



Mā te Kotahitanga ka ora te iwi - From Unity the People will Prosper

Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration Achievements 2016

CANTERBURY FAMILY VIOLENCE COLLABORATION

OUR COLLABORATION IS A COMMUNITY OF NEARLY FIFTY ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES THAT WORK WITHIN THE WIDER FAMILY VIOLENCE SECTOR IN CANTERBURY. TOGETHER, WE WORK TO IMPROVE AND ENHANCE THE TOTAL RESPONSE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE THROUGH SYSTEM WIDE INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT.

WE EXIST BECAUSE FAMILY VIOLENCE REMAINS A SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL PROBLEM FOR THE CANTERBURY COMMUNITY. IN 2014/15, THERE WERE 10,108 FAMILY VIOLENCE INVESTIGATIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE CANTERBURY POLICE. 8,706 OF THOSE WERE IN CHRISTCHURCH METRO. RESEARCH EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT ONLY 1/5 OF FAMILY VIOLENCE IS REPORTED TO POLICE, FURTHER SUGGESTING A REAL LEVEL OF FAMILY VIOLENCE BEING CLOSER TO 50,000 INCIDENTS PER YEAR. THIS EQUATES TO 1 INCIDENT EVERY 10 MINUTES IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Foreword

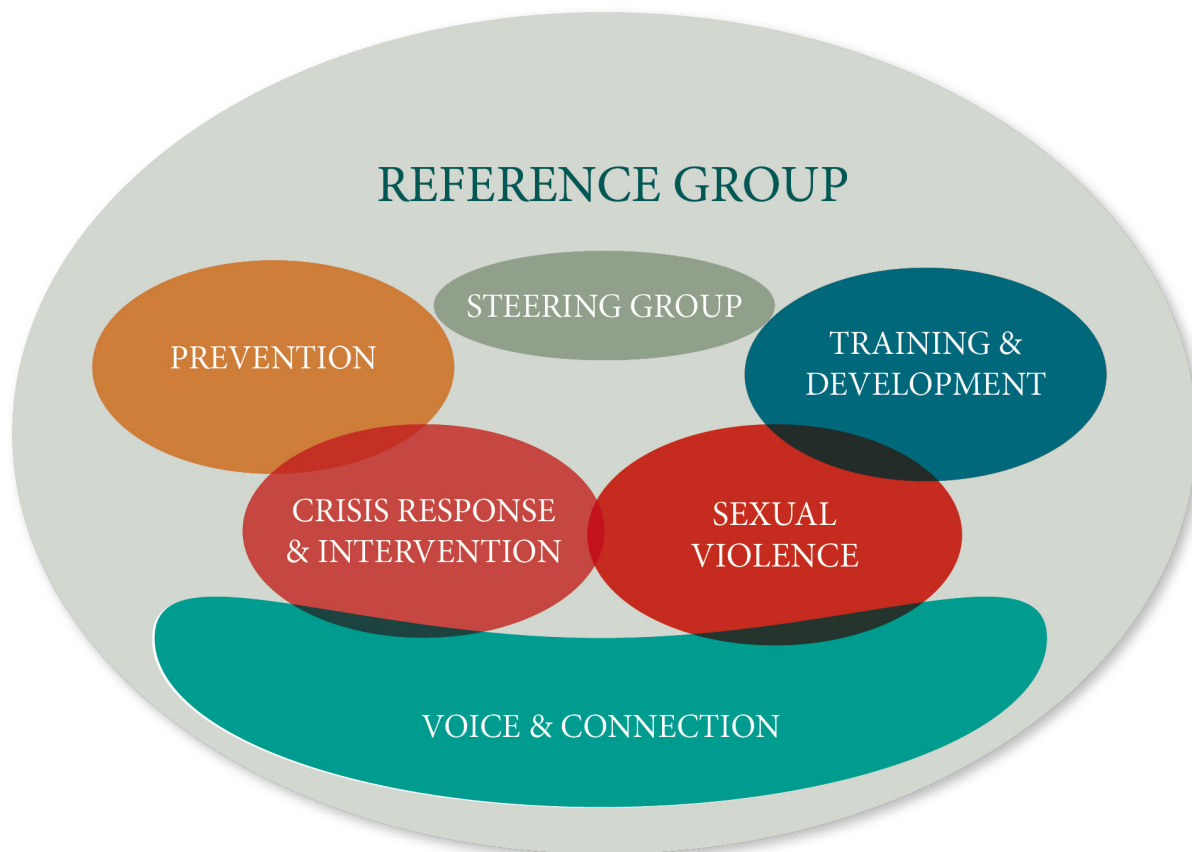
The on-going work of the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration continues to grow both in reach to other agencies and in depth of work. This year's Hui set the direction for the work programme. Highlights have been the achievements in workforce development and prevention. The collective impact in the area of prevention was clearly evidenced from a significant event on White Ribbon Day. As the year progressed, the Collaboration was a useful network to support ISR implementation. The network's ability to connect with key agencies, staff and other stakeholders (e.g. Chamber of Commerce) helps immensely to support knowledge and understanding on the significant problem in Canterbury.

