



**OPEN HOME
FOUNDATION**
TE WHARE KAUPAPA ĀWHINA

Newsletter

SPRING



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Practice Manager's Reflections



If urgent assistance is required after hours, Foster Parents can contact the after hours duty Social Worker by phoning:
03 366 5977



Kia ora koutou,

Our Practice Manager, Jacqueline Payne is taking a well-deserved break with her family so it is my privilege in her absence to be putting pen to paper. My role is Regional Manager of Practice Lower South and this covers the region of Canterbury and the West Coast. It is a large area and we are blessed to have great social workers and support staff providing valuable services to tamariki and whanau. For the past few years, OHF have had a social worker, Simone on the West Coast primarily outworking a contract we have with Oranga Tamariki. Simone has gradually built up a presence for us on the Coast and now I am pleased to say that we have a new Service Centre based in Greymouth (Cobden) with a Practice Manager and 2 social workers. Ideally our services would not be needed however we are blessed that OHF can bring a Christian response to supporting children and their families in this very beautiful part of our country. OHF has taken a leap of faith in opening a new Service Centre during a time in which budget cuts are a reality. However, we place our trust in the Lord. I am inspired by Proverbs 3:6 - "In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths."

Please continue to uphold the work of OHF in your prayers and to particularly pray for more foster parents and families to come forward to care for those in their communities.

As we head into what can seem like a crazy time of year, our prayer for you is that you find time to enjoy the sunshine and to celebrate the wonderful gift Jesus is to us.

Ngā mihi

Sue

"Great people don't do great things; God does great things through surrendered"





Staff Updates



My name is Hannah and I have been working off and on with Open Home Foundation for a number of years while completing my Nursing training and having a baby. I have an almost one year old daughter and have just returned to do some more support work for Open Home. In my free time I spend time with friends and family and enjoy exploring new places. I look forward to meeting you all soon!



Tēnā koutou katoa,

My name is Anna Burke and I am the National Advisor for Trauma and Disability covering the Canterbury and West Coast regions. I started with OHF in 2011 and have been in this role since 2020. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you during my time with OHF.

As part of my role I am studying the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT), developed by Dr Bruce Perry ([The Neurosequential Network | neurodevelopment](#)). I am Phase 1 certified and currently studying towards Phase 2 to become a certified trainer.

The Christmas holiday season can be filled with great excitement and anticipation, it can also be filled with a level of uncertainty and a lack of familiar consistent routines for many of our tamariki and rangatahi. It's important to remember that novelty and change can trigger the stress response system in the brain. So here are our recommendations:

- Try to keep relationships, environments and routines as consistent and predictable as possible
- Involve your tamariki and rangatahi in the plans for their days
- Reduce unnecessary transitions wherever possible

Think about incorporating a 'sensory diet' in to the daily schedule for your tamariki or rangatahi.

Please talk to your social worker if you would like ideas around how to practically incorporate these things in to the holiday plans for the tamariki or rangatahi you support.

I look forward to connecting with many of you again in the new year.





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Prayer Points & Notices



We could not do this work without our faith in the love and care of our loving Father. Prayer Changes things!

Please pray:

- For all those who care for our Tamariki and also for more people to come forward to be foster parents.



The Open Home Foundation are partnering with The Send event in Hamilton on November 23rd. This is a great opportunity for us to share who we are and the need for Foster Parents in our nation.



THE SEND



AOTEAROA, NZ

23 NOV. 2024
AT MYSTERY CREEK, HAMILTON

\$30 TICKETS!



THE WAR ON SNACTOON HAS ONLY BEGUN

THE DAY IS DRAUGHTING
THE ONLY OPTION

THE DAY IS DRAUGHTING

AUTUMN. IT'S TIME TO GO!



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Notice Board



CREATE TRAINING COMING UP

Our next training will be held early 2025.

SPONSOR A CHILD FOR CHRISTMAS “BE JOY, GIVE JOY”

We would love for you to connect with us at OHF, spreading Joy with your giving this Christmas to vulnerable children in need. It takes a village to raise a child. Would you like to become part of a child’s village?

Your support is much appreciated, either as a one off donation or by becoming a VIP monthly sponsor for any amount you are able to give.

Please contact us on (03) 366 5977.

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

We have a continuous need for Christian Foster Parents for supporting our children in care, this can be in several ways with respite care in weekends, school holidays, short term and long-term care, emergency care and transitional care for young adults. Foster care is a missionary work and can be both a rewarding and challenging journey, opening your home and heart to make a difference in a young child/person’s life, if you believe this is a calling on your life we would love to hear from you. Contact Andrea 0274719473.





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Acknowledgements & Celebrations



Answer to prayer!
Our young person who was looking for a flat has recently transitioned into a 2 bedroom house! This could not have happened without the prayer and support of the team and wider community of faith.

A big thank you to all our donation supporters for your donations. We are so grateful for your continued support. These donations allow us to support families in a number of ways including school holiday activities, after school activities, club fees, sports fees, music fees and sensory items for children to name a few. Please be encouraged that this money is helping to see great changes in the lives of the children and families we work with.



Please celebrate Maddy, Jakob, Annah K and Les's birthday's with us for October and November!

Wishing all our Foster Parents and Whanau, Staff and Support workers a blessed Christmas and safe holidays! Looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year.



Christmas Hours

We close at midday 24th December, reopening 6th January. For any enquiries over this time please contact 03 366 5977.

Practice Staff

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| Practice Manager: | Jacqueline Payne |
| Senior Social Worker: | Briana Mah |
| Senior Social Worker: | Frani Tuiletufuga |
| Social Workers: | Anna Cooper Demi Boyce Kat Gardner Maddy Riddle |
| Foster Parent Social Workers: | Jill Short Avenida Stewart |
| Office Support Worker: | Olivia Wiegiersma |
| Foster Parent Recruiter: | Andrea Hodgetts |



Contact us

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