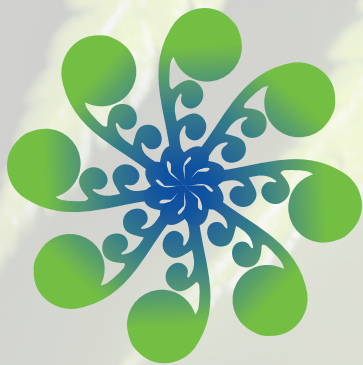


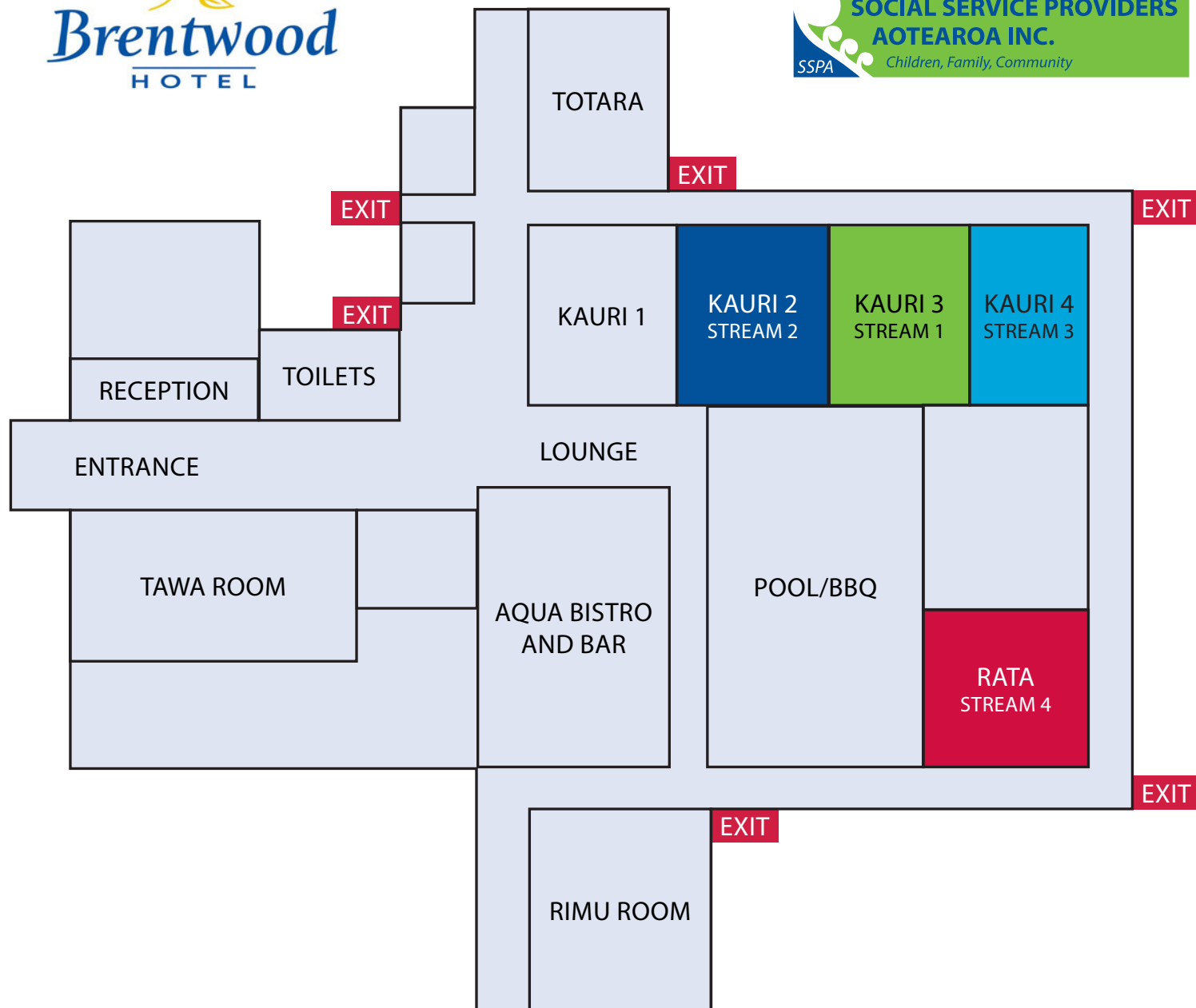


# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



## SSPA CONFERENCE 2012

*Improving Outcomes for Children and Whānau  
Management & Practice post the Green Paper*



Social Service Providers Aotearoa and the 2012 SSPA conference organising team gratefully acknowledge the support of this year's conference sponsors:



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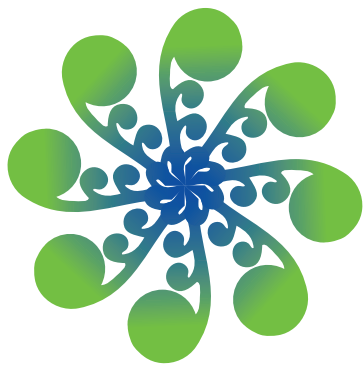
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**NAU MAI, HAERE MAI KI TE WHANGANUI Ā TARA**

**Welcome to Wellington**

**Tēnā Koutou, Kia Orana, Talofa Lava**

On behalf of Social Service Providers Aotearoa it is my pleasure to welcome all the delegates to the 2012 SSPA Conference 'Improving Outcomes for Children and Whānau - Management and Practice Post the Green Paper'.

We especially welcome our international visitors who bring new ideas and wider perspectives to issues for vulnerable children and families' wellbeing. We are grateful to the superb range of keynote speakers and workshop presenters who are generously giving their time and expertise. The concurrent workshops streams offer the chance to discuss in more depth the significant issues in our sector.

