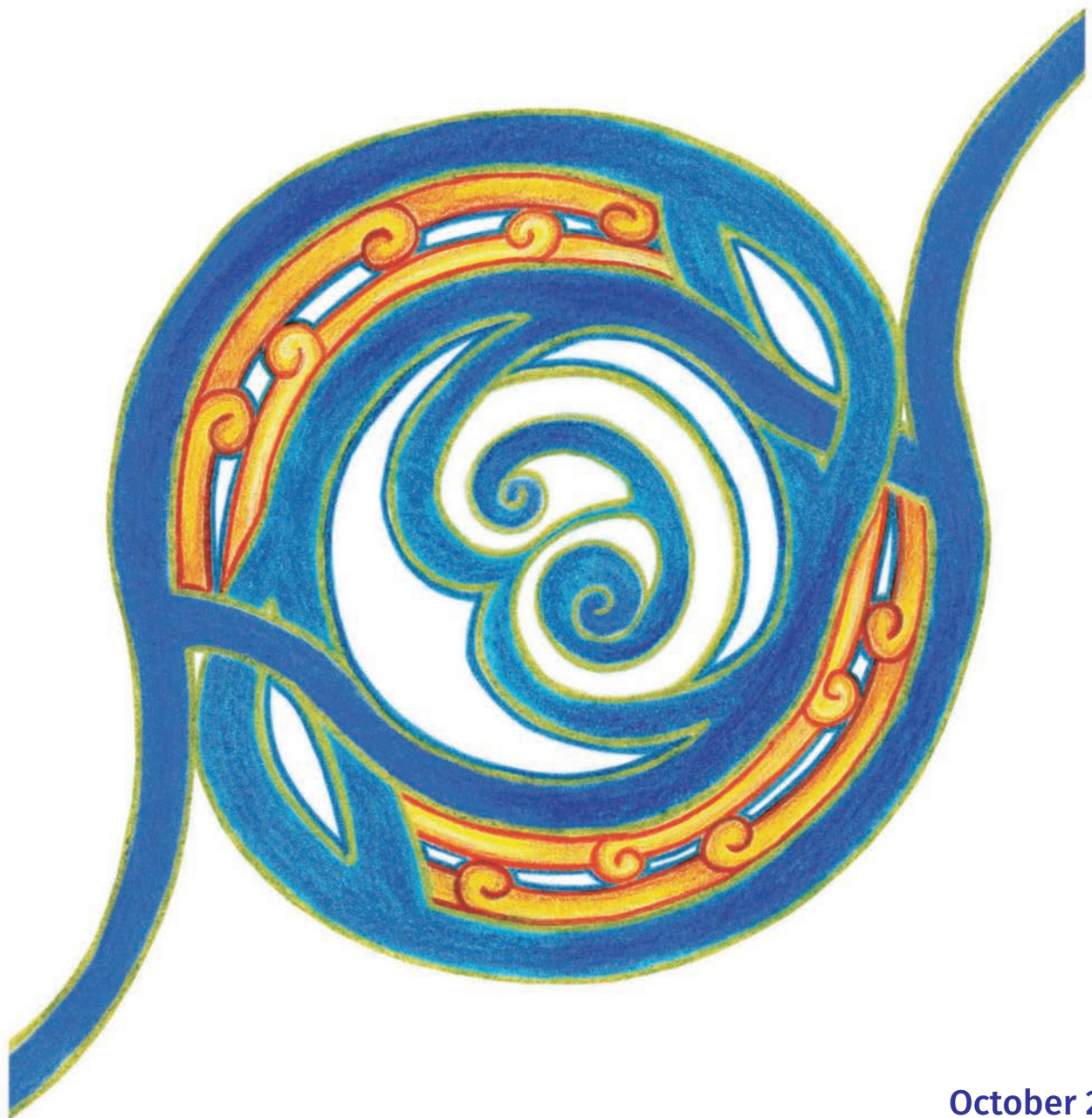




New Zealand
Family Violence Clearinghouse

OVERVIEW AND HIGHLIGHTS



October 2015

OUR LOGO

The image depicts an unborn child surrounded by whānau, hapū, iwi, communities and society as a whole. It reflects our values of nurturing families, whānau, and healthy relationships now and into the future.

ABOUT US

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse (NZFVC) is the national centre for family and whānau violence research and information. The Clearinghouse was launched in 2005 in association with Te Rito: New Zealand Family Violence Prevention Strategy. Te Rito was developed in 2002 as a plan of action to reduce and eliminate family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Clearinghouse has been hosted by the University of Auckland since 2011.

Our role is to provide access to high quality information about family violence, ways to most effectively respond to those affected by violence, and to promote understanding of ways to prevent violence.

WHO WE ARE

We're based at the School of Population Health at the University of Auckland. We are contracted to provide the service by the Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit (Superu).

Our project team has seven part-time staff, Co-Directors, Associate Professors Janet Fanslow and Robyn Dixon; Manager/Community Lead Nicola Paton; Information Specialist Gay Richards; Research Fellow Dr Pauline Gulliver; Information Assistant Claire Gear, and IT support Debra Warren.

