



Vision - Tūruapo

Mission - Whakatakanga

Values - Whanonga Pono

Companioning families and whānau

To be the arms of Christ by companioning families and whānau in communities

Whakapapa-Genealogy (Relationships Connections)

Whanaungatanga-Kinship (Embracing Relationships)

Aroha-Love (Relating to others)

Manaakitanga-Hospitality (Nurturing Relationships)

Kotahitanga-Unity/Solidarity (Unifying Relationships)

Ngākau Tapatahi-Integrity (Pure of Heart)



KEEPING HOPE ALIVE

Catholic Family Support Services is the Social Service arm of the Catholic Diocese of Hamilton. We provide a very unique wrap-around service that puts into practice the leadership of Pope Francis, working alongside and creating a safe environment for the poor and vulnerable families and whānau in our communities.

Our ultimate goal is to empower families and whānau to regain control of their own lives. We are committed to fostering independence and confidence. It is not about a "hand-out" but a "hand-up". We welcome and work with everyone.

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MANAGER'S KORERO



Kia ora koutou,

It's June already and we are half way through 2022. 24 June 2022, marks a very special occasion in Aotearoa, New Zealand as we celebrate Matariki, Māori New Year. It is also the first ever national public holiday of Matariki. Matariki is a time for celebration, growth and renewal. It is a time for whānau, families and friends to come together reflect on the year that has been, share kai (food), tell stories, waiata (sing), play music and remember those relatives, friends who have gone. There is no one way to celebrate Matariki, but here at Catholic Family Support Services, the team will share kai (food), and korero (talk).

The last five months have just flown by and the team have been busy working alongside our families and whānau. During this time our financial mentor team held approximately 366 sessions with people needing financial support and guidance; the family support team spent approximately 1317 hours with family and whānau in need (this includes supervised contact with their beautiful tamariki (children); and approximately 500 families and whānau directly and indirectly approximately 300 who needed basic resources such as food and clothing. It is anticipated that July and August will see the demand continue.

In May, the board and staff attended a Te Tiriti o Waitangi workshop, facilitated by the team from Groundworks. The purpose of the workshop was to build Catholic Family Support Services organisational capability to uphold and understand of they key aspects of Te Tiriti application, build cultural awareness, along with tools and guidance for taking Te Tiriti honouring action. It is through gaining an appreciation of Te Tiriti context, intentions and on-going significance that the board and staff are able to recognise its applicability in Catholic Family Support Services context. You will be able to read more about this workshop from our staff in the Mātauranga Māori (Māori Knowledge) page below.

27 July, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting, at the Catholic Family Support Services Hamilton office, at 11.30am, followed by a shared lunch. All are welcome attend. Please send your RSVP to Theresa 07 856 3760 or 0800 24 20 25 or admin@cfss.org.nz by Thursday 21st July, 12 noon for catering purposes.

Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi (with your basket and my basket the people will live).

Ngā manaakitanga (with best wishes)
Renee Rewi



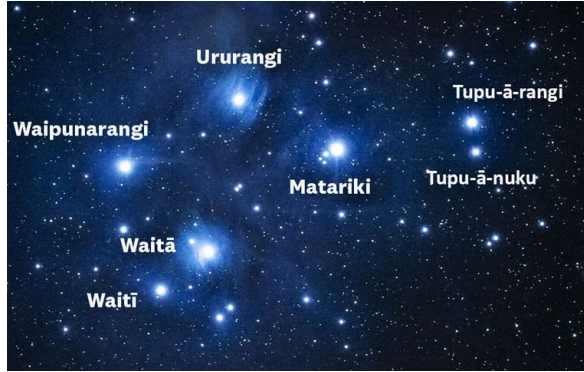


MĀTAURANGA MĀORI

Māori Knowledge



MATARIKI



This is a special occasion as it is the start of the Māori New Year. Matariki is the Māori name for the cluster of stars visible in our night sky at a specific time of the year. In June/July Matariki would reappear in the dawn sky signalling the start of the Māori New Year. Māori looked to Matariki for help with their harvesting. April/May was time to preserve crops for winter. June/July Māori would read the stars to predict the upcoming seasons. Clear and bright stars promised a warm and abundant winter while hazy stars warned of a bleak winter.

According to Dr Rangi Matamua, Matariki has nine visible stars, each star holding a certain significance over our wellbeing and environment.