John Henderson, Regional Director MSD

CFVC Reference Group Chair

Overview

The following diagram indicates the structure of the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration, and it's work streams through which the activity of the Collaborations in achieved.



Throughout 2016, significant progress in the fight against family violence within our community has been achieved through the dedicated effort of individuals, organizations, work streams, project groups and opportunities seized through the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration. The collective effort has been key in the success of the work we have been involved in. Acknowledgment of the fact that what we cannot achieve independently, through the coming together and recognition of what each has to offer, we can have hope and expectation of creating positive and tangible outcomes for individuals and families in Canterbury.

While the work and activity of the Collaboration has been vast, and it's reach touching beyond the 150 plus core contacts, some of the key achievements for 1026 are outlined below.

Our Reference Group met in March for a Strategic Hui, working together to identify the Priority Focus Areas that would guide our activity and efforts for the year ahead. From that point, the Collaboration has experienced increased growth of membership and connection, and a revived momentum within its work streams. Activity and projects have ranged from Primary Prevention through raising awareness of family violence (how to help and where to get help), to community events, training and development opportunities, policy submissions and consultation feedback, and support to Police in the introduction and implementation of the Integrated Safety Response model (ISR).

IDENTIFIED PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

- **Preventing family violence through working with community organisations and their service users**
- **Cross sector training and professional development opportunities through the delivery of a range of specialist family violence training (suitable for experienced practitioners) and general training for the wider sector**
- **Providing opportunities for those with lived experience of family violence to share their experiences with decision makers**
- **Provide family violence primary prevention activities targeted to specific groups/communities**
- **Provide communication channels to raise awareness of family violence in Canterbury and how it can be addressed**
- **Support inter-agency initiatives to ensure optimal service delivery**

In the second half of this year, the Collaboration's communications role played a key part in the communications, facilitation and support of recent consultation workshops initiated by MSD and ACC, enabling feedback from the NGO sector within Canterbury.

In September, the Collaboration initiated a Sexual Violence Hui, bringing together the Sexual Violence and Family Violence sectors in the interest of identifying synergies that would allow opportunity for collaboration within Canterbury. Over forty representatives participated in this discussion and practical brainstorming session. Priority focus areas were identified that were of interest to groupings present, and tangible projects in seed form were suggested. A defined piece of work within the tertiary sector will be far reaching with key stakeholders including the University of Canterbury and the Tertiary Anti-violence Collaboration. This project will effectively create a toolbox to be implemented in stages, serving to address ineffective or non-existent response and intervention processes, and support raising awareness on family and sexual violence, how to help and where to get help for staff and students.

Work in this collaborative approach will continue into 2017, with the next key meeting being the annual Sexual Violence Symposium, lead by Maggy Tai Rakena from Start. Existing projects, such as the Sexual Violence Response Mapping project, will continue to be progressed in addition to identified opportunities to provide ISR staff with specialized training in Sexual Violence awareness and services.

Crisis Response and Intervention Work stream

Integrated Safety Response

While the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration had its own strategic work plan, it demonstrated the ability to respond to the changing operational environment in Canterbury, for

example the Integrated Safety Response (ISR) model. Early in the year, Detective Senior Sargeant Greg Cottam began his role managing the Family Protection Team and addressed the CFVC in regard to changes in the Canterbury Police's approach to Family Violence. He represented Police on our Crisis Response and Intervention work stream, and as the Integrated Safety Response model neared time for official introduction, Greg connected us with Inspector Penny Gifford and District Commander Tusha Penny. In March, we co-ordinated two meetings opened to the sector and wider community for the introduction and follow-up ISR presentation.

