

SUPPORTING OUR OLDER PEOPLE DURING THIS TIME:

- Reach out to the older people you know. Call them for a chat and ask if they need any help to run get groceries or medication. A daily call will lift their spirits while house-bound.
- Contact your local Age Concern and register to help the clients they work with who need extra support. They can then link you with an older person in need of help or a friendly call.



PRAYING FOR CHILDREN

St Cuthbert's Junior school in their JAM (Jesus and Me) classes used the Praying for Children resources developed by the Presbyterian Children & Families Ministry team and Presbyterian Support NZ. The students wrote out their prayers and created a beautiful display in their classrooms. The Praying for Children resources this year focused on Sowing Seeds of Love.

If you missed out on the resources here are the links below for the blog written by Rev Roxy Gahegan:

<https://prayingforchildren2020.wordpress.com/blog-2/> or visit <https://pcfm.org.nz/>



FOODBANK



We need your help, especially during this time and leading up to Christmas. Demand is high, with many families struggling to pay bills through loss of employment and reduced working hours.

We are grateful for all financial donations and donations of non-perishable food items for our Foodbank in Grafton, Auckland.

Check out the website for more information: <https://www.familyworksnorthern.org.nz/services/emergency-foodbank>

GOOD IDEAS!

Bring the community together!

Library shelves for your neighbourhood or street

What other good ideas do you have?

Email us as we would love to know.

Cindy.Jang-Barlow@psn.org.nz



Contact details:

Anne Overton, Community Relationship Manager

Presbyterian Support Northern, PO Box 99890, Newmarket, Auckland 1149.

E: anne.overton@psn.org.nz P: 09 520 8624 M: 027 520 8653.

Or visit www.psn.org.nz for more information or to download more copies.

Community Connections

Spring 2020

Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord who has compassion on you

Isaiah 54:10 NIV

Ko ngā maunga hoki ka riro ke, ko ngā pukepuke ka nekehia atu; tēnā ko toku aroha e kore e rere ke i a koe, e kore ano e nekehia ketia te kawenata e mau ai tāku rongō; e ai ta lhowa e atawhai nei i a koe.

THE JUSTICE MODEL IN ACTION

Imagine receiving \$500 unexpectedly! What would you spend it on?

For many families who live on a tight budget it would be a 'gift from heaven'.

Recently, our Family Works Area managers and staff were having that exact conversation with a small number of families discovering what they would spend \$500 on.

Some extra government funding had come available to each of our Family Works sites and our managers and their teams were grappling with ideas as to what would make the greatest impact for each of the families. Would families waste the money? Wouldn't it be better if we just gave them food vouchers? In the end the teams agreed that the families would make good decisions. The result was amazing!!

This was about giving people a chance to come up with their own solutions instead of someone deciding for them. One mum bought a dryer, she had spent a lot of money and time at the laundromat and having a dryer at home was transformational for her.

Then there were the grandparents who were able to buy single beds for each of their grandchildren who are living with them. However, they didn't buy new beds instead they bought second hand beds and wanted to give the rest of the money back. We suggested they use it to buy new linen.

Other families were able to service their cars, get a warrant, pay the car registration, which meant they were legally able to drive their children to school. Other families paid sport fees and purchased sports equipment so their child/children

could participate in after school sports. So often there is not enough money to go around for after school sports. Others worked with our Financial Mentors to reduce debt. The money brought about social transformation for these families. We trusted them to make sound decisions and they came up with amazing ideas that would benefit them. We could have made a different decision based more on the 'charity model' and given the families food vouchers but this was so much more empowering and long lasting. Imagine how those children, their parents, grandparents are feeling now! This is the 'justice model' in action.



WHAT'S ON

Wednesday 25th November

White Ribbon Day

White Ribbon Day is a chance to raise awareness that family violence is not okay.

Read the chapter on family violence in the Justice & Action book and become better informed and resourced as a church.

For resources contact
anne.overton@psn.org.nz, 09 520 8624

Shine: www.2shine.org.nz

White Ribbon campaign: www.whiteribbon.org.nz



Thursday 1st October

International Day of Older Persons



It's a time for everyone, families and organisations to acknowledge and say thank you for the huge contribution older people make to communities throughout New Zealand. Spend some time with someone over the age of 75.

Listen to their stories and words of wisdom. Initiated by the United Nations and celebrated around the world.

www.un.org

Saturday 12th September

Sign up!

Auckland Christmas Shoebox

It's time to plan for Christmas gifts for the Auckland Christmas shoebox!

Join us to help bless a child - Click on the link and sign up! The site will be ready for sign-ups on the 12th of September.

<https://www.shoebboxchristmas.co.nz/>



HOW DO WE MODEL INCLUSION AND EQUITY TO OTHERS?

"Men are probably more physical than women."
"She did not have control over her own emotions."
We know that you value compassion, love and justice for others, when talking or hearing about domestic violence and abusive relationships we tend to focus on the violence, and view it as a one-time event. However, there are many factors in which society and each individual plays a role. We want to highlight an important side to the White Ribbon campaign which is the language we use when we talk about gender roles and gender stereotypes.

This has a lasting impact on our community, especially amongst our younger generations. How do we model inclusion and equity to others?

A gender stereotype is a generalised view or preconception about attributes, role or characteristics that are or ought to be possessed by women and men.

"We believe that changing these attitudes and beliefs is a critical and necessary step towards eradicating domestic abuse. This is the reason we feel that it is important to understand the relationship between gender and domestic abuse."



Gender and domestic abuse - <https://www.2shine.org.nz/gender-and-domestic-abuse>



Popular sayings such as "boys will be boys", can be read as boys or men should take control and be able to do anything and get away with it. Sayings such as "girls are too sensitive" can be read as girls should be passive and accommodating."

While the intentions may not be this, our words can create a ripple effect of lower confidence and self-worth in our community and neighbourhoods.

What can we do as a community and society to better support children impacted by family violence?

How might we ensure issues around gender equity are better addressed in family violence work?

Understanding domestic violence and reflecting on our own attitude is one of the first steps in collectively making a change. Awareness is really important, we need to educate ourselves and create safe spaces for everyone. This is one of the best ways to fight against domestic violence, as well as looking out for those around us.

Using physical violence to solve problems is not acceptable and it is never right to use violence. Let us begin to create an environment of stories about keeping our whānau cared for and nurtured so that others may flourish and enjoy the fact that our stories could give courage and inspiration.

Ko tau rourou ko taku rourou, ka ora ai te iwi
'With your knowledge and my knowledge together all people will grow'

At PSN we have support systems in place, please contact Shine: www.2shine.org.nz
Call the nationwide number: **0508 744 633**, available **7 days a week**.
White Ribbon campaign site: www.whiteribbon.org.nz



Cindy Jang-Barlow
Community Relationship Advisor