Our conference dinner will be an opportunity to renew contacts and make new ones, while we enjoy a succulent and colourful Pacific Island Feast, and be entertained by the dolcent harmonic blend of te reo Māori music presented by Brannigan Kaa and the soulful jazzy tones of Rocky Broughton and the Nick Granville Band.

Thank you to all who are here and for your commitment to improving outcomes for our children and youth. A special thank you goes to the SSPA Board and the conference organising team for all their hard work in preparing this event.

**Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa.**

**John Dickson**

Chief Executive Officer – Social Service Providers Aotearoa

**SSPA Board Members 2011 - 2012**

Trevor Batin – Waipuna Youth and Community Trust Christchurch  
Raewyn Bhana – South Auckland Family Violence Prevention Group, Auckland  
Paul Hooper – Family Works, Presbyterian Support, Dunedin  
Stewart Love – Youth Horizons Trust, Auckland  
Shane Murdoch – Cholmondeley, Christchurch  
Helen Sullivan – HELP Foundation, Wellington  
Maggy Tai Rakana – (Chairperson) START Inc., Christchurch  
To'alepai Louella Thomsen-Inder – Pacific Island Evaluation, Christchurch  
Irene Te Koeti – Family Works, Presbyterian Support, Southland, Invercargil

**Conference Organising Team**

Jo Paku  
Marama Jackson  
Jaci Brown  
Emma Smith – AV Media  
Rachel Johnson – Brentwood Hotel

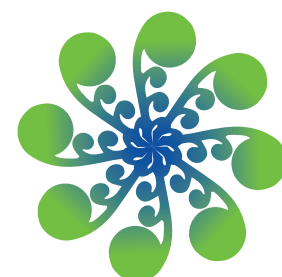


**[www.sspa.org.nz](http://www.sspa.org.nz)**



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Thursday, September 20 – Day One

Time	Programme			
9 am	<b>Powhiri Welcome</b>			
10 am	Whakawhanaungatanga Refreshments			
10.30 am	<b>Keynote address</b> Paul Nixon – Child Youth and Family <i>What will the white paper mean for Practice and Practitioners?</i>			
11.15 am	<b>Keynote address</b> Hon Paula Bennett – Minister for Social Development and Employment, Minister for Disability Issues, Minister of Youth Affairs <i>Better Protecting New Zealand Children</i>			
12 pm	Kai Lunch			
	<b>Stream 1 - Kauri 3</b>	<b>Stream 2 - Kauri 2</b>	<b>Stream 3 - Kauri 4</b>	<b>Stream 4 - Rata</b>
1 pm	Dr Jo Cribb and John Hancock – Office of Children's Commissioner <i>Expert Advisory Group to Child Poverty: Opportunities and Challenges.</i>	Geoff Lawson – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust <i>Doing better by them at the grass roots.</i>	Shane Whitfield – Te Puna Whaiora Ki Christchurch <i>Collaboration between NGO and statutory sectors to improve access to services for vulnerable children in a post-earthquake environment.</i>	Ken Clearwater – Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse Trust <i>Lifting the Lid – Looking back to go forward.</i>
2 pm	Alison Hudgell – FACS <i>Inter-agency Collaboration: Improving outcomes for families.</i>	Deborah Morris-Travers – Every Child Counts and Anton Blank – Te Kaahui Mana Riiriki <i>The business of getting it right for children.</i>	Lisette Rawson – Gateway Assessment Project Manager Child, Youth and Family <i>An interagency response for vulnerable children and young people.</i>	Helen Hall and Dot Greenfield – Yes to Youth Trust <i>Refocus: helping at risk young people make the transition to a positive adulthood.</i>
3 pm	Kapu Tii Afternoon Tea			
	<b>Stream 1 - Kauri 3</b>	<b>Stream 2 - Kauri 2</b>	<b>Stream 3 - Kauri 4</b>	<b>Stream 4 - Rata</b>
3.30 pm	Yvette Hobbs and Michelle Dunn – groupwiZe Danae Miller and Bruce Chetwin – Child Youth and Family <i>Facilitated Safety Planning: A collaborative, integrated approach.</i>	Tony Burton – Principal Advisor at Treasury <i>Income mobility in New Zealand: What was going on between 2002 and 2009.</i>	Hannah Cranston – Wellington Sexual Abuse Network <i>Successful collaboration promoting social change.</i>	Eva Scherer – Child Connection <i>Attachment Skills for ELC and Parents.</i>
4.30 pm	<b>Keynote address</b> Dr Catherine Love – Ahikaa Taranaki Whānau (PNBST) <i>The Rebel in Me</i>			
5.15 pm	Close of Day One			
5.45 pm	AGM			
6.15 pm	<b>Cocktails by the pool!</b>			
7.15 pm	Conference Dinner and Entertainment			
10 pm	<b>Po marie</b>			



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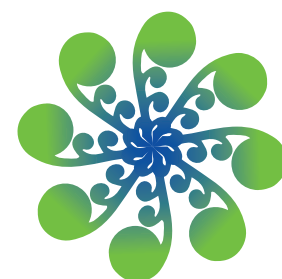
Friday, September 21 – Day Two