Through our Project and Communications role, the Collaboration has worked with the ISR team (initially with Business Director Penny Gifford, ISR Project Director Karen Clarke and other co-ordination staff from Police and MSD), to identify services and organisations currently working within the sector, communicating with them around the ISR model and training sessions, facilitated registrations and venue hire for twelve training sessions, and continued to identify, connect and engage with key stakeholders. Due to there being short term contracts or changing of roles within the early ISR project team, the Collaboration played a vital linking role and point of consistency between the ISR team and the sector. It was a bumpy process to begin with due to the short timeframes, extensive numbers of organisations and services providers working in this space, and the required clarification around defined tiers as they related to the model on an operational level. This required substantial time around general and direct communications with individuals, specific NGOs and the ISR team.

Additionally, we have maintained strong connection with ISR Director Jane Morgan, exploring opportunities for supporting the ISR team with further training development opportunities, for example in the area of sexual violence and the connection it has with family violence, and also discussing mapping projects for identifying local service providers and capacity.

We've continued to offer our support to the NGOs, and also to the ISR team through communications and other means as they've moved through the early stages of introduction, implementation and refinement.

Our Steering Group meetings have provided a conduit between the ISR team and the Collaboration for two-way communication of updates and data on the implementation of ISR and feedback from the sector.

Our quarterly Reference Group meetings have been utilised to feature regular updates from the ISR Director, NGO Liaison and/or team representatives, and to provide an opportunity for questions and continued feedback from the nearly-fifty Government and non-government organisations represented through the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration.

Other current/future projects:

Justice Precinct Project

With recent changes to availability of legal aid, Community Law in Christchurch have seen a 300% increase of clients, the working poor that cannot afford a lawyer. A pilot has begun through having

a family lawyer and six students at the courts one day a week. There has been an increase of 15% uptake from Maori clients and also an increase in protection orders, but with no wrap around services available. The Crisis and Response work stream saw this as an opportunity for early intervention, proposing the concept of having multiple services provide a three-hour clinic one day a week. Initial steps have been taken to investigate the potentials of having a presence in the new Precinct being built, and work will continue in the new year to plan and trial some solutions in these areas through the collective involvement of a number of agencies connected with the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration.

FOCI FOR THE CRISIS RESPONSE AND INTERVENTION WORK STREAM:

To review research literature and other evidence in order to identify and describe best practice models.

To support the implementation, development and evaluation of response and intervention models and pathways towards family violence and sexual violence within Canterbury.

- Provide support response to the Integrated Safety Response Pilot
- Initiate a designed resource via consultation for mapping and communication of the sexual violence crisis response and intervention process
- Exploring the option for a client pathway model for all people who have experienced FV who have not contacted the police; directing all enquiries to the appropriate agency to ensure a coordinated approach so that nobody 'falls through the cracks'

Prevention Work Stream

Through various projects to raise awareness within the community and to influence change in the culture of family violence, the Prevention work stream projects and events utilise multiple channels of communication, including social media, to reinforce key messages.

Events: Utilising our It's Ok to Help marque, volunteers held stalls at community events, providing resources on how to help and where to get help for family violence, and ran interactive activities to engage with kids and families. Along with badges, balloons and other resources, wristbands with the It's Not OK helpline 0800 number were given away in large numbers. These have a long life span and make it into the homes of families.

- Global Football Tournament
- Barrington Fun Day
- Riccarton Market
- Affirm Festival
- White Ribbon Day

White Ribbon Day

Organisation of and communications for White Ribbon Day event for Christchurch through the CFVC Prevention work stream. Members on the project group included representatives from MSD, Police, NZDF, City Mission, Barnardos, Aviva and Start.

Under 5's and Pregnant Women

- Provided It's OK to Help Workshop training to support Pregnancy Help staff and volunteers to be able to respond to disclosures, screen their clients and know how to get help for their clients and staff.
- Engaged with the Midwives Collective and presented to an audience of 645 midwives and allied health professionals on family violence awareness and resources at a national conference for independent midwives
- Initial planning for mini campaign project in the area of raising awareness of affect of FV on the unborn child, babies brains, risks to pregnant women in controlling and violent relationships etc

Employers and Workplace Prevention Project

Through the endorsement of The Warehouse as the first official ambassador for White Ribbon and family violence prevention for their employees (with Countdown following closely), and the proposed changes to the leave entitlement for victims of family violence, opportunity has been identified for some significant work and projects supporting these moves to be initiated next year, especially through engagement with Chambers of Commerce (as an example).