1. **Matariki (Alcyone)** – the mother of the other stars in the constellation. Rehua (Antares) is the father but is not considered part of the Matariki constellation.
2. **Pōhutukawa** – connects Matariki to the dead and is the star that carries our dead across the year (Sterope/Asterope).
3. **Tupūānuku** – is tied to food that grows in the ground (Pleione).
4. **Tupūārangi** – is tied to food that comes from above your head such as birds and fruit (Atlas).
5. **Waitī** – is tied to food that comes from fresh water (Maia).
6. **Waitā** – is tied to food that comes from salt water (Taygeta).
7. **Waipunarangi** – is tied to the rain (Electra).
8. **Ururangi** – is tied to the winds (Merope).
9. **Hiwaiterangi/Hiwa** – is the youngest star in the cluster, the star you send your wishes to (Celaeno).



TE TIRITI O WAITANGI



Te Tiriti Workshop

On 26th May, our team participated in a workshop run by Groundwork on "Understanding and Applying Te Tiriti o Waitangi". Having been to other training on Te Tiriti in the past, I thought the facilitators did an excellent job in bringing fresh and updated perspectives on both past and current issues, as well as encouraging us to look at how we might apply our learning. There was a strong emphasis on moving away from a "bicultural framework" to one of recognising our responsibilities in building genuine and authentic relationships with Te iwi Maori, and working towards sharing power and decision-making. There was a shared understanding that the reo text of Te Tiriti was the underpinning text, and that the principle of "for Maori by Maori" was the direction in which the country was now moving to bring redress to the many injustices and inequities amongst Maori.

As a highlight, I gained some new insights into the historical and Te Ao Maori context in which Te Tiriti was signed, as well as into the various groups of people, motivations and dynamics that were in the mix at that time. We also looked at the ongoing colonial impacts for Maori, growing inequalities, institutional racism, enduring "myths", and monoculturalistic practices. I found it heart-wrenching as we reflected on what Aotearoa might have looked like now if Te Tiriti had actually been honoured? It could have been so different for us all if this had been the case, and especially for Maori! We wrapped up our training time with some fruitful discussion about what actions we could take to honour Te Tiriti individually and collectively. For me, it was a really significant time, and I felt that we were beginning a new Te Tiriti journey together as a team, which was a really hopeful place to move forward from....

By Sina Asomua-Bishop

Our team recently participated in Te Tiriti O Waitangi training, offered online by Groundwork. The course covered the topics Pre-treaty relationships, Te Tiriti context and content, colonisation and impacts and current issues and action. We all thoroughly enjoyed the training and have learned so much – highly recommended to all! It was great to have members of the board join in the training with us and discuss how we can implement Te Tiriti O Waitangi into our workplace and offer a better service to our clients.

I am personally very excited about the journey ahead, learning more about Te Ao Maori and participating in Te Reo classes. We have started sharing ideas and will be putting plans into place soon.

By Maria Henderson



SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER

We are looking for a Registered Senior Social Worker, who has proven experience in the field to help to lead a small team; experience in child protections practices and significant experience working with whānau with complex needs.

Key responsibilities include providing intensive wrap-around support to family and whānau with a focus on parenting help and strength-based practice. Tikanga Māori knowledge is essential.

The role also requires:

- Working one-one with whānau, families and children and young people
- Completing assessments/ plans alongside family/whānau
- Excellent relationship-building skills
- Ability to set clear boundaries, self-manage and be highly accountable
- Knowledge of family violence practice and/or trauma informed work
- Practical written and oral communication skills
- Ability to identify and understand the needs of our communities
- Understanding of tikanga Māori
- Competent crisis and risk management skills
- Ability to build effective working relationships
- Proven experience working in a bicultural and multi-cultural context.

You will need to have:

- Minimum of Level 6 Social Work Qualification
- Registered Social Worker with NZ Social Worker Registration Board
- Full NZ Drivers Licence (Clean - Class 1)

For a job description and an application form, please contact Graeme at graeme@cfss.org.nz

KAHUKURA - FINANCIAL AND WHĀNAU SUPPORT MENTOR

We are looking for a proven experienced/trained financial and whānau support worker, in the field.

The role requires:

- Providing specialist Financial Intervention (financial/budget support) and whanau/family support to families and whanau with complex need through intensive, individual case management;
- navigation, co-ordination of client needs; and
- capability building of Clusters of BFC Providers.
- Proven financial and budgeting skills and knowledge
- Proven family support skills and knowledge
- Evidence of excellent people and communication skills
- Ability to set clear boundaries
- Proven ability to self-manage and be highly accountable
- Organisational and negotiation skills
- Proven written and oral communication skills, sound computer literacy skills.
- Ability to identify and understand the needs of our communities
- Understanding of Tikanga Maori
- Competent and proven crisis and risk management skills
- Ability to build effective working relationships with clients, team and external agencies
- Strong communication and relationship management skills.
- Proven experience working in a bicultural and/or multi-cultural context.