Time	Programme			
9 am	<b>Keynote address</b> David Hanna and Robyn Pope – Wesley Community Action <i>Becoming Client Directed and Outcome Informed - Tipping an organisation upside down... a work in progress!</i>			
9.45 am	<b>Keynote address</b> Brian Babington – Families Australia <i>The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children: Insight.</i>			
10.30 am	Kapu Tii Morning tea			
	<b>Stream 1 - Kauri 3</b>	<b>Stream 2 - Kauri 2</b>	<b>Stream 3 - Kauri 4</b>	<b>Stream 4 - Rata</b>
11 am	Jane Bisset – Life Community Services <i>A new way of doing family services.</i>	Navid Foroutan – Problem Gambling Foundation <i>Problem Gambling: the impact on vulnerable children.</i>	Judge Layne Harvey – Māori Land Court, Waitangi Tribunal <i>Vulnerable Māori Youth.</i>	Lyn White – WellStop Mel Calvesbert – Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP <i>Preventing sexual abuse of children in our communities.</i>
11.30 pm	Robin Schofield – Rock and Water NZ Ltd <i>Developing social competency skills, self-control, self-confidence for children and adults.</i>	Wayne Ferguson – Key Assets Fostering Team Parenting: <i>a partnership approach to building healthy attachments.</i>	Kelly Maung and Poto Williams – Auckland Council/ Waves Trust <i>Jack Cards – a collaborative approach to supporting children who experience witness family violence.</i>	cont... Lyn White – WellStop Mel Calvesbert – Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP <i>Preventing sexual abuse of children in our communities.</i>
12.30 pm	Lunch			
	<b>Stream 1 - Kauri 3</b>	<b>Stream 2 - Kauri 2</b>	<b>Stream 3 - Kauri 4</b>	<b>Stream 4 - Rata</b>
1.30 pm	Jeanette Clarkin-Phillips – University of Waikato <i>Early childhood Centres providing multi-agency services to vulnerable children.</i>	Tusha Penny – NZ Police <i>Insights from the Koru House project.</i>	Lesley Dixon and Alison Eddy – New Zealand College of Midwives <i>Trends in pregnancy registration – supporting optimal neonatal health.</i>	Guy Ryan – Inspiring Stories <i>Harness the power of storytelling for a better world.</i>
2.30 pm	Kapu Tii Afternoon tea			
2.45 pm	<b>Closing address</b> Mai Chen – ChenPalmer <i>Working with Government to improve outcomes for Children and Whānau.</i>			
3.30 pm	Evaluations			
4 pm	Close of SSPA Conference 2012 <b>Powaewae</b>			



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## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Paul Nixon** – Child, Youth and Family, Ministry of Social Development  
*What will the White Paper mean for Practice and Practitioners?*

Paul Nixon is Chief Social Worker for Child, Youth and Family, Ministry of Social Development and has worked for more than 20 years in Child Welfare and protection, always in a statutory setting. His previous job was as Head of Social Work for England's largest county North Yorkshire. Paul has only recently moved to New Zealand with his wife, Nici and their 3 children Carys, Haydn and Rhianna. Paul is originally from Wales but has always been interested and inspired by practice and innovations from New Zealand, particularly Restorative Justice, Whānau / kinship care and FGCs. Paul has written a number of books on Social Work and numerous articles and chapters. He has provided training and consultancy on Social Work around the world. He and his family are delighted to be in New Zealand



**Hon. Paula Bennett** – Minister for Social Development and Employment,  
Minister for Disability Issues, Minister of Youth Affairs  
*Better protecting New Zealand children*

Social Development Minister Paula Bennett will be speaking about information sharing and working together to better protect children. This speech comes just ahead of the release of the White Paper on Vulnerable children, which is due out in October. The White Paper is the culmination of an extended period of public consultation which resulted in nearly 10,000 public submissions to the Green Paper on Vulnerable Children. These submissions formed part of a robust, evidence-based policy process which has led to the White Paper on Vulnerable Children.

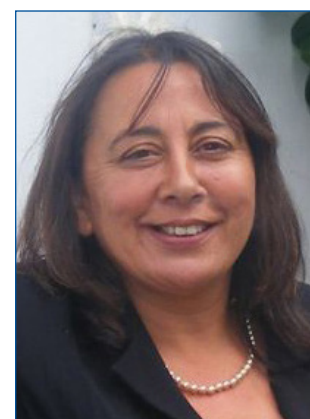


**Dr Catherine Love** – Ahikaa Taranaki Whānau (PNBST)  
*The Rebel in Me*

Dr Catherine Love is of Te Atiawa, Taranaki, Ngāti Ruanui and Ngā Ruahinerangi iwi. Catherine was Director of Indigenous Research and Development at Victoria University of Wellington, before taking up the position of National Manager for Entrepreneurship New Zealand in October 2008.

She has taught at Massey University, the Open Polytechnic of New Zealand and Victoria University for a total of over fifteen years. Dr Love is a Director of Metlife Care, Trustee of Palmerston North Māori Reserve Lands Trust, multi-iwi negotiator for the Port Nicholson Block Treaty of Waitangi claims settlement, member of the New Zealand Psychologists Board and Hutt Valley District Health Board.

Catherine committed herself to Entrepreneurship New Zealand and NFTE programmes after training as a Certified Entrepreneurship Teacher, and being involved in NFTE (NZ) pilot programme evaluations.







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## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

### **David Hanna and Robyn Pope**

– Wesley Community Action

*Becoming Client Directed and Outcome Informed - Tipping an organisation upside down... a work in progress!*

How does an organisation truly give effect to privileging the clients' voice and becoming the navigator, rather than the driver? Wesley Community Action has begun a process that puts the client at the forefront of every engagement - using the Client Directed Outcome Informed (CDOI) outcome measurement tools that international research has proven to be the best indicator of good outcomes for clients.

David Hanna and Robyn Pope will share this story, including what CDOI is and the research behind it - and raise some of the issues-both good and bad- they have encountered along the way- including desperately trying to hang onto a practice framework that challenged a lot of what they thought they knew and realising that for this to truly occur, the organisation would need to be tipped on its head.



### **Brian Babington – Families Australia**

*The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children: lessons from the first three years.*

In 2009, the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020 was adopted by all Australian Governments with the support of the NGO sector. It is Australia's first ever national plan designed to tackle child abuse and neglect. Many lessons have been learned that may be relevant to other countries which are charting, or considering devising, national approaches to child protection and wellbeing, particularly relevant in light of the NZ Government's Green Paper for Vulnerable Children.



