



Te Puna Aonui Pānui

29 August 2024

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To share stories in the next e-update, contact: Holly.Blackler@TePunaAonui.govt.nz.

Introduction from Hon Karen Chhour, Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence



Kia ora koutou,

Welcome to the August Pānui from Te Puna Aonui, updating you on the latest developments in the family violence and sexual violence space – by government, providers, and the community.

Since the last Pānui in June we have had an important national event – the Royal

Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care report was tabled in late July. It calls to account those who were both active and complicit in harm being done to children and young people over many decades, and the systems in place that allowed it to happen. For many victim-survivors, this was the first time they have shared their stories. I want to commend the courage of all those who came forward to contribute to the report and our wider understanding of this systematic abuse.

This report and its recommendations are confronting, powerful, and clear. A lot of the stories contained within are extremely vivid and, basically, disgusting. This did not just happen in a few isolated cases, the abuse was systematic, continuous, and normalised.

I commend the courage of those who have come forward about their abuse, despite being silenced or not believed, and I will do everything in my power to make sure that nothing like this can ever happen again. I have met with some of the survivors, and I know it has taken great courage to share their stories.

Minister Stanford is the Lead Minister in charge of the Crown Response, and she is responsible for overseeing the government's formal apology to be delivered on November 12. A formal response to the report is underway. Victim-survivors have done their part to end this abuse, and now it is time for us to do ours. I will be a strong champion for meaningful change and look forward to updating you on that progress in many Pānui to come.



Meeting with Tautoko Tane in Nelson.

I have continued meeting with many providers and stakeholders in the family violence and sexual violence space, including Pet Refuge (who provide pet shelter for those leaving



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unsafe living situations), Tautoko Tāne in Nelson (who provide support to male victim-survivors of sexual violence), Te Pūkotahitanga (the tangata whenua Ministerial Advisory Group), Alo Fā (the first independent 'by Pacific for Pacific' sexual violence service provider in the country), and more. Thanks to everyone for their warm welcomes and for taking the time to explain their work to me.



Making a furry friend at Pet Refuge.

I receive a lot of invitations to visit organisations and providers, and I try to reply and at least acknowledge them all. Please don't hesitate to approach my office if you think it would be worthwhile for me to be more aware of the work you are doing in your community.

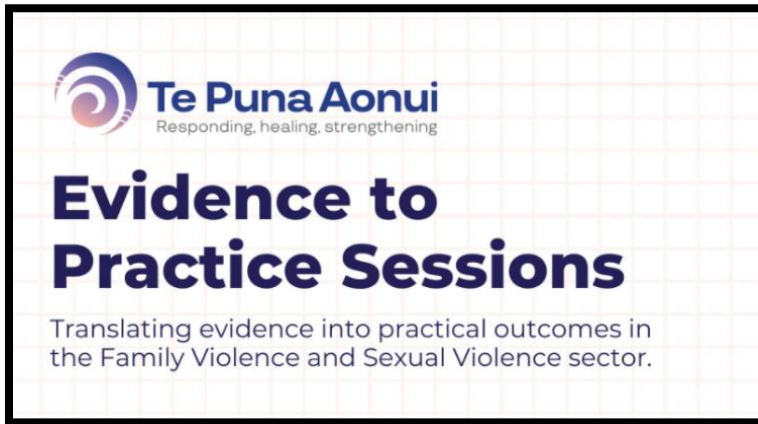
It may take some time to organise a meeting, but I have greatly appreciated those who have reached out and made contact, in order to build a shared understanding of the workers we have right across the system, who are working to improve the safety and wellbeing of people impacted by violence.

Best wishes,

Hon Karen Chhour

Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence

Evidence to Practice Sessions – Te Puna Aonui



Recently, Te Puna Aonui held our first Evidence to Practice Session with [Professor Michael Salter from UNSW Sydney](#), which discussed studies on men who have harmful thoughts towards children. It was a great turnout with engaging conversation and sector engagement, access to the recording can be found here: [Evidence to Practice Session | Professor Michael Salter | Te Puna Aonui - YouTube](#).

Our next session will be on the 18th of September at 12pm, with team members from Atawhai presenting findings from the three-year Health Research Council funded project 'Atawhai' have now been published in the open access journal Archives of Public Health: ['Atawhai': a primary care provider-led response to family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand'](#).

