

FASD-CAN August news

FASD Awareness Month 2025

There's less than a month to go until 2025 FASD Month kicks off this September!

The theme is 'Whakarongo ki o mātou reo! / Hear Our Voices!'

Helping to increase awareness of FASD can be as simple as wearing red shoes (the international symbol of FASD Awareness) and using them to open conversations with friends, whānau, teachers, medical staff or your sports or church groups. But if you'd like to take it further, head to FASD-CAN's [FASD Awareness Month webpage](#) to find more ideas to check out their new shareable / printable resources – and find out how you can win one of two \$300 supermarket vouchers!

FASD Day Events: 09/09/25

Online event with FASD-CAN

FASD-CAN is currently finalising details of our FASD Awareness Day online get-together but it will be happening online at 9am on Tuesday September 9 – and again at 7.30pm for those who can't make the morning. There'll be a special video featuring rangatahi with lived experience of FASD. [Click here to get your Zoom link](#) and pop it in your diary now!

Sausage Sizzle at Silo Park – 09/09, 5.30pm (for those in Tāmaki Makaurau)

Exciting news: not only will Auckland Harbour Bridge be lighting up **RED** to support FASD Awareness for the very first time – but we've just heard Sky Tower will be, too! Join FASD-CAN kaimahi / staff and rangatahi at Silo Park on the waterfront in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland to watch the lights come on, and enjoy a sausage and a milo. [Click here](#) for more details and to RSVP!

Education Masterclasses

The recording of FASD-CAN's last Masterclass (FASD and Individual Education Plans) is now online – [click here to watch](#) if you haven't already. Those who register for these live webinars have access to the recordings for three months.

Our final Education Masterclass is coming up later this month.

Masterclass 3: FASD and Trauma, Thursday 28 August 3.30pm-5pm – \$10

Trauma can significantly impact a person's emotional and psychological wellbeing, but informed approaches which prioritise safety, trust and empowerment will encourage resilience and growth. [Click here to register.](#)

Life with FASD – Caregiver Training in Whanganui Tuesday & Wednesday 16/17 September

In collaboration with [Woven Whānau](#), a wonderful caregiver network in Whanganui, FASD-CAN is running their 'Life with FASD: Understand and Connect with Aroha' caregiver and parent training course next month. This is a free, in-person training from 9.30am-2.30pm each day, with morning teas and lunches included.

It will be facilitated by their two Navigators, Anna Gundesen and RuruHana Brownie, who have been running this course with fantastic feedback for several years now. Participants have called it 'life-changing'. Places are strictly limited – [click here to find out more!](#)

FASD in Education – Global Webinar Series with Ailsa Clarke

A fantastic opportunity to gain an overview in FASD education with these three webinars from a globally-renowned trainer. Presenter Ailsa Clarke is a Scottish expert on FASD and trauma in education. An ex-teacher herself, she has lived experience of a tamaiti / child with FASD.

Webinar 1: Planning and Preparation \$50

Thursday 11 September 2025, 3:30pm – 5pm

So where do you start? Register to learn a best-practice framework that can give you and your student with diagnosed or possible FASD great opportunities to make school a positive experience.

Webinar 2: Strategies for Supporting FASD in the Akomanga / Classroom \$50

Thursday 16 October 2025, 3:30pm – 5pm

Learn practical approaches to support the unique needs of learners with FASD.

Webinar 3: Sensory and Environmental Matters ... Matter! \$50

Thursday 30 October 2025, 3:30pm – 5pm

Find out how the class environment can influence sensory issues and affect impulse control and self-regulation. Learn set-ups and strategies that work.

[Register here](#) for all three sessions on FASD-CAN's training platform.

New research study: What does it mean to 'live well' as a neurodivergent person?

Dr Joanna Chu, Professor Anita Gibbs and the University of Auckland are conducting a survey to find out about the hopes and dreams of neurodivergent people. They want to find out what 'living well' looks like and what supports people with neurodiversity to do just that. They are seeking the views of people who are at least 16 years old, who either are, or know someone who is, neurodivergent.

[Click here for all details.](#)

Specialist quarterly webinars for Social Workers / Support Workers and Educators.

These are informative, topical presentations by experts in their fields, with time for questions and discussion afterwards. They'll be accessed (and recorded) through FASD-CAN's training portal – free to watch live, or \$10 each afterwards for the recording.

Please share these with your colleagues!

- **Next LANSAS webinar for social workers and support workers**

Tuesday 12 August 12, 4pm

Topic: 'What is Trust with FASD?' This session looks at two common issues in FASD which can cause big problems: confabulation and taking others' belongings.

[Register here.](#)

- **NTR webinar for educators – Tuesday 19 August, 4pm**

FASD and the Collaborative Proactive Solutions (CPS) model

Supporting the learning of ākongā / students with FASD can be challenging due to their executive, adaptive and sensory functioning differences. Dr Ross Greene's Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (CPS) model has been influential in reshaping how we can support learners, particularly those with complex needs.

[Register here.](#)

Online Caregiver Support Group Meetings – upcoming dates

FASD-CAN's online caregiver support groups are open to everyone around the motu – whether you have one of their [in-person support groups](#) near you or not.

Online Caregiver Support Group LUNCHTIME – (monthly) Thursday September 4, 12:30pm

Online Caregiver Support Group EVENING – (monthly) Wednesday August 20, 7:30pm