



Te Puna Aonui E-Update

23 February 2023

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Introduction from Hon Marama Davidson

Kia ora koutou

I firstly want to extend my thoughts to those of you who have been impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland floods in recent weeks. This is an incredibly hard time, and we all carry with us concern and worry for our colleagues, friends and family who may be living in those regions that are facing such serious challenges right now.



Please know we are thinking of you. From a family violence and sexual violence perspective, emergency events – like cyclones, earthquakes and COVID lockdowns – can escalate the risks of violence, in particular for women and children.

One of the items in this *Te Puna Aonui E-Update* is a set of emergency messages for those put at even greater risk in the fallout from the cyclone. Please, share them with the people and organisations you work with, and ask that they share them where they can. We want people to know their safety is always a priority and violence is never ok, and that people are ready to provide support whenever they reach out for help.

This latest *E-Update* is full of news and progress – and again, I remind myself it's only February, but we are right into our mahi already.

I hope you enjoy reading the inspiring story from the Whanganui region, where a service provider is putting Kaupapa Māori at the centre of their sexual violence services. This mahi is breaking new ground in the way we support survivors and create safe spaces for healing. It's remarkable to see such an empowering and culturally sensitive approach being put into practice.

I'm also keeping a close eye on recent changes to Family Violence Service Guidelines, which you can read about here. These updates reflect a growing awareness of the complexities and nuances of family violence, and the need for more targeted and effective support. It's inspiring to see that we're moving in the right direction in terms of understanding the issues and creating solutions that work.

Another important step forward highlighted here is the increased support for men who use violence. Work with users of violence is fundamental to breaking the cycle of abuse, and it's great to see resources being put to work in this area.

Our mahi is hard, but our hearts are strong, and we are up for the job. We will always do what is required and I remain in awe at your collective and individual strength and dedication. Let's keep pushing forward!

He āwhina, he aroha ngā miro tuitui i ngā haehaetanga a te mate
Love and support knit together the lacerations of anguish.

Hon Marama Davidson

Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence

Minita mō te Ārai i te Whakarekerekere Whānau me te Koeretanga

Emergency safety messaging after Cyclone Gabrielle

Last week, Te Puna Aonui worked with Minister Davidson's Office to provide emergency safety messaging to the National Emergency Management Agency and Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet to help with the family violence and sexual violence risks in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle, who are jointly coordinating emergency communications and will utilise the messages as appropriate.

Minister Davidson met with community providers in Auckland in the days immediately after Gabrielle struck, and agencies have been and are still also



communicating directly with community providers to provide support. The safety messaging for use in post-cyclone communications is as follows:

Message	Support information
<p>Your safety and the safety of your family matters, and support is available. The Government and Police continue to take family violence and sexual violence very seriously. Violence is a crime at any time, and that includes during emergency situations like this.</p> <p><i>If you are in danger, please call Police on 111.</i></p>	
<p>This is an incredibly hard time for people who may be at risk of family violence and sexual violence, and we want people to reach out for help if they're worried about their safety, or that of a friend or neighbour.</p> <p>Call the family violence helpline on 0800 456 450</p> <p>If you have Internet access: www.areyouok.org.nz</p>	<p>0800 456 450 and www.areyouok.org.nz provide help and can connect people with expert advice and support.</p> <p>The website has a service finder tool, to find local services that can help.</p>
<p>Similarly, if you feel at risk of using violence and are worried that your behaviour is hurting or scaring other, there is help available to support you to make a change - call 0800 456 450</p> <p>If you have Internet access: In Your Hands - Home In Your Hands</p>	<p>0800 456 450 and In Your Hands provide help to access expert advice and support.</p> <p>The website has a service finder tool, to find local services that can help.</p>
<p>If you experience sexual harm, contact Safe to Talk. Call 0800 044 334 or text 4334.</p> <p>If you have access to the Internet, visit the website to webchat or email.</p>	<p>Live webchat on www.safetotalk.nz</p>

NOTE: We are preparing flyers for people on the frontline to provide information about the signs of family violence and sexual violence, and how to respond. This will be published on the MSD website.

Singing of an Unsung Hero

Shama offers full range of services for ethnic women

Shama Ethnic Women's Trust's Prevention of Sexual Violence Lead, Juanita Rohas has contributed immensely to the safety and wellbeing of ethnic women in Aotearoa New Zealand since she arrived here just four years ago.

Based in Auckland, her role is focused on preventing sexual violence and family violence, along with providing education and skills to different ethnic community groups. She goes about achieving this by connecting with interested groups, organising training workshops, and developing projects that aim to increase awareness and skills to prevent sexual harm. The projects are tailored to the needs of the community, with a focus on increasing awareness about specific topics such as child sexual abuse, consent, healthy relationships, and prevention of violence towards adolescents.