### **Mai Chen – ChenPalmer**

*Working with Government to improve outcomes for Children and Whānau.*

Mai Chen will talk about how social service providers can work with Government to help influence law and policy to improve outcomes for children and Whānau. Mai will talk about some of the tools set out in her recently published book, Public Law Toolbox, which helps organisations understand how they can be influential through understanding how government really works and applying the Public Law Toolbox approach. She will also draw upon her recent experiences including representing Te Kohanga Reo National Trust Board at the Waitangi Tribunal.





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## ABSTRACTS – CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Thursday 20 September 1pm – 2pm

### Stream 1 KAURI ROOM 3

Dr Jo Cribb and John Hancock – Office of Children's  
Commissioner

*Expert Advisory Group to Child Poverty: Opportunities and  
Challenges.*

Complex, seemingly intractable problems require innovative policy-making approaches in order to address them. One such complex problem is that of child poverty, an issue which encompasses a multitude of social, environmental and economic considerations across variety of sectors - social security and welfare, health, education, fiscal policy and so on.

The Children's Commissioner has identified child poverty as an area of priority during his term. He has accordingly established an Expert Advisory Group on Solutions to Child Poverty to produce a report that recommends both short-term and long-term solutions for reducing child poverty in New Zealand. The Expert Advisory Group has been drawn from a diverse group of eminent New Zealanders from academia, the professions, the business sector and the non-government and community sectors. It is an example of a cross sector approach and commitment to developing policy that addresses a highly complex issue involving multi-systemic concerns and challenging socio-economic and political considerations.

This presentation will provide an overview of the Expert Advisory Group's methodology, work to date and the challenges it faces, as an example of a cross-sector policy development model that seeks to achieve innovative, workable policy solutions to one of the most challenging social issues that New Zealand currently faces.



### Stream 2 - KAURI ROOM 2

Geoff Lawson – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust

*Doing better by them at the grass roots.*

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) is a charitable trust operating throughout New Zealand providing information, support, advice and advocacy to grandparents raising grandchildren. GRG was founded in 1999 and now has over 5,000 members and operates 48 support groups from Kaitaia to Invercargill.

Operating for over 13 years has taught us many things but the essence of what we have learnt is this:

***Grandparents raising grandchildren need grass-roots support in the area in which they reside.***

This support needs to be practical, easily accessible, local and provided in a safe, secure, caring and non-threatening environment.

This presentation outlines provides a brief history of the organisation, identifies the key needs of grandparents raising grandchildren and provides an innovative framework for doing a better job in meeting those needs.







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## Stream 3 - KAURI ROOM 4

### Shane Whitfield – Te Puna Whaiora Ki Christchurch

*Collaboration between NGO and statutory sectors to improve access to services for vulnerable children in a post-earthquake environment.*

Following the Christchurch earthquake a number of both NGO and statutory agencies found themselves without buildings and “forced” into shared spaces and adlib use of resources. This resulted in a number of hubs being set up around the city to 1) House a number of essential services and; 2) Improve access for people needing the range of services.

Te Puna Whaiora Children's Health Camps (TPW) and Child Youth and Family (CYF) are amongst several agencies that were lucky enough to take up residence at Nga Hau E Wha National Marae. These two services had already begun to forge a close working relationship particularly at a national level, including TPW becoming a partner in the differential response model, and korero had started at a more local level as to how to work together more closely and in turn support the large proportion of work CYF were dealing with that was better suited to a community response.

The goal of the collaboration work was to increase knowledge about each other's role when working with families; build frontline relationships and increase opportunities for training and other shared exercises; and primarily to enhance the responsiveness of services to children and families in our community, as well as ensure we are promoting early intervention with families before they come to the attention of CYF for more substantial care and protection concerns.

This presentation will discuss the steps taken to promote the collaborative approach and successes and challenges associated with this from both sides of the partnership.

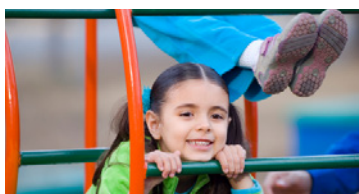


## Stream 4 - RATA ROOM

### Ken Clearwater – Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse Trust

*Lifting the Lid – Looking back to go forward.*

Is this the last taboo, male victims of childhood sexual abuse? There has always been services, advocacy and research for female victims of sexual abuse. There has never been any research done in New Zealand for male survivors of childhood sexual abuse until this year. How prevalent is it and what is happening in New Zealand for male survivors? Statistics show our prisons and our mental health system is over represented with men who have suffered sexual abuse in childhood, many while in “care” of the State. Where does New Zealand fit and what is happening with the rest of the world? Ken has worked with and advocated for male survivors of childhood sexual abuse since 1996. This presentation will cover past and present issues and where to from here for the future and safety of New Zealand children. “Challenging the Silence” of adult survivors to allow our children to have a voice.





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Thursday 20 September 2pm – 3pm

## Stream 1 - KAURI ROOM 3

**Alison Hudgell – FACS**

*Interagency Collaboration Improving Outcomes for Families - Strengthening Families*

Alison has worked in the social services sector for 30 years in a variety of roles from the frontline through to service management, training, lecturing and, later, in consultancy roles. Alison has significant experience internationally and in NZ in developing and implementing multi-agency practice and systems so that children and their families are better off.

Strengthening Families (SF) as a successful interagency collaborative partnership that improves outcomes for vulnerable children/young people and their families.

Strengthening Families (SF) is a service co-ordination mechanism that operates across the education, health social services and justice sectors. The primary focus of SF is on case coordination for families where more than one agency is (or should be) involved. It is a successful model that has become well established and accepted in communities throughout New Zealand.

