



Catholic Social Services

Te Kupenga o te Atawhaitanga

Newsletter June 2017

Providing:

- Counselling and Social Work
- Community Educational Programmes
- Prison Chaplaincy,

Kia Ora, Greetings

In 2016, Catholic Social Services with your support was able to provide services to families, children and individuals who are living on the street, being evicted from their homes, who have lost their job, experiencing domestic violence, poverty, depression, stress and other types of mental health and social issues. Clients being helped over the last six years has been a steady trend with numbers slightly decreasing from 2015 and yet still more than 2014 (refer Chart 1)

Chart 1: Client Numbers 2012-2016

This newsletter is dedicated to the poorest people in New Zealand. Children whose family are living on WINZ benefits and children who have suffered a loss.

Last year we provided to 170 families with children. This number has increased every year since 2012. Over the last five years, the main service need has been providing to

clients with mental health issues which may have resulted from poverty, parenting, domestic violence and relationship break downs (refer chart 2).

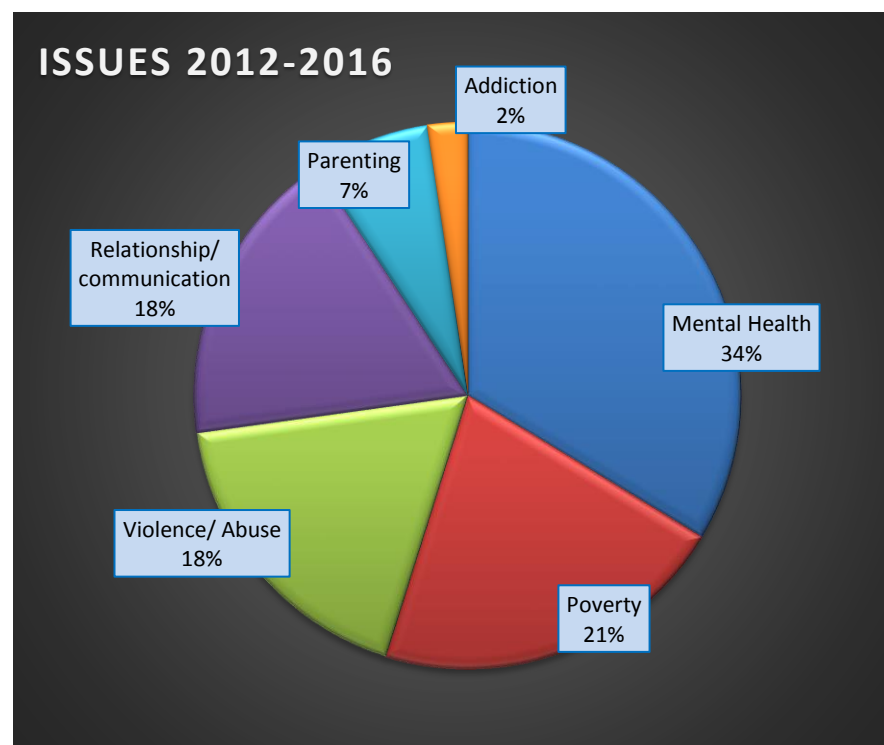


Chart 2: Issues Presented 2012-2016

We are very grateful to the love and care shown from Parishes, friends, neighbours and many supporters who have and continue to donate clothing, warm blankets, food, furniture and household items. We are also thankful for the donations of money that has helped pay our service costs and emergency family costs.

The Seasons for Growth Programme

The Seasons for Growth Programme is an innovative grief and loss education programme. Brigid and Nikita have held weekly sessions for



**Left to right: Nikita Whitaker (MIT student)
and Brigid McGilly (CSS Social Worker).**



children experiencing loss and grief at a South Auckland Primary School. A majority of the children participating have lost one or two parents from either suicide or terminal illness, as well as experiencing other social and school related issues such as parent separation, domestic violence, neglect, poverty, learning difficulties, grief and loss. They express feelings of loneliness, isolation and grief. These children often have family members who too struggle with their own grief and the child can often get overlooked or become “parentified”, where they

take on extra grief of the parent. Children like adults grieve. Through this programme and the natural working styles of activities, journals, reflection and an environment that is safe, children learn that change and loss is part of life and grief is a natural response to losses.

New Staff

We welcome Emma Anthony (right) who replaces Judy Olsen at reception. We thank Judy for all her support to staff and clients and wish her well in her new endeavours.



Thank You from the Prison Community



*I was naked and you clothed me
I was sick and you helped me
I was in prison and you visited me.
Matthew 25:36*

Thank you to all our parishes for your generous donations of over 30 guitars for use in our music ministry and our cultural and religious services within Auckland prisons. We are always amazed at the dedication and faith of all the volunteers who work with our community in prisons and their families. Many have volunteered for over 10 years. Emma (above), who also volunteers as a Prison Chaplaincy supporter, has been busy collecting guitars kindly donated from all over Auckland. We now have a full compliment of guitars.

Warmest Regards



I would like to be a friend (tick box) ☐ and/or donate ☐ \$ _____ cheque ☐ direct credit ☐

Name _____

Address _____

Contact Phone _____ Email: _____

All donations over \$5.00 is tax deductible and issued a receipt.

Please post to: Catholic Social Services, PO Box 47118, Ponsonby, Auckland 1144 or deposit to:

Bank account: 020100-0120964-29, or

Call us on: 09 378 9650 or visit our website: www.cssauckland.org.nz