



TUMANAKO TE ORA

Catholic Family Support Services Official Newsletter



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 about a "hand-out" but a "hand-up". We welcome and work with everyone.

CONTACT

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MANAGER'S CORNER

Tēnā koutou katoa

Nau mai, haere mai and welcome to Catholic Family Support Services, April 2021 Easter edition of Tūmanako te Ora. A lot has happened over the past couple months since our last newsletter ranging from business as usual to COVID-19 and Alert Level changes.

Unfortunately, our Whānau Gala and Cat Show was a casualty of COVID unpredictability but we will be back just at another date and time, so watch this space. We were invited to hold a sausage sizzle fundraiser at the Waikato March for Life event. The March started at Memorial Park heading towards, across Claudelands Bridge and down Victoria Street to Victoria on the river for speeches. The March supported all areas of life, from conception till natural death; for the poor and the vulnerable; families and whanau; for women; for those trapped in modern-day slavery such as prostitution and human trafficking; for the elderly; for an end to abortion and for the rejection of euthanasia. The day was well attended and it was a lovely to be part of the event, out amongst the community and sharing our services mahi (work).

We also celebrated the success of one our team members Mututanga Davis in gaining her Social Workers Registration. Changes to the Social Workers Registration Act 2003 meant that all people practising as Social Workers needed to be registered with the Social Workers Registration Board from 27 February 2021. Mututanga started working for Catholic Family Support Services in March 2015 as a Family Support Worker and later as a Financial Mentor in 2017. In 2019, Mututanga was seconded to the Kahukura role, to provide specialist financial intervention and navigation support (family support) to families and whānau with complex needs. We are all very proud of her achievements and she shares a little bit later on.

In March, we welcomed the newest member Maria Henderson (Financial Mentor) to the team and who will introduce herself further on. So keep tuned. Sadly, we also farewelled two of our staff members, Sophie Faulkner and Maria Langenhoven who we wish all the best in their new endeavors and journey. We are currently recruiting for these roles.

April and May is stacking up to be busy time as we move into autumn and winter months and new challenges arises. So on that note, I would like to leave you with the following:

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

Wishing you all a very happy Easter

Ngā manaakitanga (with best wishes)
Renee Rewi





SERVICES

FAMILY SUPPORT

Our team of Social and Whānau Support Workers providing intensive family support to families and whānau facing challenges in their lives.

SUPERVISED CONTACT

Our team provide a safe environment where children can have contact with their parents, family and whānau.

FINANCIAL MENTORING

Our team of Financial Mentors working with individuals, families and whānau to help manage and achieve their financial goals.

BFC KAHUKURA

Our team provides a holistic approach to build financial and social resilience. This service acknowledges financial issues are not in isolation of individual's social welfare and needs.

BASIC RESOURCES

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

PROGRAMME

Our skilled team run money management programmes.



Stories of Hope

Sadly, many of our families and whānau seek our assistance when they are at crisis point and cannot find their way through their financial problems. This is the situation for one family, who were overwhelmed by their debts. The couple came into the office clearly frustrated, stressed and anxious. During the korero (talk) the male dropped his head into his hands and said "Please help us. We don't know what to do". The answer to the question what is your first priority that you need support with was simply one word "Food". We offered them kai (food) while we continued the korero (talk). Their Financial Mentor scheduled one month of food parcels to the family as a starting point. The next step was to look at their income, expenditure as their weekly income did not cover rent, power and these were in arrears.

The couple were supported in accessing their correct entitlements and applying for arrears financial assistance with Work and Income. Further advocacy support was provided to address the issue of full access to shared power arrangements with the property manager. The couple also registered for job services and the male secured mahi (work).

The couple are feeling positive about their financial situation and are hopeful about their future prospects.

Financial Mentor Team



2021 Upcoming Events

Keep an eye out for our upcoming Quiz Night event. For more information visit our website cfss.org.nz or follow us on Facebook

TEAM NEWS



Mututanga Davis (Kahukura) and Renee Rewi (Manager)



INTRODUCING

MARIA HENDERSON
Financial Mentor



Nga mihi ki a koutou katoa.

It is with pleasure that I announce I am now a fully registered Social Worker at Catholic Family Support Services. To further enhance my social work practice I have also obtained my Practicing Certificate, which is issued by the Social Workers Registration Board that confirms I can legally practice social work in Aotearoa New Zealand.

I am a member of Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers (ANZASW) which is the professional body for Social Workers.

I wish to acknowledge the support of all those people including my Manager and colleagues at Catholic Family Support Services for their support and encouragement on my journey to full registration.

Whiria te whanau, whiria te mauri ora o te whanau
Weaving the whanau together, promotes whanau well-being

Mututanga Davis



Kia Ora,

My name is Maria Henderson and I am from a little town in the beautiful North, Whangarei. I recently moved to Hamilton with my partner and have started with the team here at Catholic Family Services as a Financial Mentor.

I have been working as a Financial Mentor/Seniors Community worker at Anglican Care Centre in Whangarei, completing my Fincap Training as a Financial Mentor in December 2020. Prior to this I was employed as a Youth Coach at People Potential, Youth Service for 8 years. In this role I mentored at-risk young people and young parents aged between 16 and 20 years old and in receipt of a benefit.

I am thoroughly enjoying my work so far at Catholic Family Support Services and the wonderful people that I work with. I'm very excited and look forward to getting to know everyone and meeting and working with my new clients.





CURRENT VACANCIES

SOCIAL WORKER/COUNSELLOR HAMILTON

The role involves providing effective support to family and whānau referred to our services using the principles that guide our practice.

We are looking for an experienced registered Social Worker and/ or Counsellor.

The role requires:

- Working one-one with whanau/families /children and young people;
- Completing assessments/plans alongside family/whanau;
- 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 Maori
- Competent crisis and risk management skills
- Ability to build effective working relationships
- Proven experience working in a bicultural and multi-cultural context.

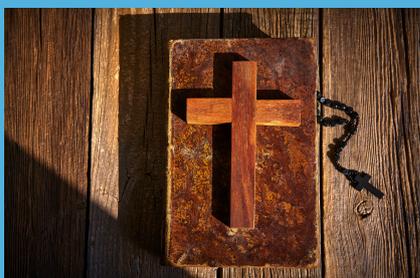
You will need to have;

- Relevant experience and a Social Work/ Counselling qualification.
- Full NZ Drivers Licence (Clean - Class 1)

If you would like to be part of our team, learn on the job and share your knowledge and experience, then we would love to hear from you. For a job description and an application form, please contact Graeme at Catholic Family Support Services, ph. 07 8563760 or graeme@cfss.org.nz

Visit our website:

<http://www.cfss.co.nz/job-vacancies.html>



Free Family and Whānau Support

Catholic Family Support Services is currently taking referrals for those looking for 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 with managing behaviour and care of children;
- Support for extended family and whānau caring for children; and
- Access to counselling service



Free Financial Mentoring Support

Catholic Family Support Services is currently taking referrals. Do you need support with your budget? Are you finding it hard to make ends meet?

Our Financial Mentors can help you:

- deal with debt;
- advocate;
- support you in speaking to other agencies and organisation about debt; and much more



CATHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

**CAN HELP YOU
CALL US TODAY**

07 856 3760

