



Children, Grandparents and Whanau caregivers have their say



4th National Caregivers & Members Summit Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ

7 & 8 September 2016

Novotel, Ellerslie, Auckland, NZ

Register today for this solution-focused training event for all grandparent and whanau caregivers, social-workers, community organisations and professionals working at the coal-face of child and family welfare services, advocacy and policy development.

Featuring:

- Keynote Address from Minister Anne Tolley on the Transformational Changes to Child Youth and Family and what it means for grandparent and whanau caregivers
- Grandchildren's reflections on being parented by grandparents - first ever NZ Research
- Findings of our GRG Grandparent and Whanau Caregiver Survey 2016
- What Every Grandparent and Whanau Caregiver Needs to Know About "P"
- Vulnerable children and the new Child Protection Framework

PLUS two must attend workshops on:

- Understanding why children behave the way they do
- Parenting children affected by trauma, abuse, anxiety and attachment issues or Cognitive Differences such as Autism, Aspergers, ADHD, Dyspraxia and more
- Coping with "meltdowns", episodes of temporary "loss of conscious control", violent outbursts and troubling behaviour
- How and where to get the professional help you need as caregivers

A special thank you to all our funders supporting this training initiative



Day One - Wednesday 7 September 2016

8.30 Registration and Coffee

8.50 Karakia and Mihi

8.55 Welcome

**Diane Vivian, Founder and Executive Trustee,
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ**

9.00 Opening Remarks from the Chair

**David White, Trustee, GRG Trust NZ, Writer and
Anti-Violence Campaigner**

9.10 Hearing the Children's Voices:

Reflections on being Parented by Grandparents

In the last ten years the number of grandparents raising grandchildren has risen dramatically in Euro-Western societies around the world. Extensive research has been conducted on the impact of this phenomenon on the caregivers but little is known of the lived experiences of the children themselves. For the first time in New Zealand grandchildren parented by their grandparents were invited to give voice to their lived experiences in this Master's Thesis Research. This session discusses their reflections on:

- Their struggles, understanding and awareness of the social, legal and economic implications of the grandparent caregiver phenomenon
- The kind of support needed for caregivers and children
- What policy and practice changes ought to be made?

Sharon Lee, M.Ed. Waikato University, Researcher

9.50 Hear Our Voices:

Grandparent Whanau Caregivers Have Their Say!

Earlier this year, we reached out through the GRG networks, local neighbourhood groups, libraries, community organisations and online networks to find as many as possible of the 9500 grandparent/kin families who are raising their children's children. In the end, over 1100 responses were received.

For the first time, the results of our research will be unveiled. They reveal a complex, nuanced story of struggle, disappointment, unexpected events, but also of joy and delight.

This talk will cover the main findings of the study, and a summary of findings will also be available.

Dr Liz Gordon, Director, Pukeko Research Ltd

10.40 Open Forum and Q&A

11.00 Morning tea

11.20 What Every Grandparent and Whanau Caregiver Needs to Know About "P"

Methamphetamine ("P") is the biggest social catastrophe for this generation and over the past 15+ years and in that time has been one of the leading causes why children go into grandparent, whanau and foster care. Today teenagers are being targeted with sophisticated methods by people protecting a multi-million-dollar trade. Are your teenagers prepared and able to cope with this pressure? As the caregivers of vulnerable children and young people it is imperative that you know how to guide your teenagers so that they don't make the wrong choices and fall prey to this drug.

Christina Stroud, CEO, ChristinaStroud.com

Christina Stroud heads ChristinaStroud.com- which incorporates a residential center that specialises in methamphetamine recovery, corporate recovery programs, a series of books and training aids and informative speaking events. Christina is an Entrepreneur, an Adventure Based Trainer, Creative Learning Facilitator and after completing a degree in Organisational Psychology, she founded and directed a coaching/coach training company setting industry standards. She gained a reputation for an uncompromising love of success. Amongst her clients were corporate executives, Olympic stars and business owners.