You will need:

- FinCap Training (training can be provided if required)
- Full NZ Drivers Licence (Clean - Class 1)
- Minimum of 1-2 years field experience

For a job description and an application form, please contact Theresa at Catholic Family Support Services, ph. 07 8563760 - 0800 24 20 25 or admin@cfss.org.nz



Stories of Hope

We worked with a client who was substantially behind in their rent and owed approximately \$4,000.00. They worked and partner was a seasonal worker who was injured on the job and unable to work. ACC refused to help. Work and Income provided an Accommodation Supplement and Temporary Additional Support. However, they were unable to assist with food. Our client had also contacted a Community Agency who also said they did not meet the criteria for food assistance. Their budget worksheet showed a deficit, hence the large rent arrears. Besides Rent Arrears they had some other debts that they were also struggling to pay. Our client came for assistance with a Kiwisaver Hardship application. Their financial mentor went through the application and it was completed and lodged.

CFSS assisted with a food parcel for the family and mid December 2021 we were in a position to give our client a CFSS Christmas hamper. The client informed us that her hardship application had gone through, and with that and her partner return to work they were doing well financially. They were very grateful for the assistance from CFSS and realised that there were agencies prepared to help and that their initial reluctance to ask for help was unfounded.

TEAM NEWS

Waikato BFC - Network and Professional Development - 18 May 2022

Dianne LeBas (Team Leader) and Maria Henderson (Financial Mentor) attended the Waikato BFC Networking and Professional Development morning hosted by Hamilton Budgeting. There were three presentations that were useful to all Financial Mentors.

1. Debt Repayment Orders (DRO), Facilitated by Sandra Muirhead, who is the Waikato DRO supervisor. The DRO process involves applying to the Insolvency Trustee Service to negotiate, via the Supervisor, to repay unsecured debt at a reduced rate. This is done by offering so many cents in the dollar in repayment of debt. This process can take up to five years and at the end of the time, all unsecured debt is considered in full and final settlement.

2. Update on No Asset Procedures (NAP) and Bankruptcy Process. This was presented by Nicole MacKenzie who is a Senior Insolvency Officer with the Insolvency and Trustee Service. This presentation covered who the Insolvency Trust is, and how they help community people through the process. The NAP deals with debt up to \$50,000 (one year process) whereby this process is entered into when a person finds themselves in a position where they cannot pay debts as they become due. The same applied for the bankruptcy (three year process), and the dollar amount here is if you cannot pay back debt amounting to more than \$50,000.

3. Kaupapa Maori Power Company - "Nau Mai Ra". Presented by Ezra Hirawane who is the co-founder of Nau Mai Ra. This company received the 2021 Impact Award for Inclusion, a New Zealander of the Year nomination. This funding is available to support people, not only Maori, to receive cheaper power. Nau Mai Ra use a "pay it forward" model, whereby people who can afford power, pay extra to help those who have trouble paying for power. This scheme is available to everyone. This power option is now available in Northland, Auckland, Parts of the Waikato, Bay of Plenty, East Coast, Taranaki, Wellington, and Christchurch. More information can be obtained from the website - www.naumaira.nz. This is a fantastic new initiative to support people who cannot afford power.

By Dianne LeBas

Our team of Social and Whānau support workers provide intensive family support to families and whānau facing difficulties and challenges in their lives.

We have trained and accredited team members who can provide one on one or group sessions for families and whānau

Our team of Contact supervisors provide a safe environment where children can have contact with their parents, families and whānau.

Our team of Financial Mentors provide services to individuals, families and whānau to help manage financial hardships and achieve their financial goals.

Our team provides a holistic approach to build financial and social resilience. This service acknowledges that financial issues are not in isolation of an individual or family or whānau welfare and needs.

Our skilled team provides a money management programme.

Our team has access to and can provide food, clothing and other basic essentials to families and whānau in need.



CONFIDENTIAL

Catholic Family Support Services is taking referrals for those looking and needing family and whānau support. This is a home-based service that offers intensive wrap-around support including:

- help with parenting advice and information;
- accessing other services;
- advocating on behalf of family and whānau caring for children' – grandparents raising children and mokopuna;
- access to counselling services and more.

Catholic Family Support Services is taking referrals for those looking for support and guidance with financial matters and budgeting. Our Financial Mentors can help you, your family and whānau:

- deal with debt;
- advocate with debtors, agencies and organisations;
- support and help with your benefit entitlements and more.

Catholic Family Support Services is taking referrals for those people looking for family and whānau and financial support:

- need support with family and whānau matters;
- need support with finances issues;
- need someone to talk to