This year we celebrate 10 years of facilitating access to up-to-date information to contribute to eliminating family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-DIRECTORS

We believe family violence is preventable, however this will require long-term commitment and sustained action across many sectors. Along the way, we will continue to need high quality responses to those who have experienced violence, and those who have perpetrated it.

Given both the complexity and the urgency of the problem, there is a critical need to ensure that we respond based on the best available information and evidence. This can save time and resources from being spent on activities that are detrimental or ineffective.

Information and evidence in the field is still emerging. Further research investment is required as we continue to work toward answers. In the meantime, we are committed to providing a platform for accessible, high quality information about what is currently known, and an 'institutional memory' for what has been tried in the past.

We are encouraged by the growth in use of the Clearinghouse services over the last four years. It is a strong indicator that the sector is developing an appetite and an aptitude for using evidence to inform policy and practice. The sustained growth and positive feedback from our stakeholders demonstrates that the information we provide is regarded as trustworthy and relevant.

We share the mission of the whole sector of eliminating family violence. The Clearinghouse has developed into a well-regarded, trusted source of information for the family violence sector and beyond. It plays an important role in supporting the vision of eliminating family violence from Aotearoa New Zealand. We look forward to consolidating and expanding the service as we move forward.



***Associate Professor
Janet Fanslow***



***Associate Professor
Robyn Dixon***

WHAT WE DO

Our website offers a searchable library database and downloadable Clearinghouse publications as well as current and relevant news, events, media coverage, and updates in the field. In addition to sourcing national and international content, the team produces papers, deliver lectures and develop research and resources for the family violence workforce.

We also maintain a specialist lending library, which includes books, DVDS, and other resources available for loan throughout the country.

We have an active community outreach programme, which includes participation in community and NGO forums, hosting and co-hosting seminars, and strategic engagement with key policy and practice stakeholders.

We respond to information queries from government and non-government agencies, the general public, the media and the academic community.

Our news service highlights current happenings in the family violence field, often integrated with access to related commentary, and key pieces of research.

We maintain an “Events” page providing timely information on local, national, and international conferences, symposia and training opportunities.

Our strong local connections, and our knowledge of current work in the family violence sector, help us to offer timely and relevant high quality information to the policy, practice and research communities.

Our aim is that families, whānau and relationships are healthy, respectful and free from violence. Our purpose is to provide access to high quality research and information on family and whānau violence.

“

“Family Violence Clearinghouse is a great service, with incredible resources allowing Refuges to keep up to date with best practice information and access resources on ways to work with particular client groups.”

- NZFVC User Survey respondent

“

“A wonderful service with very helpful and experienced staff who are always willing to help and refer me to the things I need to know about – a very valuable resource.”

- NZFVC User Survey respondent

“

“... a one stop shop for information, analysis and quality data on family violence. You can trust the information that is provided and be assured of its quality.”

- Online survey respondent, external evaluation

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR WORK

Since 2011, we've experienced exponential growth across all facets of the service.



More than 42,000 users accessed the service in the 12 months to June 2015.



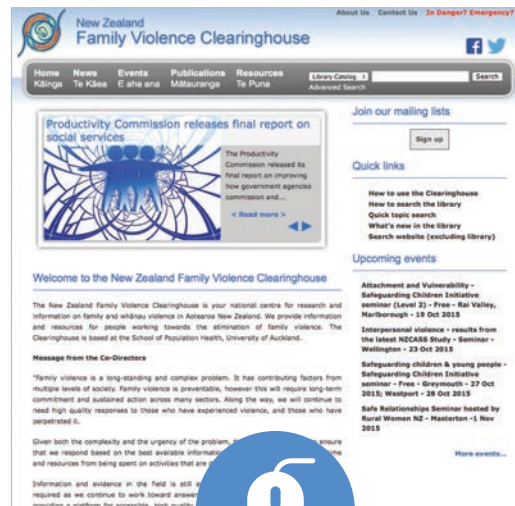
Our Pānui/Newsletter had 3346 subscribers as at June 2015, which is a **432% increase** since 2011. We also know the actual number of readers is exponentially higher than the number who directly subscribe, as the Pānui is widely circulated within services and through other networks.



Our hard copy library is also in demand. We've also seen increased library service use: 514 hard copy items (books, reports, DVDs and more) have been loaned out, and 1042 new records have been added to the library since we came on board.



We've introduced an initiative that alerts Clearinghouse users to news and events as they are posted on our website. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, confirming that alerts are a useful way to meet people's needs for information.



Over the past 12 months, we've written over 150 news stories for our website, highlighting new research, resources, policy, legislation and funding opportunities.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Over the past four years, the Clearinghouse has responded to almost 1,000 requests for information. We've initiated over 600 community engagement activities.

We build and maintain relationships with a multitude of players operating in the family, whānau and sexual violence sectors, including community agencies, healthcare and social workers, local council and central government agencies.