Her focus turned to methamphetamine recovery after the loss of a friend in 2000 through the dirty drug. Christina sits on two trusts mandated to stop the supply and demand of meth, currently working on a national symposium, programs in prisons and a book tour. Christina has just been named an Alumni of Distinction by Massey University for 2015. She will be speaking and setting up recovery centres and training across Australia.

For more information see ChristinaStroud.com

12.10 Lunch

Focusing on the Needs of the Vulnerable Child in Practice

Over 60,000 children and young people are notified to Child Youth and Family each year with concerns about their safety and welfare. Around one in ten of those children will end up in Foster Care, following assessment, intervention and a declaration that they need care and protection. Most remain with their parents or go into whanau or grandparent care with little involvement by Child Youth and Family and limited access to the support services needed. In two parts these issues are considered with a **Case Study** followed by an examination of the changes being introduced to the current child protection framework.

PANEL CASE STUDY

**1.10 Addressing the Needs of the Vulnerable Child:
What Happens in the Real World?**

Examining a typical case study of a child presenting with a range of complex needs, the panel will consider the following in the context of both grandparent/whanau care and foster care the:

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(Panel Case Study continued...)

Legal status of care and its impact on eligibility for support and assistance.

- The needs and best interests of the child:
 - How should these be met?
 - How are they likely to be addressed in each scenario?
- What needs to change?

PANEL

Grandparent/Whanau Care Perspective:

Ashna Storey, Grandparent Caregiver & former Social Worker

Foster Care Perspective: Sandy McPhee, Director, Next Steps Training Ltd

Support Services Perspective:

Nancy Jelavich, Service Manager Foster Care, Barnardos

Jonelle McNeill, Operations Manager Upper North, Barnardos

2.20 Keynote Address from the

Minister for Social Development:

Transformational Change and a Focus on Children

Putting “children and young people in Child Youth and Family care at the centre of everything it does” is at the heart of a much heralded “transformational change” and overhaul of Child Youth and Family services following a substantial review by an Expert Panel in 2015.

Thousands of children are notified to Child Youth and Family each year, and yet often no formal intervention, assessment or family group conference takes place when a grandparent or member of the whanau steps in during the initial crisis to care for them.

- What responsibility does the State have to these children in grandparent care?
- What support is there for them?
- Will the changes to CYF services affect these children?
- What initiatives are planned to support full-time grandparent/whanau caregivers and children in their care?

Honourable Anne Tolley, Minister for Social Development

2.50 Open Forum and Q&A

3.10 Afternoon Tea

3.30 Vulnerable Children and the New Child Protection Framework

The Vulnerable Children Act 2014, ushers in major changes and a new framework to protect and address the needs of vulnerable children:

- How does the new framework work?
- Who is affected by it and the:
- Key changes to Children Young Persons and Their Families Act 1989
- Impact on parenting orders under the Care of Children Act 2004
- Access to support services
- What are our obligations as caregivers?
- When to ask for help and where to get it?

Rebecca Barson, National Manager Care, Child Youth and Family

4.20 Panel Wrap Up and Open Forum

Ashna Storey, Grandparent Caregiver & former Social Worker

Sandy McPhee, Director, Next Steps Training Ltd

Nancy Jelavich, Service Manager, Foster Care, Barnardos

Jonelle McNeill, Operations Manager Upper North, Barnardos

Child Youth and Family

4.50 Closing Remarks from the Chair

5.00 Day One Concludes

7.00 Summit Dinner, Novotel Ellerslie

Day Two - Thursday 8 Sept

7.00 to 8.30 Internal GRG Training for Support Coordinators and Field Officers

8.50 Opening Remarks from the Chair

WORKSHOPS 9am to 1.10pm

Decoding Why Children Behave the Way They Do and Coping with Troubling Behaviour

“Often the children who need our love the most have the most unloving ways of asking for it.” Di Vivian, Founder, GRG Trust NZ

For over 95% of families the GRG Trust NZ works with, the children are in grandparent whanau care following a breakdown in the family, often due to the parents’ substance abuse, violence, mental illness and neglect.

Without their grandparent whanau caregivers stepping in, these children would otherwise be in foster care. Providing a loving home is the first step to keeping these children safe and secure, but the effects of past trauma can be long-term, manifesting in extremely challenging and difficult behaviour for which caregivers often need training and expert support.