Juanita works alongside a consultant and a coach-facilitator who go to the regions to provide a level of direct support for up to six months. After that, there is online support to evaluate progress, offer feedback and provide further resources if needed.

The ultimate aim is to provide culturally sensitive services that are available to everyone, especially for ethnic women who face additional trauma when children are present.

When asked about changes that need to be made in New Zealand society in response to sexual violence against ethnic women, Juanita identified two main changes she would like to see.

The first is that every woman, regardless of visa status, should be able to apply for protection against sexual and family violence. This is important as women with children also face trauma in such situations.



Juanita Rohas – helping ethnic women live safer, better lives



The second change would be having more support services available for ethnic women, which should be culturally sensitive and provide the required support without judgment.

The aim is to make these services available to everyone so that there is cultural competence for safety. By providing support and services that are culturally sensitive and available to everyone, New Zealand can take a significant step towards reducing the incidence of sexual and family violence against ethnic women. It is essential to make these changes a priority and ensure that every woman has access to the support she needs to live a life free of violence.

Unique challenges faced by ethnic women in Aotearoa:

- Additional barriers to accessing support for family violence and sexual violence due to language and cultural differences.
- Isolation from support networks and familiar communities, which can increase the risk of family violence and sexual violence.
- Restrictions on accessing support and services due to temporary visas or lack of residency.
- Dependence on a partner for income and lack of independent job opportunities, which can make leaving a violent situation more difficult.
- Increased vulnerability to sexual harassment in the workplace due to language barriers and power imbalances.

For more information on Shama and its work, go to www.shama.org.nz

Kaupapa Māori at the heart of sexual violence services for Whanganui provider



Kimiora Trust's approach is centre around Te Taiao (the natural environment)

Whanganui-based provider Kimiora Trust holds a Ministry of Social Development Outcome Agreement to provide services to whānau Māori in their healing journeys to address transgressions of mahi tūkino (family violence, sexual violence, suicide or abuse).

The NGO is one of six rural and remote providers testing and providing feedback on the Tangata Whenua Mahi Tūkino Provider Transformation Guidelines.

The guidelines were developed by Te Pou o te Rarama Tuarua (Te Pou Tuarua), an independent working group made up of subject matter experts, in response to the insights gathered by Te Pou o te Rarama (Te Pou Tuatahi), which sought to address the disparities Kaupapa Māori Sexual Violence practitioners and providers experience. Te Pou Tuatahi also provided recommendations for building provider and community capacity and capability as well as promoting the adoption of sexual violence prevention and healing practices that are embedded in mātauranga Māori.

The Trust focuses on prevention, intervention, and post-vention for sexual violence in their wānanga sessions with whānau. It takes a localised approach to providing services; this essentially means delivering services in a way that works for the community they serve. In this case, connecting with mātauranga Māori is key to preventing sexual violence, and healing from mahi tūkino (any action that contributes to transgressions against whakapapa connections to Atua, whenua and whānau).

Te Taiao (the natural environment) is central to the Trust's approach and is reflected in all wānanga they organise with whānau – whether it be sustainably sourcing native trees for riparian planting along the Whanganui River and Linton, emphasising the link between food and whakapapa, or sharing how to move towards resilient and regenerative sustainable food systems from a kaupapa Māori lens.

“We wanted to show our whānau how they can heal by being in the ngahere (forest); it helps to still the mind, and aids in deep reflection and the healing of trauma,” a Trust kaikorero said. “Rongoā Māori (Māori healing and medicine) also plays a key role in the healing process. Rongoā Māori is a taonga tuku iho (a treasure that is passed down generations) that is the most natural means of healing for us as Māori.”

The wānanga often incorporate different themes including:

- Eco-sourcing māra kai: Develop systems to support whānau to establish māra (garden) and native nurseries that can improve access to good food, and to increase knowledge about the role good food and protecting the environment plays on their health and wellbeing
- Leadership planning: Focus on ‘Leadership Plans’ for individuals and whānau to continue the support when they leave a wānanga including opportunities for professional development
- Wānanga Rongoā: Whānau receive support to physically, spiritually, and mentally connect with their taiao which includes collecting plants for rongoā to make balms and tinctures for their whānau and teaching how to plant rongoā Māori to spread manaakitanga.



Increasing support for men using violence

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) is working with its partners to implement Te Aorerekura, the national strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence, including by investing in services for people causing harm.