Other potential projects

Through newly formed connections with the New Zealand Defence Force, and the timeliness of their appointment of a Social Worker role based at the Burnham Military Camp as part of a one year pilot, opportunities for providing education around prevention and response, as well as support services to families, are looking very positive.

Presentations

The Collaboration was invited to present to students at the University of Canterbury on the work of the Collaboration and on local solutions. Additionally, representatives of the Collaboration were involved in the planning of the annual Social Service Providers Association (SSPA) conference, at which the CFVC had a presence.

FOCI FOR THE PREVENTION WORK STREAM:

To strengthen and enhance the Family Violence Prevention and Early Intervention activities currently underway in Canterbury.

Explore the development of new ideas/approaches for FV prevention in the context of social service, environmental and demographic change in Canterbury.

To better coordinate the delivery and evaluation of prevention activities and processes.

Preventing family violence (FV) through working with community organisations and their service users:

- Provide FOR local small NGO to train staff & volunteers to recognise & respond to disclosures of FV so that clients know how to get help.
- Provide 'How to Help' workshops provided to at least 8 community groups. This package is designed for the general public to equip them to help family or friends affected by FV.

Provide FV primary prevention activities targeted to targeted groups/communities:

- Geographic community based primary prevention project. This will involve working with a grassroots community agency to support them to develop prevention activities using champions from their own community to create community-wide understanding that FV is unacceptable and how people can get help.
- Work with community housing provider to support their tenants with information and support to get help for FV.

Training and Development Work Stream

Training events and workshops:

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| - ISR training session communication and facilitation support | x12 training sessions |
| - Rob Veale Strangulation and Intimate Partner Violence Training | x41 participants |
| - Claire Murphy IP Violence and Co-ercive Control Workshop | x45 participants |
| - It's OK to Help Workshop and Train the Trainer sessions | x43 participants |

Cross-sector connections:

Connection with the recently formed Children's Team Learning and Development Work stream: Identifying shared training opportunities to provide training and development beneficial to the sector

Opportunities 2017:

- Symposium including law matters in family violence cases, profiling of family and sexual violence services, Child Centred Practice etc
- Sexual Violence Symposium
- Opportunities with CDHB training and development
- Providing more How to Help Workshops to community preschool staff

FOCI FOR THE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT WORK STREAM:

To ensure that staff that work with families living with violence have access to regular, quality cross sector training and professional development opportunities that will enhance the interventions offered.

- To investigate, coordinate and evaluate the delivery of training opportunities

- Delivery of a range of specialist FV training (suitable for experienced practitioners) and general training for the wider sector at no or very low cost
- Specialist training with national expert on Strangulation in FV
- Regular cross sector Hui to support the implementation of the new Interagency Safety Response in collaboration with the NZ Police
- Cross sector symposium held quarterly to inform wider sectors of key FV issues
- Facilitating access for the NGO sector to government sector training on FV through CYF, Corrections and the CDHB

Voice and Connection Work Stream

Initial activity for this new work stream has been in defining its purpose and operation, and in the support of a Resilience Research Report, by Dr Sue Carswell.

FOCI FOR THE VOICE AND CONNECTION WORK STREAM:

To promote, encourage and gather stories to support better outcomes for the children, women and families that experience family violence.

To provide underpinning support to all other work streams and the CFVC as a whole.

- To utilise sourced stories of lived experience to support Prevention and awareness projects aiming to reach a targeted audience.
- To connect with people in decision and policy making positions, community leaders and research agencies, providing submissions on behalf of the collaboration.
- To provide collaboration wide connection through multiple communication channels.

Looking ahead to 2017

2017 will see the continuation of the work and projects initiated this year, and anticipated increased reach and influence alongside successful outcomes obtained as we build upon the momentum, skills and experience represented cross-sectorially through representatives within the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration.

For more information on the Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration and its activity, please visit www.canterburyfvc.co.nz or contact Shareen Hudson, Communications and Project Advisor, shareen.hudson@barnardos.org.nz