Additionally, there are many children being raised by grandparents who are affected by sensory processing differences and sit somewhere on the Autism Spectrum or have ADHD. A different approach to understanding and coping with their behaviour is required.

In these two solutions-focused workshops, caregivers will learn practical tips and techniques to better help them in their caregiver role. See next page for full details of the workshops.

The Summit programme concludes at 1.10pm with Lunch for all delegates and is followed by further internal GRG Training for Support Coordinators and Field Officers.

Day Two - Thursday 8 September 2016

WORKSHOP 1 9.00 am to 10.50am

Practical Tips and Strategies for Parenting Children Affected by Trauma

- What is early life trauma?
- Attachment and what happens when it isn't secure
- Survival is not naughty
- Regulation and why the brain needs to be calm
- Audit your environment
- Let's talk about play....

Julie O'Brien, Stand Children's Services Tu Maia Whanau

10.50 Morning Tea

WORKSHOP 2 11.10am to 1.10pm

Parenting Children with ASD, ADHD and Cognitive Differences

- For individuals who experience *sensory processing differences*, ordering priorities or meeting the expectations of others and the world around them frequently results in anxious, confused or oppositional behaviour. Children and teenagers may be undiagnosed and high functioning or diagnosed with such labels as Autism, Aspergers, OCD, ADHD, DYSPRAXIA, ADD, ODD and many others.
- The caregivers of these children and teenagers discover the standard parenting rules or boundaries do not apply or cannot resonate with the way their children or teenagers think and act. In each case it can create significant challenges for all concerned.
- This workshop is designed for caregivers and professionals who work in close association with children and teenagers affected by sensory processing differences .

Sue Haldane, Mind Over Manner

MIND OVER MANNER looks at how to adjust their negative world view, to recognise the onset of a meltdown and how manage a positive meltdown recovery process for all of those involved. It uses Applied Theatre Techniques Techniques and works with theatre practitioners to re-construct highly-charged events drawn from life experiences and exercises that deliver "active-reality" scenarios so that participants have the chance to reassess their responses to these most difficult moments. The **MIND OVER MANNER** workshops are guaranteed to be an extremely valuable ,entertaining and eye opening experience

I learned more in two hours than I could have learned in several all-day seminars. What an experience!

Diane Levy. Family Therapist, Counsellor, Parenting Coach, Author

MIND OVER MANNER is a charity organisation that presents workshops designed to strengthen the communication and connection with those children who think, learn and work differently. **For more information please go to www.mindovermanner.co.nz**

ABOUT OUR WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

Julie O'Brien, Stand Children's Services Tu Maia Whanau, is a registered Social Worker who has worked with Stand Children's Services for the past 7 years. She leads a team providing therapeutic residential care for vulnerable children. Having developed a strong interest in neuroscience, trauma and attachment, Julie has been integral in bringing about better understanding of trauma behaviour, supporting her team to meet the needs of children in their care. Julie worked for 5 years as an Advisor with the Tertiary Education Commission (ACE/ second-chance learning and Gateway/ Vocational learning), and for 17 years as a Probation Officer/ service manager and trainer for the Department of Corrections. She has a qualification in training and development.

Stand Children's Services Tu Maia Whanau

is a charity providing Intensive Family Wraparound social services including Therapeutic Care and Education to children aged 5 to 12 and their families. Stand also provides a Family Therapy service for children 0-17 (including unborns) and their families, School Social Work service and a Kidzacoal Adventures holiday programme. Stand's work aims to transform the lives of children and young people who are at significant risk of harm to their well-being as a consequence of the environment in which they are being raised and their own complex needs. For each child they seek to develop their capacity to live in healthy, hopeful relationships with others. On this depends all of the other necessary outcomes which contribute to their ability to enjoy life and reach their potential. For more information about Stand and the work they do please go to www.standforchildren.org.nz

Sue Haldane, is the driving force behind MIND OVER MANNER. Her life work has been predominantly with youth, directing in secondary schools and devising new theatre works. She has facilitated theatre workshops with refugees, multicultural and differently-abled groups – and also used communication role play techniques extensively in schools, prisons, with legal, medical and other professional groups and with kids on the street.