Presentation will be by Dr Claire Gear (Centre for Interdisciplinary Trauma Research, AUT) who is joined by the research team:

- Matua Hori Ahomiro, Atawhai Kaitiaki, Tapuika, Tūhourangi ki Tai, Te Arawa, Ngāti Awa, Ngāi Tūhoe
- Hazel Hape, Manager, Tauranga Womens Refuge, Ngāti Pukenga, Ngāi te Rangi, Ngāpuhi
- Dr Gabrielle Moss, GP, Turuki Healthcare, Ngāti Kahu

Atawhai is a relational response to family violence, focused on building trusted relationships amongst providers to support the delivery of safe, effective, and sustainable responses to those accessing health care. For more information, visit www.atawhaitia.co.nz.

The link to register for the September 18 session will be sent out shortly and will be shared on our [Te Puna Aonui LinkedIn](#).



Victims Info Website



A new online resource for children, young people and their caregivers involved in sexual violence trials has been developed by the Ministry of Justice:

<https://youngpeople.victimsinfo.govt.nz/>

These new web pages were developed to provide an online source of information for children and young people wanting to know about what happens in court proceedings and what it might be like to be a witness in proceedings. The content was informed and guided by people who work with children and young people involved in court proceedings as well as communications experts with experience supporting children and young people at court.

This initiative was part of a *Strengthening the Justice Response to Child Victims of Sexual Violence* pilot at Manukau District Court.

The new resource is hosted by the existing Victims Information site:

<https://sexualviolence.victimsinfo.govt.nz/>

Investing in Upskilling Community-Led Primary Prevention – ACC

As part of Te Aorerekura Action 13, ACC partnered with Wellington City Council to employ a sexual violence prevention practitioner. The purpose was to intentionally invest in building and nurturing a capable, diverse workforce who could activate primary prevention across key settings and diverse communities. As well as Wellington City Council, ACC is partnering with The Cause Collective (South Auckland) and Maataa Waka (Marlborough).

Wellington City Council's sexual violence prevention advisor, Tallulah Cardno's role is wide-ranging from increasing coordination of violence prevention to supporting local leadership to act. Having a dedicated role within the Council has enabled sharing of technical expertise on safe, effective sexual violence prevention and nurturing of local prevention champions. For example, Tallulah recently delivered training on preventing sexual violence in emergencies to a diverse group of welfare managers from other councils, libraries, Corrections and Te Whatu Ora.

"Tallulah's work has highlighted the essential need for specialised expertise within Emergency Operations Centres and Emergency Coordination Centres during crises, ensuring that the safety and wellbeing of all individuals are prioritised", says Aly Curd, Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office.

Tallulah also co-facilitates the Pōneke Prevention Practitioners' network. This network regularly brings together a diverse range of members to learn, collaborate, build their practice, and strengthen connections.

"As a new addition to the harm prevention sector, the Pōneke Prevention Practitioners network has been an invaluable resource for building relationships, testing new ideas, and hearing about the inspiring mahi occurring across both Pōneke and Aotearoa", says Network member Matt Wills, NZ Rugby.

The strong capability building component of Action 13 enabled Tallulah to grow her sexual violence prevention knowledge and skills in a supportive community of practice with ACC's other Action 13 partners.

Tallulah valued participating in a community of practice. "I had the ability to learn on the job, I was able to tweak, shape, adjust and continuously improve as I was going. We had an ongoing reflective space, instead of just waiting to the end of the project to do the learning".

The Action 13 initiative provided opportunities to innovate and learn. It particularly reinforced the impact and value of having dedicated prevention kaimahi for increasing coordination across communities and settings, identifying, and leveraging opportunities to strengthen protective factors, and building the capability of local leadership to prevent violence.

From here, ACC's community-led primary prevention network initiative scales up and builds on this Action 13 approach. Following an open procurement process, ACC will soon be able to announce the first lead provider organisations in Te Tai Tokerau, Te Arawa, Te Tairāwhiti, Te Tau Ihu and Otago.

The next regions will be announced in early 2025.

Learn more in a lunchtime webinar:

Tallulah Cardno, Wellington City Council’s sexual violence prevention advisor, will share more as part of a ‘learning over lunch’ webinar on 9 October at 12 noon.

Webinar: Primary prevention in action with Wellington City Council

Date and time: Wednesday 9 October, 12-1pm

[Find out more and register](#)

New *Love Better* Website now live – Supporting MSD’s Youth Campaign



Launched in 2023, *Love Better* is MSD’s primary prevention campaign for young people that is aimed at fostering safe, positive, and equal relationships. The *Love Better* campaign aims to disrupt harmful discourses and behaviours around relationships that are universal and affect all young people.

The campaign has multiple phases, connected by the universal *Love Better* message that speaks to all young people. The first phase of *Love Better* focused on supporting young people through break-ups, and the second phase is under development, looking to be launched in September 2024.