MSD is starting work to expand and strengthen services for men using violence. They want everyone using violence to have easy access to healing support in their communities. However, the reality is that there are still significant geographic gaps in MSD-funded service provision across the motu as well as significant demand pressures.



Funding will be available from July 2023 to fill geographic gaps and address other challenges in the users of family violence sector, including waitlists and limited hours of operation.

Phased implementation over two years

MSD is focusing first on four Police districts where there are higher rates of family violence and no or minimal services for men using violence. The four higher needs districts making up Tranche One are: Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Eastern. MSD contracts in these first four districts will start from 1 July 2023, to take part in a service design or review process followed by implementation.

A second phase of work next year will see further investment in other districts where there's increased need for support.

Tranche Two districts for new MSD contracts from 1 July 2024 are: Canterbury, Central, Northland, Southern, Tasman, Wellington Police districts.

MSD will work closely with existing and potential new providers to test the outcomes framework that will underpin services, ahead of a procurement process for the first four regions in April/May.

Upcoming roadshow sessions



MSD are running a roadshow later in February and early March about the service expansion in Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Eastern districts. Follow this link to register or find out more about the roadshow sessions: [Strengthening services for men who use violence — roadshow invitation](#)

And for any questions or for more information about this kaupapa, please email usersofviolence@msd.govt.nz.

Changes to family violence service guidelines

MSD have made some changes to their family violence service guidelines to better reflect the work its funded providers are already doing and include updated supporting documentation.

Previously, MSD had two separate service guidelines for Family Violence Intervention Services and Family-Centred Services. These have now been combined to form one overarching Family Violence Safety and Stability Services Service Guidelines. You can find the guidelines [here](#).

Who are the guidelines for and what are the changes?

The new easier-to-read guidelines are to support MSD-funded providers who deliver these services:

- Women's refuge services
- Services for people using violence

- Responses to violence services, including what was previously known as Family Centred Services
- Family violence helpline services.

The new material added includes:

- References to the workforce capability support documents produced by Te Puna Aonui
- Requirements for new external practice supervision and cultural capability and development support
- Guidance on the FTE funding model and safer caseloads
- Insights from a recent provider questionnaire.

For the most part, MSD-funded providers won't need to change their service delivery to meet these new guidelines. However, the one substantive change is that external practice supervision, cultural capability and development support are now required for all frontline staff.

If you have any questions about the new guidelines, you can find out more by emailing Family_Violence_CPP@msd.govt.nz

Invitation to Preventing Violence Against Rainbow People: A Panel Discussion

The Rainbow Violence Prevention Network and This Is Us campaign invites you to *Preventing Violence Against Rainbow People: A Panel Discussion* on 1 March.

The event will explore the work of RVPN and members in supporting rainbow communities and violence prevention practitioners to stop violence against rainbow people in Aotearoa.

RVPN is a national network of individuals and organisations working collectively to address violence in and against rainbow communities. Its members work across all levels of violence prevention in and against Rainbow communities.

#ThisIsUs Campaign is part of this journey. RVPN have developed this campaign with resources, awareness-raising and advocacy for violence prevention and support service professionals to develop their professional practise in supporting a diverse range of rainbow communities in Aotearoa who have experienced family and sexual violence.

You can register for the zoom at <https://preventing-violence-in-rainbow-communities-a-panel-discussion.lilregie.com/booking/attendees>

You can also sign up to the [pledge](#) and receive updates, resources and information to support your professional development and most importantly, be involved in eliminating family and sexual violence.

About Te Puna Aonui – the Joint Venture for the Elimination of Family Violence and Sexual Violence

[Te Puna Aonui](#) brings 10 government agencies together to align whole-of-government strategy, policy and investment to eliminate family violence and sexual violence.

*Te Puna Aonui includes:

- [Ara Poutama Department of Corrections](#)
- [Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Ministry of Education](#)
- [Manatū Hauora Ministry of Health](#)
- [Te Tāhū or te Ture Ministry of Justice](#)
- [Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora Ministry of Social Development](#)
- [Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa New Zealand Police](#)
- [Oranga Tamariki Ministry for Children](#)
- [Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission](#)
- [Te Puni Kokiri Ministry of Māori Development](#)
- [Te Kaporeihana Āwhina Hunga Whara ACC](#)

[Te Tari O Te Pirimia Me Te Komiti Matau](#) (Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet), [Manatū Wāhine](#) (Ministry for Women), [Te Manatū mō Ngā Iwi o Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa](#) (Ministry of Pacific Peoples) and [Te Tari Mātāwaka](#) (the Ministry for Ethnic Communities) are associate agencies of Te Puna Aonui.

Te Puna Aonui reports to the Minister for Family Violence and Sexual Violence, Hon Marama Davidson.

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