As a result of all this combined experience, and as a parent of a teen with ASD, Susan has developed her own extensive knowledge of the cognitively diverse individual and what their specific needs may be.

She has presented MIND OVER MANNER at the International Symposium of Critical Journeys in Applied Theatre, The Altogether Autism Conference, Speech Language Therapy Masters students at Auckland University and has recently studied with Temple Grandin and Reclaiming Youth International in America as professional development for MIND OVER MANNER'S Applied Theatre approach.

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SPEAKERS

David White, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Author and Anti-Violence Campaigner and his wife Pam became grandparent caregivers in 2009 following the tragic death of their daughter through domestic violence. Since joining GRG and appreciating that support, he has since worked tirelessly helping others, particularly campaigning against domestic violence including speaking to many groups and organisations, from primary school children on showing respect to each other, to prison inmates on a better way to live. He has written two books on NZ's violence issues, the first *Helen – The Helen Meads Tragedy* and *Family Violence: Lifting New Zealand's Dark Cloud* in which he details what we can do to end family violence.

Sharon Lee, M.Ed. Waikato University, Researcher has been a practicing counsellor, family therapist, supervisor and consultant for 35+ years. She has worked in the areas of child protection, sexual abuse, and family violence. Sharon has worked with individuals, couples, families and groups and is a Member of NZAC (New Zealand Association of Counsellors) and has also worked with GRG as a Field Officer. Sharon is married, has five adult children and ten grandchildren. She was also privileged to have been parented by her Grandparents.

Dr Liz Gordon, Researcher and Director, Pūkeko Research Ltd, works at the interface of social policy, education and justice. She has a PhD in education and is a qualified but non-practicing lawyer. She is involved in governance and support roles in a range of community organisations (e.g. she is currently President of Pillars) and research organisations (on the Council of the Royal Society of New Zealand and the NZ Council for Educational Research).

Experienced in community research and evaluation, with involvement in a number of research projects in the past funded by Lotteries Community Sector Research Fund that engages community organisations in research approaches, Liz led the GRG 2016 Grandparent and Whanau Caregiver Survey from March to the end of May 2016. She will shortly be leading a further study funded by the Law Foundation for GRG Trust NZ with grandparents who have views on the Family Court as it operated prior to 2014, in particular exploring key themes such as access to justice, cost, court processes (especially length and timing), difficulties with mediation, and looking at whether there are indications that the new Family Court system provides a more effective resolution process than the old.

Ashna Storey, Grandparent and former Social Worker is now retired and raising her grandson in the South Island after working as a social worker for Shine for almost 14 years, during which time she was also contracted to two CYF sites to work along the social workers where domestic violence compromised the well-being of children. After raising her own children and working in the late 70's and early 80's with Cambodian Boat refugees she attained her degree in Social Work and has also worked in Child Protection and Mental Health areas.

Sandy McPhee, Director, Next Steps Training Providers qualified as a professional counsellor with the New Zealand Institute of Professional Counselling and is an experienced training facilitator working with foster carers having had broad experience in her career across a range of sectors including work in the disability sector and delivering Triple P parenting programmes. Since 2013 she has provided training for new and experienced foster carers for Key Assets and Next Steps Training Providers and has a wealth of knowledge, expertise and life experience of the issues facing foster carers. Together with her husband, Sandy is currently managing a residential support and life skills home for teen mothers for the Youth Horizons Trust.

Jonelle McNeill, Operations Manager-Upper North, Barnardos NZ is a qualified Registered Social Worker with over 16 years' experience in statutory Child Protection in Auckland prior to moving into the NGO sector last year. She is passionate about joining up with others to develop effective care experiences for children in care, and especially mokopuna Maori. Her iwi affiliations are Tapuika/Te Arawa and lives with her three daughters & partner in Manurewa, South Auckland.