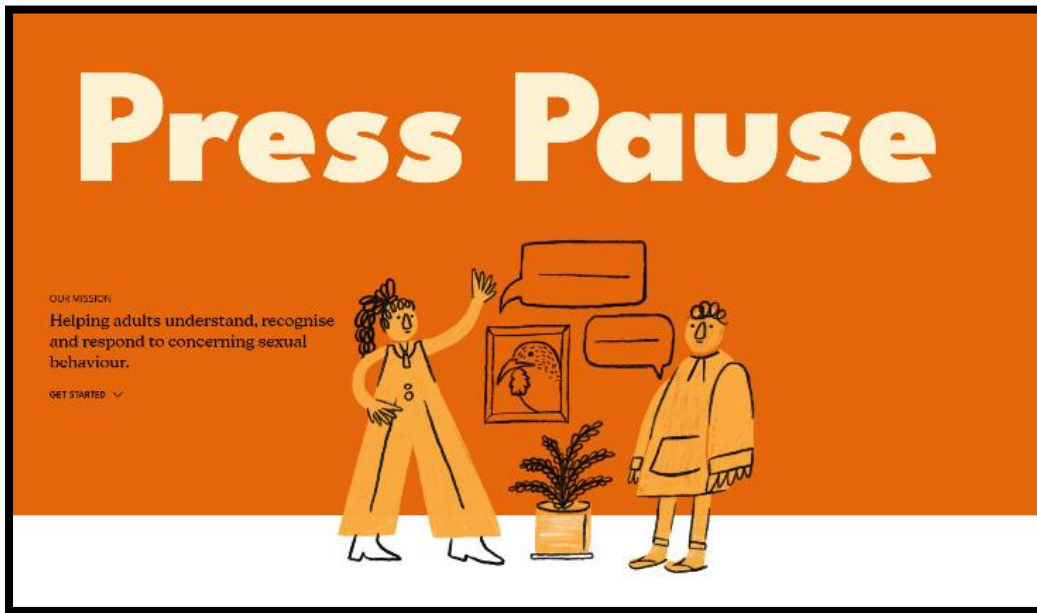
There is now a website designed and built to support and house the huge amount of content that was developed for phase one (“Own the Feels”). MSD is excited to announce that this site is now LIVE and can be viewed here: [Navigate the messy stuff in Relationships | Love Better](#).

This website is a great resource for young people to explore love, relationships and break ups. Please share the website around your networks and with any young people in your lives!

Email us with any feedback about the website here lovebetter@msd.govt.nz



Press Pause: New Online Resource from Oranga Tamariki



This month community provider Stop has launched a new online resource, with funding from Oranga Tamariki. Stop work across Te Waipounamu supporting children, rangatahi and adults to stop engaging in concerning or harmful sexual behaviour. They also provide prevention education training and consultation to equip adults to respond effectively to sexualised behaviour.

[Press Pause](#) is a website with free materials to help adults understand, recognise and respond to rangatahi demonstrating or engaging with sexualised behaviour. The resource is designed to grow adults' confidence and equip them with knowledge and skills to support young people.

As well as looking through the website yourself, you can share the Press Pause materials with whānau to empower them with knowledge and tools to better understand and respond to sexualised behaviours.

About Press Pause

It can be hard for whānau, caregivers and professionals to recognise what sexualised behaviour is, when they should be concerned, and how to respond appropriately if they witness it.

Sexualised behaviour is a complex issue. In their mission statement, the Press Pause team



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explains: “We aim to equip adults with the knowledge and skills to walk alongside rangatahi and help them respond effectively to sexualised behaviours. We encourage rangatahi to Press Pause on what they're watching, doing and saying, to become safe critical thinkers who thrive in their relationships.”

Press Pause provides information and educational resources, along with practical advice, encouraging kōrero with the young people as a starting point. Topics include:

- Boundaries
- Online behaviour
- Pornography
- Sexualised images and language
- Unwanted sexual touching

To learn more:

- Visit [the Press Pause website](#).
- [View their poster](#). You can also download this and might like to display it at your site.
- Watch the [video](#) for an overview.

Pacific Practitioners Working Together to Achieve Collective Impact

Mobilising in the Regions

Since the inaugural national fono for Pacific practitioners in July 2023, six regional fono were held across the motu to strengthen regional connections and services amongst practitioners by sharing good practice, examining practical ways to strengthen their wellbeing and offering up solutions to the system barriers identified. The highlight throughout each fono was hearing the voices of survivors/victims and perpetrators of violence, their journey and experience of the system and the discussions that followed amongst the cross section of practitioners, community, and government participants, on how to do things better.

