and Family Action a petition for an urgent Protection Order was granted at the bail hearing instead of at sentencing.

During her time in Family Action's Refuge the client received ongoing care to arrange her financial affairs, legal advocacy, safety plans with the children's school, advocacy with ACC for help with her injuries and negotiations with Oranga Tamariki to ensure the ongoing safety of her children.

The client's two children are now attending ongoing counselling at Family Action to ameliorate the continuing effects of family violence; including self-blame and aggressive behaviour. Parenting support has been given to their mother and she is currently engaged in ACC counselling with a Family Action Provider.

This client and her children are now safe and she has expressed her gratitude for the wraparound support without which she and her children could not have escaped the violence she suffered for so long.

## UPCOMING EVENT

10 August 2018. Hui. Lock it in. The hui will be held at Hoani Waititi Marae. We will call for registrations in July but please note that the hui will be a full day and, because of the programme and costs, we are not able to accommodate half day attendances.

## Contact Us

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