Nancy Jelavich, Foster Care Manager-Upper North, Barnardos NZ is a qualified registered Social Worker (Bachelor in Social Work), and holds a diploma in child-protection and post-grad certificate in Supervision. Nancy has been a Social Worker for 13 years working with vulnerable children and families including grandparents raising their grandchildren. For the past 2 years she has been employed by Barnardos as the Foster Care Service Manager. She is particularly interested in Trauma-informed Care and has been a Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Instructor for the past 6 years.

Rebecca Barson, National Manager Care, Child, Youth and Family is a qualified and registered social worker with over 23 years' experience of working with children, families and their caregivers in statutory care and protection services both here in New Zealand and in the United Kingdom. Rebecca is passionate about improving services for caregivers, both whānau and non-whānau, to ensure that children and young people are at the centre of everything that we do. Rebecca lives in Wellington with her partner and two teenage sons.

Hear Our Voices 2016 Registration & Information

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is available at Novotel/Ibis - **BOOK NOW!**

72-112 Green Lane East, Ellerslie, Auckland 1051

Phone: 09 529 9090

Book Online at:

Check in at 2pm - Check out at 11am

<http://www.novotel.com/gb/hotel-3060-novotel-auckland-ellerslie/index.shtml>

GRG SUMMIT PROGRAMME TIMETABLE

Day One - Wednesday 7 September 2016

Registration at 8.30am

Programme: 9am to 5pm

Conference Dinner:

Wednesday 7 September 2016

7pm Novotel, Ellerslie

Please Note: The GRG Trust NZ reserves the right to make any changes to the Summit programme that may be deemed necessary.

Day Two Workshops - Thursday 8 September 2016

Part 1 - 9am to 10.50am

Part 2 - 11.10am to 1.10pm

Summit programme concludes with Lunch at 1.10pm

GRG FIELD OFFICERS AND SUPPORT COORDINATORS INTERNAL TRAINING

Internal training for GRG Field Officers and Support Coordinators only will be held in two sessions on Thursday 8 September 2016 from 7am to 8.30am (includes breakfast) and again from 2pm to 3pm.

REGISTRATION AND PRICING

GRG Member Delegate Registration Fee: \$20

Summit Dinner: \$50

Non-member Delegate Registration Fees:

Full Summit Programme: \$155 for both days

Early-bird both days: \$135 (until 5 August 2016)

Day One only: \$90

Day Two only: \$65

Summit Dinner: \$50

Cancellation: If you are unable to attend the conference a substitute delegate may attend in your place at no extra cost. Cancellations received in writing either by email, fax or post prior to 19 August 2016 will be eligible for a full refund, however unless there are exceptional circumstances, cancellations made after this date will incur a \$50 administration fee.



Please complete this Registration Form and scan and email to the office@grg.org.nz or post with cheque / or if paying by credit card, sign where indicated below and post to: **GRG Trust NZ Summit, PO Box 34-892, Birkenhead, Auckland 0746. If you have any enquiries, please direct these to 09 418 3753 or email the office@grg.org.nz OR REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE AT <http://www.grg.org.nz/Events/GRG+Summit+2016.html> and click the Registration Button**

Title: _____ First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Spouse / Partner Name if attending Summit (GRG Members only): _____

Email: _____ Phone Contact Number: _____

Postal Address: _____

Please tick all options that apply to you: GRG Member Grandparent Caregiver Kin/Whanau Caregiver Other

If you ticked "Other"

Please add: Organisation: _____ Position/Job-title: _____

GRG Member Delegates Registration Fee: \$20 Non-member delegate both days: \$155 or \$135 early bird (before 6 August 2016)

Conference Dinner: \$50 Non-member delegate: Day One only \$90 Day Two only \$65

Payment Options and Instructions: (Please Note: Payment is due upon Registration)

Pay by cheque enclosed for: \$ _____ .00 Please make cheques out to **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust**

Pay by Internet Banking to **06 0115 0203334 00** for \$ _____ .00 Please include your full name in bank payee reference

Disclosure: The information you provide to Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ on this form is collected for the purpose of processing your registration and for keeping you informed of the Trust's upcoming news, events and services. If you do not wish to receive further information please tick here