Its early intervention/prevention focus means SF is effective at addressing the needs of families that have been identified by frontline workers. Interagency collaboration is a critical success factor. The SF process enables agencies and organisations to work together at the management and the family case coordination process levels to deliver co-ordinated services and improve outcomes for families.

Recent evaluations show that a significant majority of families who take part in Strengthening Families case coordination view the process very positively. Between 70-80% of families considered that better outcomes were achieved by the process, said that they would use the process again, and said that they would recommend it to other families. Frontline staff taking part in the case coordination process also report positive outcomes in developing good networks and relationships.



## Stream 2 - KAURI ROOM 2

**Deborah Morris-Travers – Every Child Counts**

**Anton Blank – Te Kaahui Mana Ririki**

*The business of getting it right for children.*

1000 days to get it right for every child: Every Child Counts\* is campaigning for more effective investment for children in the first 1000 days of life and encouraging all New Zealanders to understand they have a part to play. Their economic analysis shows that poor outcomes for children cost the nation at least \$8bn per annum – reinforcing the message that all of us will benefit when children are healthy and well educated.

As part of the campaign, Every Child Counts is working to engage the business community to help improve outcomes for children. What role do businesses have in this effort? And what can we learn from them to strengthen our own work for children and families?

\*Every Child Counts is a coalition led by Barnardos, Plunket, UNICEF, Save the Children and Te Kahui Mana Ririki working to increase the status and wellbeing of New Zealand children.





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## Stream 3 - KAURI ROOM 4

**Lisette Rawson – Gateway Assessment Project Manager Child, Youth and Family**  
*An interagency response for vulnerable children and young people.*

Children and young people who come into the care of Child, Youth and Family are some of New Zealand's most vulnerable children. Often the complexity of issues they face means that no single agency is able to provide the full package of support, care and services they require. In May 2011, the Government announced a \$43m funding package to improve services for children in care. This included funding for Gateway Assessments, the provision of primary mental health service and the expansion of intensive clinical support services.

Gateway Assessments are an interagency programme of work between Child, Youth and Family and the Ministries of Health and Education. Primary mental health services are currently being established across New Zealand for children and young people that have had a Gateway Assessment. In addition, four intensive clinical support services will be established in areas that currently have no services.

A Gateway Assessment is available for children and young people coming into care, in care or being referred for a Family Group Conference. This group of children are a highly vulnerable group with increased physical, social and emotional health needs.

A child or young person that receives a Gateway Assessment will receive a comprehensive health assessment and education profile and be referred to the right services to address their needs. Identifying and responding to children and young people's health and education needs is a critical step in enabling them to thrive.



## Stream 4 - RATA ROOM

**Helen Hall and Dot Greenfield – Yes to Youth Trust**  
*Refocus: helping at risk young people make the transition to a positive adulthood.*

The Green Paper and the associated changes to welfare support packages are leading to changes in the ways that social service agencies work with vulnerable young people. The Green Paper acknowledges that most children are vulnerable at some point of their lives, but that 15% of children are particularly vulnerable and, without significant support and intervention they will not thrive, belong or achieve. This paper presents a strengths based, holistic model for of social and youth work which helps build resilience in young people such as these and has proven successful with some of our most at risk young people.

Working with young people aged between 14 and 24 the model is designed to help them make the transition from childhood to adulthood, providing the support they often lack at home for them to grow into positive and contributing members of society. The social work model presented is unique in its focus on breaking the cycle of inter-generational dysfunction within families, changing young people's attitudes before they become parents themselves and building a new generation of youth who are physically, mentally and societally healthier. Strategies for working holistically with the family are explored including building a strong therapeutic relationship with the young person. Positive relationships help build self-esteem and resilience as the young person learns that they can overcome challenges, be stronger and more successful. The model also supports the family, helping develop strategies to manage teenage behavior in a positive way that helps the young person to grow and succeed.

This paper not only describes the model but also includes case studies from some of our most at risk families, demonstrating how taking a multi-disciplinary and planned approach to working with young people can make a real difference in their lives.







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Thursday 20 September 3.30pm – 4.30pm

## Stream 1 - KAURI ROOM 3

Yvette Hobbs and Michelle Dunn – groupwiZe  
Danae Miller and Bruce Chetwin – Child Youth and Family  
*Facilitated Safety Planning: A collaborative, integrated approach.*

Facilitated Safety Planning (FSP) was developed by Sonja Parker (Aspirations Consultancy, Western Australia), and is based on the Resolutions Model for working with denied child abuse (Hiles & Luger, 2006; Turnell & Essex, 2006). The model was originally developed to work towards reunification of family/Whānau, where child abuse concerns had been identified and children removed from parental care. There is a clear process that holds future safety as the bottom line.

FSP works using a comprehensive risk assessment framework, the Signs of Safety assessment and planning document (Turnell & Edwards, 1999), and involves everyone (family/whānau and professionals) in the risk assessment process.

The principals of FSP call all those involved, to share in the responsibility of ensuring safety for the children. The integration of services and the collaboration of the professionals, working in partnership with whānau, create community-based solutions for vulnerable children and their families.

Our presentation will discuss this practice model and our work across the Waikato region. We will present the FSP process and principals, as well as the specific tools that are utilized in our work with Whānau. We will also discuss some of the outcomes that have been achieved, as well as the learning's we have had in this work. Our hope is that the FSP model will become embedded in practice across New Zealand, and that there are more opportunities for children, family/whānau and communities to benefit from this innovative approach.