Recognising that everyone can have a role in preventing or responding to family and whānau violence, we've also reached out to allied sectors, including the alcohol and other drug (AOD) sector, general social services and legal professionals. This strategic activity helps foster shared understanding of complex and inter-connected issues, and contributes to our ability to build evidence-based solutions.

We provide access to research and information through personal meetings, online platforms, and email and telephone contact.

We have hosted heavily subscribed conferences and seminars featuring leading researchers and academics in the field, coming from many distinguished institutions and universities.

We've participated in over 200 community engagement activities over the last 12 months.

“

“My junior lawyer ... was very impressed and learned a great deal. You and your team should take great credit for the line-up and the venue and how smoothly and professionally the whole day was run.”

- Family Lawyer

PROVIDING RESOURCES FOR POLICY-MAKERS

Our expertise in the sector is sought by multiple ministries and agencies, including New Zealand Police, Ministries of Justice, Health, Social Development, and Women, the Family Violence Death Review Committee and ACC.

These connections are often at the agencies' request, seeking our knowledge and input.

Our knowledge in the field and ability to source information globally positions us well to be responsive to these needs. NZFVC team members have been invited to join advisory and steering groups for family violence work.

The Clearinghouse is also recognised internationally. In July 2015 Hon Fiona Richardson, the Victorian Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence and the Minister for Women, requested a meeting with us, in which we provided an overview of systemic responses to family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand and discussed potential future directions for the sectors in both countries.

As part of our service we compile and publish summaries of family violence statistics gathered from government and non-government agencies and research studies. The data summaries consolidate data from multiple sources into a clear, easily accessible and meaningful format. They are utilised widely by policy makers and practitioners alike.

Each year, we publish updated summaries plus a snapshot, a concise account of key data.

The five summaries published last year covered family violence deaths, violence against women, children and youth affected by family violence, child sexual abuse, and adult sexual assault – these were downloaded more than 1,000 times each. The snapshot was downloaded almost 2500 times.

WEBSITE

nzfvc.org.nz

There are between 150-300 visits to the website each weekday, with between 400-500 visits on the days in which the monthly newsletter is sent out.

Up to 650 visitors access the site on the days new NZFVC publications are released.

In the past year we've advertised around 120 local, national and international events including conferences, seminars, training opportunities and community events.

We've also sourced and published training and education pages on the NZFVC website, which provide information on training providers, tertiary education opportunities and online training in family violence.

We're active on social media and have achieved a 100 per cent increase in individuals/organisations that have 'liked' the NZFVC Facebook page since February 2014. Since this date we've achieved a 75 per cent increase in individuals/organisations that follow us on Twitter.

This online engagement continues to grow.

**More than
42,000 users
accessed the
website in the
12 months to
June 2015.**



"Awesome information – some inspiring commentary, up-to-date and smart."

- Website user



"I find this website extremely valuable – thank you for developing this essential resource."

- NZFVC User Survey respondent

ISSUES PAPERS

Each year we produce two 'Issues Papers' on topical issues which which are downloaded, read, distributed, studied and utilised by thousands. These papers contribute to the research-to-practice interface and contribute to building evidence based practice. Download numbers for all Issues Papers are below:

Issues Paper	Date published	Number of downloads to June 2015
1. Building collaborations to eliminate family violence: facilitators, barriers and good practice	March 2012	Over 4000
Plus: Tools to support multi-agency collaboration	May 2012	Over 2600
2. Measurement of family violence at a population level: What might be needed to develop reliable and valid family violence indicators?	June 2012	Over 3300
3. Understanding connections and relationships: Child maltreatment, intimate partner violence & parenting	April 2013	Over 4300
4. Policy and practice implications: Child maltreatment, intimate partner violence & parenting	April 2013	Over 3800
5. Effectively involving men in preventing violence against women	November 2013	Over 2500
6. Kaupapa Māori wellbeing framework: The basis for whānau violence prevention and intervention	April 2014	Over 5000
7. Intimate partner violence and the workplace	November 2014	Over 800
8. Creating change: Mobilising New Zealand communities to prevent family violence	May 2015	Over 500

Issues paper seven: Intimate partner violence and the workplace is an example of extending our reach beyond the traditional family and whānau violence sector. The paper received a positive response from business groups and the community. Here is what they said:



"This paper is very much appreciated and we congratulate the authors on their work in highlighting the key issues."

- President, professional association for business leaders



"We have found this paper incredibly useful and believe it will be relevant for many employers."

- Communications Advisor, National Council of Women

IN CLOSING

Over the years, the Clearinghouse has experienced record growth, a rise in service user statistics and we've received much praise for the high quality service we provide across multiple platforms.

We're pleased that we've been able to meet this increased demand while still maintaining the high quality of information provision on which we pride ourselves, and which is so valued by the sector.

We're delighted that the expertise we hold, and the information we are able to leverage, is recognised and utilised by such a wide and expanding range of policy makers, practitioners, researchers, the media and the general public.

We acknowledge the support of Superu, and we look forward to the activities and events ahead.



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