



Tēnā koutou katoa - welcome to our first Outing Violence newsletter for 2024!

We're here to highlight violence prevention mahi and knowledge building for

Get [in touch](#) if you have any questions or mahi to share, follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) for regular updates, and visit our [website](#) for more information.

Hohou Te Rongo Kahukura is dedicated to building Takatāpui and Rainbow communities in Aotearoa New Zealand free of family, partner and sexual violence. Our work is underpinned by Te Tiriti o Waitangi, so we include everyone who is sex, sexuality and gender diverse, under, in and over our glorious Rainbow.

First the good news



He āwhina mōu?

Need help?

We are delighted to show off our [updated website](#), developed by wonderful upcoming designer Edwin Harlow. It's no secret our website has not reflected our mahi, or even made it easy to find our resources for quite some time. That's because with limited capacity, we will always choose the work with our communities, but it was definitely time for a change! Check it out, whether you [need help](#), want to access our [research](#), find out about [training](#) or our [community programmes](#). Mīharo!

If you want to get in touch with Edwin with your website needs, they can be reached at edwinharlow.is@gmail.com

The tough stuff

This year has seen a rising tide of dehumanising language and violence, including attacks on [Rainbow crossings](#), threats to library [Rainbow storytimes](#), and Destiny Church ads suggesting it's '[Time to Kill](#)'. These attacks are mainly targeting Takatāpui and Rainbow people outside our main urban areas, where our communities are smaller, and sit against the backdrop of a members bill to [ban trans people using public bathrooms](#).

We were delighted to host Canadian trans artist [Sophie Labelle](#) at Hamilton library in early March. About 60 people attended, including gender diverse children, their parents, and others in our communities, and Ms Labelle sold all her books as well as giving out hundreds of autographs and selfies to her fans.

The event was disrupted by a group of far-right activists, who tried to storm the library stage while shouting anti-trans abuse, unfurled a banner describing us as paedophiles and filmed the audience. Community members, Hamilton librarians and the police quickly moved the far-right activists outside, here they continued to shout abuse at us for hours and filmed every person who left the venue. Their video footage of the event was later uploaded to [Action Zealandia's](#) social media.



New Zealand Police have developed [more resources](#) to encourage the reporting of this kind of hate-motivated crime. Unfortunately, no charges were able to be laid against the group of young men who attacked our Sophie Labelle event, indicating, we believe, concerning legislative gaps in protections for us. Family, partner and sexual violence towards Takatāpui and Rainbow people thrives in a wider social context of discrimination, stigma and exclusion, and we are extremely concerned about the wellbeing of our communities in such a climate. We are stronger when we stand together, and we encourage our allies to be loud right now – we need you.

NEW SERVICE: Survivor Experiences Service

Tu Chapman (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Tūwharetoa and Taranaki Whānui) identifies as Te Ira Tangata (intersex) and chairs [Intersex Aotearoa](#) and [Mataatua Takatāpui Trust](#). Tu is a survivor of abuse in care and supported the Abuse in Care, Royal Commission of Inquiry and the Crown Response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry. Tu advocates for Takatāpui and serves on the [Survivor Experiences Service](#) Board. We asked Tu about this mahi.

“Takatāpui and Rainbow people experience significant challenges around their physical and mental safety in care. Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic abuse have profound and lasting impacts, including psychological harm. Abuse in care creates fears around being outed, being authentically themselves, and fear of being targeted because of their gender identities and/or sexualities. The [Survivor Experiences Service](#) aims to alleviate the ongoing impacts of abuse in care for Takatāpui and Rainbow communities, by letting survivors be themselves in private sessions and in their engagement with us. We have Rainbow team members and always ask survivors their gender and sexuality identities before sessions.”

What is the service and how can survivors access it?

“The [Survivor Experiences Service](#) offers a safe, supportive, confidential space for survivors of abuse to share their experiences and be heard, validated, and acknowledged to support healing. It is an interim service until a new, independent redress system is established. We hope that by sharing their experiences, people will be able to continue their unique healing journey. We offer face to face, telephone or writing options, with more information on our [website](#).”

Phone: 0800 456 090 (NZ) or 1-800 456 032 (AUS),

Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm

Email: contact@survivorexperiences.govt.nz

Text: 8328

If you are Deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, speech impaired or find it hard to talk, you can use the New Zealand Relay Service - www.nzrelay.co.nz



OUR NEW SERVICE IN THE WAIKATO: Waikato Whaanau worker

We are thrilled to share that Hohou Te Rongo Kahukura has a funded role to work with victim-survivors from our communities through the Integrated Safety Response in Tainui-a-rohe for the next three years. If the police are called, or someone presents at the police station about family or partner violence and Police identify a Takataapui or Rainbow person in the whaanau, they will refer to our whaanau worker, Takataapui Lead Hamie Munroe.