## Stream 2 - KAURI ROOM 2

Tony Burton – Principal Advisor at Treasury  
*Income mobility in New Zealand: What was going on between 2002 and 2009.*

Improving living standards for New Zealanders is the foundation of the Treasury's policy advice to the Government. This research on deprivation and income mobility was sponsored by Treasury to support our advice on reducing deprivation and promoting mobility for individuals to assist them to make the most of life chances. The work shows that focusing on current low incomes can miss a much richer story of how people's incomes change over time. The research, by Dr Kristie Carter and Dr Fiona Imlach Gunasekara of the Public Health Department at the University of Otago, examined longitudinal survey data collected in Statistics New Zealand's annual Survey of Family, Income and Employment (SoFIE). The research indicates there was substantial income mobility over the period examined with both upward and downward income mobility. For example, only a quarter (24%) of those whose income was assessed to be in the bottom income decile in 2002 were in that decile in 2009. For those in the top income decile at the start of the study, however, almost half (46%) were there in 2009.

These results are comparable to countries like Australia and the United Kingdom and are not explained by retirement from the paid workforce or entry and exit from education.





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## Stream 3 - KAURI ROOM 4

### Hannah Cranston – Wellington Sexual Abuse Network

*Successful collaboration promoting social change.*

Through working in collaboration with a range of partners on the “Who Are You?” project, the Wellington Sexual Abuse Network (WSAN) has achieved a wide sphere of influence over the nature and content of messaging and education aimed at eradicating alcohol facilitated sexual violence amongst young people in Wellington.

Through this collaboration, a true and effective community development strategy has been implemented across Wellington, aimed at changing attitudes and behaviors that support the prevalence of sexual violence in New Zealand.

This strategy has had a three-prong approach; radio, film and social media campaigns, educational tools for school age children and professional skill development for hospitality workers. At the core of the strategy is the concept of responsible citizenship and ethical by-standing, with a skill-based approach to education leading to real and sustainable social change.

WSAN's presentation will focus on the key elements of successful multi-agency collaborations involving commercial companies as well as public services, a description of the community development strategy and its successes with a presentation of quantitative and qualitative data and the screening of a short film.

Wellington Sexual Abuse Network (WSAN) is a collaboration of



Wellington Rape Crisis,  
Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP and  
WellStop

## Stream 4 - RATA ROOM

### Eva Scherer – Child Connection

*Attachment Skills for ELC and Parents.*

Eva Scherer, professional body worker and the owner of several Sports & Therapeutic massage clinics in Auckland in 2000 with like-minded professionals established Child Connection Trust, a registered charity. The aim of this organization is to introduce massage into the mainstream education system as a low-cost prevention for child abuse and family violence. Since then, her award winning Children Massaging Children (CMC) programme has benefited children in New Zealand as well as overseas.

Eva Scherer is a member of Massage Australia, Infant Mental Health Association NZ, Attachment Parenting International and Rotary club. She is also a mother and grandmother.

The growth of early childhood education services reflect social and economic changes, but can compromise children's needs for Secure Attachment. The Whariki Curriculum “level One” is about meeting individual needs which in the case of babies and toddlers is tuning and interaction with the primary caregiver in order to create Secure Attachment.

Quoting authority Sir Richard Bowlby: “The quality of this enduring primary caregiver/mother/child bond will have a significant impact on the child's developing personality and future social, emotional and mental wellbeing”. The main factor creating Secure Attachment is touch

Since 1998, Child Connection Trust has aimed to:

1. Educate Parents, ELC and kindergarten teachers about children's need for Secure Attachment
2. Teaches them specific skills supporting the creation of Secure Attachment

Two academic research papers (EIT & AUT) proves the efficiency of our programmes. During the presentation, as a part of explaining Secure Attachment, participants will have the opportunity to practice one of the processes that we teach in our course.





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Friday 21 September 11am – 11.30am

## Stream 1 KAURI ROOM 3

### Jane Bisset – Life Community Services

*A new way of doing family services.*

Jane Bisset is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation New Zealander who has worked within the education and social services sectors in Aotearoa for 25 years. She has worked in various environments, such as psychiatric hospitals, community services for people with disabilities, primary schools, special education, peer education, and parent and youth services. Jane is an educator at heart, believing that quality education empowers people with the knowledge and skills to manage their own lives. With this vision in mind, Jane began a new community service called Life Community Services in Hamilton in 2011, which has been immensely successful.

Knowledge is power – it provides the recipient with skills and choices. At Life Community Services we believe that the use of empirically proven parenting programmes alongside goal-focused collaborative in-home parent coaching as being the way forward for New Zealand families. We combine the Incredible Years Parent Programme with parent coaching and the results are stunning! Negative, anti-social behaviour from children decreases, and positive, confident parenting increases. We also utilise other empirically proven programmes for groups of primary and secondary aged students in order to promote healthy social skills and emotional intelligence. These programmes are Friends for Life & Fun Friends, and Rock and Water. We believe that the focus on positive strategies, rather than the problems the family or individual have, and the coaching support empowers our clients to achieve great results. For all of our programmes we have developed a Checkpoint system to support staff effectively undertakes this work, with great results. This system, and our programmes, will be explained in Jane's presentation.



## Stream 2 - KAURI ROOM 2

### Navid Foroutan – Problem Gambling

*Foundation Problem Gambling: the impact on vulnerable children.*

Gambling in New Zealand expanded rapidly from the mid-1990s to the mid-2000s. This growth was largely attributable to the increased availability of high-intensity forms of gambling, particularly non-casino gaming machines. The opening of New Zealand's six casinos between 1994 and 2002 was another factor. Much of the spending in casinos is also on gaming machines. For example, over \$206 million was spent on machines in the Auckland Casino in the year to 30 June 2011.

Problem gambling is a well-documented public health and community problem. The harm extends well beyond problem gamblers. Harm can persist for many years after the problematic gambling behaviour stops, and even beyond the lifetime of the problem gambler. Gambling has a major impact on the wellbeing of children and young people and the harm done to the children of problem gamblers can be particularly severe and long-lasting. The impact of depression and anxiety, suicidality, financial indebtedness, criminality, family disharmony and separation, poor physical and mental health, family violence, household stress, all have a significant and lasting impact on children.