Topical discussions via national zoom

Each month, the national monthly online zoom for Pacific practitioners hosted by the National Komiti with the support of Te Puna Aonui business unit and Pasefika Proud, MSD continues. The August zoom generated a fulsome discussion with Pacific faith leaders on the role of the church in addressing family and sexual violence – hot off the heels of the release of the Abuse in Care report. To participate contact relationships@tepunaaonui.govt.nz

Launch of a Pacific sexual violence service – Alo Fā Trust



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On Tuesday 30 July, Minister Chhour along with a cross section of representatives from central and local government, NGO sector, community and philanthropy attended the launch of the Alo Fā Trust, the first independent Pacific SV service in Wellington (and all of Aotearoa). It was great to see the range of leaders rally to support the Trust.



Minister Chhour and Alo Fā board and management

Ethnic Communities Update



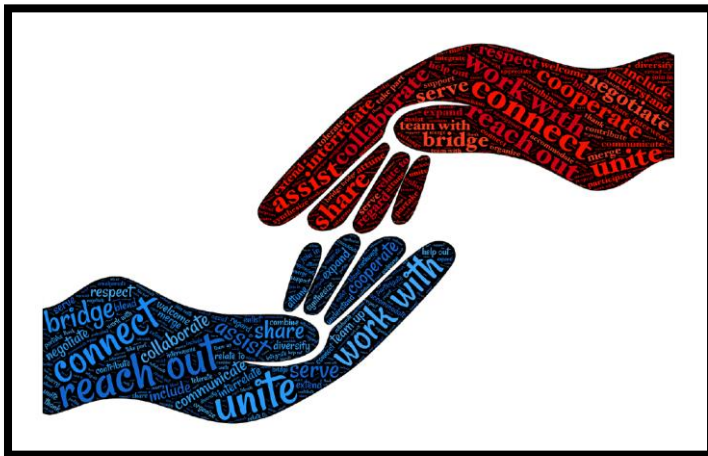
From meeting in May 2024



The Ethnic Communities Network has been busy implementing their plan to further address family violence and sexual violence in their communities. At their last meeting in May, they welcomed the opportunity to talk with Minister Chhour and Minister Lee on the barriers their communities were experiencing, and some suggested ways forward.

To connect with the Ethnic Communities Network: tepunaaonuiecn@adhikaaraotearoa.co.nz

Strengthening and Expanding Local and Regional Networks – New Report



This new report, commissioned by Te Puna Aonui to be done by New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse, finds that Network Coordinators play an important role in bringing people in communities together to align their work. It says that funding is one of the most significant barriers to effective community initiatives - and echoes previous reports recommending adequate long-term funding for both local and national networks, and national level coordination and infrastructure.

This report is titled '*Strengthening and Expanding Local and Regional Family Violence and Sexual Violence Networks*' and can be found in the link below.

The report can be found on the Te Puna Aonui website [here](#).

The major findings of the report were, in summary:

- Family and sexual violence networks across Aotearoa are a critical mechanism for implementing Te Aorerekura.
- The networks can play a key role in bringing the sector together in local and regional settings, which is vital to eliminating family violence and sexual violence.

- There is potential to strengthen existing networks to enhance their effectiveness and impact.
- There has been a lack of a cohesive plan in relation to family violence and sexual violence networks across government. This creates a continuous cycle of ‘new’ initiatives layered over and competing with existing initiatives, along with a loss of focus and investment for existing and effective initiatives.
- Funding for existing networks is insecure. There is a risk that two decades of expertise and community initiatives will be lost if funding is discontinued.
- Within this, tangata whenua want to develop their own networks and spaces.

The report states there are approximately 43 existing local family violence and sexual violence networks in Aotearoa, and that they build relationships, foster good practice and information sharing, offer training, support network members in their work, and lead community awareness and mobilisation activities addressing both family violence and sexual violence. The networks have a unique and essential role in holding space for coordination and collaboration that crosses crisis response, intervention, and prevention.

The findings and recommendations in this report are based on a literature review, focus groups with and an online survey, and interviews with key informants from local networks, national networks, and government agencies.

If you have questions, reach out to Megan Sety from NZFVC at: m.sety@auckland.ac.nz

About Te Puna Aonui

[Te Puna Aonui](#) brings government agencies together to align whole-of-government strategy, policy, and investment to eliminate family violence and sexual violence. The Board is supported by a small Business Unit that coordinates the collective actions of government agencies.

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 Puni Kokiri Ministry of Māori Development](#)
- [Te Kaporeihana Āwhina Hunga Whare ACC](#)



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[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.

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