Hamie's caseload was full after just two weeks, as she scopes out the role to ensure we develop safe, responsive and mana enhancing services. She has already been able to connect whaanau to a variety of services, disrupt colonial ideas of sexuality and gender that obscure Takataapuitanga, and identify ways in which ISR responses can change to be more respectful for Takataapui and Rainbow communities. Watch this space! Teenaa areare mail!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT: Moana Vā – Navigators of Pacific Pride

[Moana Vā](#) was founded by Vui Suli Tuitaupe in 2021, to provide a safe space for the Pacific Rainbow community in Ōtautahi Christchurch. Including Pacific allies, families and Rainbow community members, Moana Vā has developed a unique structure to reflect this diversity, rooted in the values of Alofa (love) and Aiga (family).

Moana Vā's mission emphasises supporting the entire family unit through Pacific cultural practices, fostering belonging and togetherness. Recognising the community's diverse needs, Moana Vā offers both face-to-face events and online support.



Through peer support, referrals, and healthcare navigation, Moana Vā aims to adapt to the evolving needs of their community, taking an all-ages approach. With a commitment to celebrating differences and enhancing services, Moana Vā looks forward to continued growth as an influencer and support for the Pacific Rainbow Community.

In navigating Pacific Pride with courage and compassion, Moana Vā remains driven in its commitment to fostering love, resilience, and unwavering dedication within its community.

NEW RESEARCH: Make it about us

Last month, with [The Backbone Collective](#) we published reports of findings from a survey of 599 diverse victim-survivors about their experiences with police after family, partner or sexual violence. We heard from 76 trans and non-binary victim-survivors and 139 sexuality diverse women, the majority of whom were also disabled.

Our [full report](#) and [summary report](#) include powerful – and often very disturbing – accounts of victim-survivors experiences with police.

We explicitly examined differences in experiences between victim-survivor groups across every stage of contact with police, including whether to seek help from the police at all. When victim-survivors do reach out, they are seeking urgent help to be safe, but overwhelmingly they are not receiving what they need. Trans and non-binary people, Māori and disabled people are receiving significantly less respectful and helpful responses from police across most domains we asked about. Where victim-survivors experienced safe supportive responses from police, these have been highlighted; as have recommendations from specific victim-survivor groups. We believe this research provides critical information that is not being collected in other ways and hope it can be used to inform systems change.

We reached out to Principal Policy Advisor at [Women's Refuge](#), Dr Natalie Thorburn for her thoughts:

"The report gave a succinct, easily readable insight into people's experiences of calling Police for help after family violence, and really underlined how calling for help is a pivotal moment that shapes what safety is possible. It joined together queer and gendered analyses of violence that make it a reliable and informative read for all communities.

It is one of the most robust research projects I've seen on the experience of seeking help from Police, and breaks it down by groups (like disabled people, and trans and non-binary

people) so we can better understand how these groups are put at risk by system responses. It's beautifully presented as a thorough but accessible report (and summary!) that every single person should read."

Hohou Te Rongo Kahukura and [The Backbone Collective](#) have the deepest gratitude for all the victim-survivors who shared their experiences in this research, and we honour – and will advocate for – the needs they identified for change.



NEW RESOURCE: From NZ Police

Takatāpui and Rainbow people have the same protections under the law from partner and sexual violence as other New Zealanders, but that's not well-known inside our communities. NZ Police have developed a new resource around family violence which has been sent out to all police districts or you can [download](#) from their website or [ours](#).



TRAINING: TE KETE KOHA | COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Every month, we offer a monthly online wānanga on research, emerging issues or developing best practice for violence prevention and responses in Takatāpui and Rainbow communities.

This is available for one year after attending our in-person or online training at no extra cost and allows practitioners from all over Aotearoa to explore their own practice with other professionals. Professional development certificates of attendance are available after twelve months.

This month, we hosted Dr Michael Roguski who presented on his recently released research, [Conversion practices in Aotearoa New Zealand: Developing a holistic response to spiritual abuse](#), co-authored with Nicola Atwood. Using the framework of entrapment, this Te Kete Koha session focused on the spiritual, social and structural factors which make it difficult for those experiencing conversion practices inside spiritual or faith-based communities to seek help to leave the conversion environment. We are very grateful to Dr Roguski and other contributors to Te Kete Koha, who ensure emerging mātauranga is accessible to kaimahi on the ground working with Takatāpui and Rainbow people experiencing any form of violence.

Find out more about the training and ongoing professional development we offer [here](#), or read about our Takatāpui and Tauīwi training team [here](#).

What did you find most useful about Te Kete Koha and why?

“Learning about the different types of conversion practices, having a better understanding of ideological practices as spiritual entrapment. Thinking about the barriers on a spiritual, social and structural level. Actually, everything that was talked about was really informative. Great to hear about NZ based research.”

kahukura.co.nz

Thanks for tuning in, we look forward to sharing more news and updates with you in future!

If you have material you would like us to profile in our next newsletter, please get in touch with newsletter@kahukura.co.nz.

Ngā mihi,

Kathleen Miller and Maki Rodriguez, co-chairs of Hohou Te Rongo Kahukura.

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