The Problem Gambling Foundation's primary objective is to minimise the harm caused by problem gambling including the harm caused to children. It focuses on consumer protection and public health. The Foundation provides free counselling and support throughout New Zealand for individuals and families harmed by problem gambling. It also provides research, education, policy advice and public health services.

This presentation will outline some of the harms caused to children due to problem gambling and offer some policy solutions to minimize this harm at the national and societal level.







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## Stream 3 - KAURI ROOM 4

### Judge Layne Harvey - Māori Land Court, Waitangi Tribunal *Vulnerable Māori Youth.*

Ngāti Awa, Rongowhakaata, Te Aitanga a Māhaki, Te Whānau a Apanui, Ngāti Kahungunu

Judge Layne Harvey was appointed to the Māori Land Court bench in October 2002. He is the resident judge for New Plymouth, Hawera, Whanganui, Levin, Palmerston North, and Wellington, in the Aotea Māori Land Court District. He is based in Rotorua.

Formerly, he practised for 11 years as a lawyer in Auckland with Simpson Grierson and with Walters Williams and Company, where he became a partner. His work included acting for iwi and hapū in Waitangi Tribunal claims and settlement negotiations, providing general advice to Māori organisations, and working in trust law and iwi legal and post-settlement governance structures. Judge Harvey has also been a trustee of Māori land trusts, iwi authorities, and Māori reservations and has been a member of the council of Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangī since 1997.



## Stream 4 - RATA ROOM

### Lyn White – WellStop Mel Calvesbert – Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP *Preventing sexual abuse of children in our communities.*

The presentation will focus on the question: In order to stop abuse what is it that parents need know and do?

We know reported rates of sexual abuse have not decreased despite twenty plus years of prevention programmes.

Parents, caregivers and professionals we work with say they had no idea children could also sexually harm, or they believed that because their child had done a programme at school this would keep them safe.

Child sexual abuse prevention programmes which focus on the child being the one to say 'no, go and tell' form a part of the solution only but are often seen as being the solution. Unintentionally we have made children responsible for ending abuse.

Some of what we will discuss is: what makes it difficult to talk to children about sexual development; what is it that adults need to know about the way that people who abuse can groom them; the signs that abuse may be happening and why it can be so difficult for children to tell and what we can do about that.

The workshop will be most useful for those working with parents and caregivers.





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Friday 21 September 11.30am – 12.30pm

## Stream 1 - KAURI ROOM 3

**Robin Schofield – Rock and Water NZ Ltd**

*Developing social competency skills, self-control, self-confidence for children and adults.*

"The Rock and Water Programme empowers young and old using physical games and exercises to teach mental and social skills. The programme develops a strong notion of self-confidence, from where excellent social skills and inner strength are developed. The programme offers a framework of exercises and ideas to assist children and adults to become aware of their purpose and motivation in life. Rock and Water can be taught to individuals, whānau, in group settings, across the school curriculum...anywhere where human development is required! The nature of the programme and exercises are such that real connections are made between participants very quickly, helping to develop relationships as well as personal qualities such as self-control, self-awareness and ultimately self-realisation.



This seminar will look at the structure of Rock and Water, how it fits with our multicultural society and at some of the basic skills and the Rock and Water attitudes."

## Stream 2 - KAURI ROOM 2

**Wayne Ferguson – Key Assets Fostering**

*Team Parenting – A partnership approach to building healthy attachments with vulnerable children.*

Young people in foster care represent one of the most vulnerable groups within our society. Loss of relationships with significant individuals, frequent placement changes, changes at school, loss of belonging and community connections all contribute to disrupted attachments. Early childhood experiences and exposure to trauma also contributes to distorted attachment patterns and disrupted ways of relating. The provision of safe, nurturing and predictable attachment relationships is an essential requirement to promote healthy outcomes for children and young people in foster care.

This paper outlines our team parenting model of foster care and a relationship based recording tool targeting twenty key developmental assets. Focusing on developmental assets helps to nurture and build healthy attachments and increase resilience for vulnerable young people.

The team parenting model of foster care is a systemic approach based on research that indicates the need for a coordinated network of interlocking services to support both the carers and young people in foster care. Team parenting is a way of working together to create a therapeutic environment for children and young people *and supports foster carers to become central to the process of change*. Stability and containment in foster placements creates a context where positive attachments and trusting relationships are modeled and developed. This is essential as a basis for learning skills and engaging in healthy living experiences within a family setting.

A conscious shift in focus to supporting and recording the development of relationship between carer and young person creates an environment where positive change can be achieved. The recording tool targets twelve *external assets* that are wrapped around young people in care and eight *internal assets* that are nurtured and promoted through a daily life approach to foster caring.

I will outline the team parenting model and provide case examples and profiles from the recording tool that demonstrate the building of healthy attachments for vulnerable children.





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## Stream 3 - KAURI ROOM 4

Kelly Maung and Poto Williams  
– Auckland Council/ Waves Trust

*Jack Cards – a collaborative approach to supporting children  
who experience witness family violence.*

'Jack' Wallet cards started as a resource for Everyday Theatre Company to support the work they did in schools, by giving kids numbers and web addresses for services specifically for them.

Now used as a resource by Waitakere Police, Victim Support, Family Action and the Te Atatu Roosters Rugby League club, this is a relatively inexpensive but effective resource that has developed from an identified local need.



By leveraging off the services that access children in the home or in clubs; and training the attendants on the value of supporting children who experience and witness violence, this simple and effective intervention aims to start addressing the gap in provision of services to children. We would like to share how this work has developed and what feedback we are receiving from children who receive the cards.

## Stream 4 - RATA ROOM

cont...

