



Warm welcome from Brendan

Kia ora rā e hoa, it is a privilege to welcome you to the Spring edition of the Stop newsletter! This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about the mahi that Stop does and give you relevant information, that I hope you can also use in your day-to-day work.

Stop provides evidence-based clinical therapy to address harmful sexual behaviour. We provide specialist services for children, adolescents and adults that have exhibited concerning or harmful sexual behaviour. We provide these services across Te Waipounamu and offer both one-on-one and group therapy. Our services are funded by the Government and are free for all clients. The issues that Stop clients present with may include - sexualised acting out, inappropriate touching, harmful sexual behaviour towards others, viewing of child sexual abuse material, and problematic pornography use.

We work closely with other social service providers to make sure all of our client's needs are met by the relevant and best agency. We also provide Education and Prevention services, including offering professional development for other agencies in terms of recognising and responding to concerning or harmful sexual behaviour.

At the heart of this work is our vision: A community free from sexual harm – He hapori wātea taitōkai. As Spring arrives -the season of renewal and growth -it reminds us that change is possible, and guided by Manaakitanga and Kotahitanga, we can continue to move towards this vision together.

I hope you find this update informative and useful. Thanks for reading.

Nga mihi nui, Brendan

Prevention Education - Recent Highlights



Press Pause

[Contact us to book a training](#)

Over the past few months, Stop's Prevention & Education Team have been actively engaging with communities across Te Waipounamu, equipping individuals, whānau, and professionals with knowledge and tools to recognise and respond to concerning or harmful sexual behaviour. We recently co-facilitated with Brett Harvey from [Tāima Kōrero](#) at the Violence Free North Canterbury Hui in Rangiora, delivering the workshop 'From Curiosity to Concern'. Organised and supported by Waimakariri District Council, the hui welcomed 50 participants — a special thanks to Alyssa Bright for her work behind the scenes.

- Recent and upcoming workshops: Involve Conference 'Kotahitanga' (August 7, Ōtautahi): Naieta Gifkins and Rebekah Fraser shared the Press Pause website at this youth development sector event.
- Kidsfirst Kindergarten Association Conference: Lyn Jansen presented on 'Sexualised play and behaviour in the ECE context', supporting kaiako of 3–5-year-olds. ([See our ECE resource page](#))
- Residential Carer Workshops: Our clinical team, alongside Jo Bader ([Aviva](#)) and Catherine Gallagher ([Start](#)), are delivering a series supporting kaimahi to respond to rangatahi in residential care.
- Schools Support: Weekly enquiries and professional development requests continue, with our Prevention and Clinical teams providing advice and training.

Through our partnership with [Whāraurau](#), Rebekah Fraser delivered the online session 'Recognise & Respond to Sexualised Behaviour in Rangatahi', which attracted over 300 participants, demonstrating the growing appetite for these critical conversations. Our Adolescent Clinician, Sam Taylor will present two further sessions, one in [October](#) and the [November](#) session on: [Practical neuro-affirming responses to concerning sexualised behaviour](#). These collaborations reflect Stop's vision of a community free from sexual harm - He hapori wātea taitōkai and demonstrate what can be achieved when the right people come together.

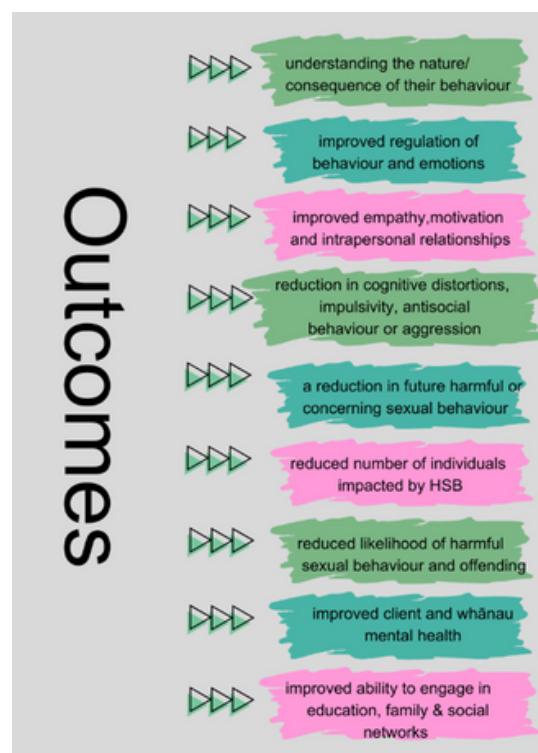
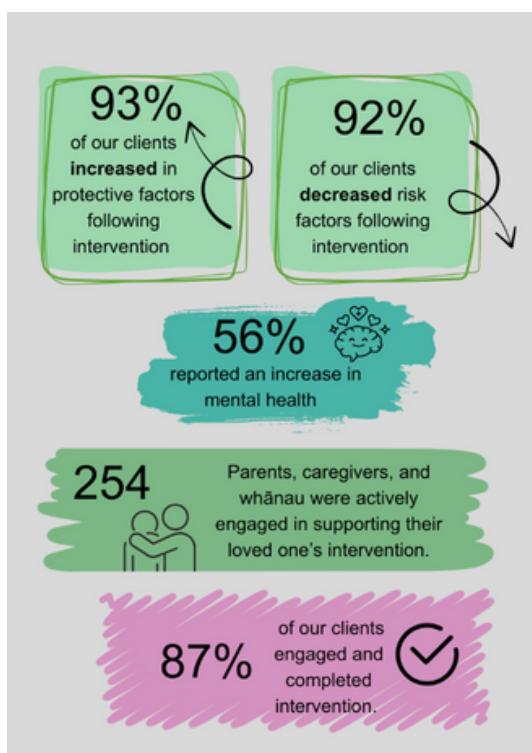
🔗 Visit our [Press Pause](#) or [Stop](#) Website for resources, or to enquire about training opportunities.