Lyn White – WellStop

Mel Calvesbert – Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP

*Preventing sexual abuse of children in our communities.*

Lyn White is the Clinical Leader for the Youth and Children's Programmes at WellStop, a not-for-profit organisation that works with children and youth who have sexualized behaviours and their families, as well as adults who have sexually abusive behaviour. Lyn is passionate about WellStop's mission of enhancing community safety by working to prevent the next incident of sexual abuse. Lyn has a background in medical science, counselling and child and adolescent psychology. She has worked in the area of child and youth sexual abuse for over ten years and prior to this for a number of years in the domestic violence field.

Melanie Calvesbert is the Client Services Coordinator at the Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP Foundation, a community organisation that provides counselling and support for children, young people, adults and their families affected by sexual violence. Melanie is a social worker with 20 years' experience including 15 years in the sexual violence sector. She has also worked at WellStop and managing the Barnardos Specialist Family Home for young people who had done sexual abuse. Melanie has seen the damage abuse does to individuals, families and communities and so is strongly committed to taking the knowledge she has gained and using it to contribute to prevention that works.







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Friday 21 September 1.30pm – 2.30pm

## Stream 1 - KAURI ROOM 3

**Jeanette Clarkin-Phillips – University of Waikato**

*Early childhood Centres providing multi-agency services to vulnerable children.*

In spite of ten years of rhetoric about the need for greater collaboration between and integration of services for children and families to ensure better outcomes for children, policy makers continue to overlook local and international evidence for the obvious potential of early childhood centres. Ideas mooted in the Green Paper for Vulnerable Children and a recent taskforce about early childhood education about early childhood centres as community hubs could begin to realise this potential.

This presentation reports on some of the findings from a Teaching and Learning Research Initiative (TLRI) project exploring the engagement of families and whānau on their children's learning at a kindergarten in a community labelled vulnerable. This kindergarten was one of a pilot of eight Parent Support and Development contracts awarded to early childhood centres by the previous government in 2006-2009. The research explores the impacts on children and families learning and well-being through the provision of multi-agency services located at a kindergarten. Through the establishment of a Whānau Tangata Centre and in response to community decisions, the kindergarten has provided a range of services to support community aspirations. The findings from this research strengthen the argument for greater attention to be given to the place of early childhood centres as front-line entry points for access to multi-agency services. Drawing on findings from the TLRI and overseas examples, the presentation demonstrates the largely untapped resource of early childhood centres and asks that serious consideration is given to resourcing centres to provide multi-agency services. An untapped resource? Early childhood centers as multi-agency hubs.



## Stream 2 - KAURI ROOM 2

**Tusha Penny – NZ Police**

*Policing child protection in 2012 and beyond.*

Detective Inspector Tusha PENNY, National Manager of Child Protection and Sexual Violence will broadly outline the lessons that Police have learned from Operation Hope and the subsequent identification of national systemic failures with child abuse investigations. She will detail the changes in operational practice and management since 2009 and detail key aspects of the current work programme.

She will also talk about the Police focus on working in multi agency environments as the best practice approach of collaboratively investigating and preventing child abuse. Police now have three dedicated multi agency centres in Auckland, Counties Manukau and Wellington. In many of the other centres Police are looking for co-location facilities with CYF as this approach is having such positive returns for both agencies.

Detective Inspector PENNY has been in the Police for 21 years with much of that time spent in the Criminal Investigation Branch. She has worked in Gisborne, Auckland, Lower Hutt, Wellington and for the past ten months has been in the national manager role.





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## Stream 3 - KAURI ROOM 4

### Lesley Dixon and Alison Eddy – New Zealand College of Midwives

*Trends in pregnancy registration – supporting optimal neonatal health.*

Background: The Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee recommend that all pregnant women should commence maternity care before ten weeks gestation. Their data has highlighted higher perinatal mortality for women under 20 years and over 40 years of age. Early pregnancy registration provides an opportunity for screening for congenital abnormalities, sexually transmitted infections, family violence and maternal mental health. As well as increased opportunities for education about optimal nutrition, weight gain, smoking, alcohol and drug use and other behaviors which may have an impact on neonatal health and mortality.

Aim: This research has analysed the gestation at pregnancy registration for 81,821 women who registered with a midwife LMC between the years 2008 to 2010.

Methods: A retrospective observational study using aggregated clinical data from the Midwifery Maternity Provider Organisation (MMPO) database for the years 2008 to 2010. Gestation at registration and maternal demographics were examined to discern which groups of women were more likely to register early.

Findings: Over the three year period there was an increasing trend to earlier registration with 21.9% of women registering at 5 to 9 weeks gestation in 2008 to 29.7% in 2010. The majority of women continued to register between 10 and 14 weeks (41.6%) with a further 18.2% registering in the second trimester and 10.3% registering in the third trimester in 2010. Women of New Zealand European ethnicity had the highest rates of registering between 5 and 9 weeks, whilst Māori and Pacific Island women had higher comparative rates of registering after 15 weeks gestation. All age groups had increasing numbers registering between 5 and 9 weeks although the majority registered at 10 to 14 weeks. The under 20's age groups had the highest percentage of registration during the second trimester.

Conclusion: Health messages about early pregnancy registration need to be targeted to support earlier engagement in maternity care.



## Stream 4 - RATA ROOM

### Guy Ryan - Inspiring Stories

Inspiring Stories is based in Wellington, operating nationwide. Our vision is to harness the power of storytelling for a better world. Our mission is to showcase and celebrate New Zealanders taking action, leading change.

We believe the stories we tell define who we are as people, as communities, as a nation. Stories shape our attitudes and behaviour. They can give us hope and inspire action. If young people see other young people out there making a difference, and if they connect with that, it's more likely to shift their attitudes and what they are doing. It's just having access to these positive role models, because once you see what is possible your aspirations start to rise.