Our Social Impact

Measuring wider social impact is never simple. The true effects of our interventions at Stop cannot always be captured in numbers or statistics, yet the outcomes we see have a lasting influence on individuals, their whānau, and the wider community.

Our recent results demonstrate the impact of our evidence-informed approach: 93% of clients increased protective factors and 92% decreased risk factors, following intervention. Using the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model, we tailor interventions to each individual's risk level and needs, while the strengths-focused Good Lives Model helps clients build the skills and resources for fulfilling, prosocial lives. More than half of our clients (56%) reported improved mental health, highlighting the close link between wellbeing and harmful sexual behaviour. Each year, we engage with approximately 254 parents, caregivers, and whānau, reinforcing learning, strengthening support networks, and helping to maintain long-term positive outcomes. With 87% of clients completing their intervention, it's clear that combining risk management, strengths-based approaches, and whānau involvement drives lasting change.

Each positive shift helps create safer homes, reduces the risk of future sexual harm, and eases the burden on health, education, and justice systems. This ripple effect is how we move closer to our vision of a community free from sexual harm. And importantly, these results are not achieved in isolation — they are the product of collaboration between our organization, whānau, communities, and partner agencies.



Family Law Conference

Partnership and collaboration sit at the heart of our work, as we strive to build meaningful relationships that support our vision of communities free from sexual harm. We value the role we play alongside lawyers and judges within the justice system and feel proud to have had, Anton Ashcroft (Clinical Lead) & Tim Murphy (Senior Specialist Clinician) invited to co-present and contribute to the Family Law Conference, to be held on the 16th & 17th October 2025.

Their session will focus on harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) and child sexual abuse material (CSAM), providing an understanding of the growth and pathways as to why adults engage in this behaviour. It will explore the importance of language, challenge some common myths and individual beliefs, and outline how referrals are made to Stop and our Alliance partners (WellStop and Safe Network) as specialist services in this area. Furthermore, they have submitted a paper titled: Harmful sexual behaviour HSB: Understanding and aligning risk to rehabilitation options and conditions imposed during justice procedures.

We are confident that both Anton & Tim, will bring practical insights, and thought-provoking discussion to the conference. Their knowledge and experience in addressing harmful sexual behaviour will contribute to a valuable understanding of both the complexities and effective approaches in this critical area of practice.

Contact us for a presentation or training

Breaking the silence - Promoting early access to support

Stop is committed to reducing barriers that prevent individuals from seeking support for concerning sexual thoughts, behaviours and or problematic pornography use. Our focus is on fostering early intervention, supporting desistance, and ultimately preventing sexual harm. To assist our partner agencies in promoting these pathways, we have developed a series of posters in collaboration with GPs, that can be displayed within your services. These resources are intended to prompt reflection, initiate conversations, and increase awareness that confidential, professional support is available. As sexual harm frequently occurs in secrecy, it is essential that we work collectively to increase visibility of support and create opportunities for safe disclosure.

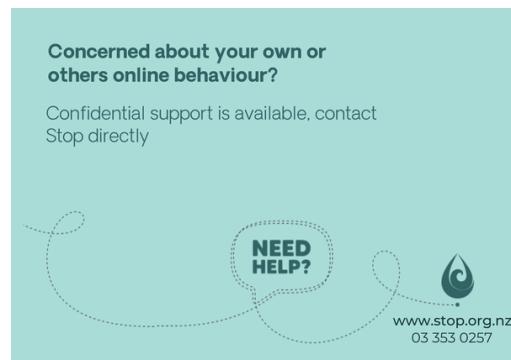
Concerned about your own or
others online behaviour?
Excessive pornography viewing
can lead to seeking more extreme
or illegal content.

Confidential support is available, contact
Stop directly

NEED
HELP?

www.stop.org.nz
03 353 0257

Print & Display Posters



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