

Disability Support Services – FASD-CAN Survey Report now out

A report based on FASD-CAN's October 2023 survey about Disability Support Services funding is now available – and sadly, many caregivers will relate to the high-stress situations and dire need for more support it revealed. One caregiver whose rangatahi with FASD was not eligible for the funding said, "If our young person had had support ... they would not have been in and out of youth justice, numerous motels, living on the street and wasting police resources." It's an all-too-common story which is taking a huge toll on the lives of those with FASD and their whānau. Read more [here](#).

Webinar: Caregivers Coping with Violence and Abuse – Tuesday July 16

Professor Anita Gibbs and Lee Tempest will discuss the hard but very necessary subject of child to parent violence and abuse, with time for questions at the end. [Click here](#) to find out more and register.

FASD Awareness Month 2024

It's time to start thinking about FASD Awareness Month! FASD-CAN is working on a campaign around hope. Hopeful things are beginning to happen around FASD this year, and the Health Minister's promised [revitalisation of the FASD Action Plan](#) is high on the list.

FASD-CAN has no Hui planned for 2024, but are planning online events on International FASD Awareness Day, Monday September 9 – and we'd love to know what you might do to raise awareness within your whānau / workplace / rohe / area.

Meanwhile, some buildings and monuments around the motu are lighting up in red on 09/09! Ōtautahi / Christchurch city will again light up, Wellington's Michael Fowler Centre has said yes and so has Whangārei, Whanganui, Ōtepoti / Dunedin and hopefully more. Why not lobby your council to light up red in your area? If they say yes – [let FASD-CAN know](#) and they'll try and get it on the news! [Join FASD-CAN](#) for email updates...

Want FASD-informed caregiver training in your area?

Would you like FASD-CAN facilitators to come to your area and present their two-day 'Life with FASD' training for caregivers, parents and whānau? Interest in this workshop is increasing, so they've put some information together to let you know that they can come to your area and present this life-changing training to you, too. Some feedback from participants about what the LwF training meant for them:

"Being in a group of people who understand, and the facilitator having lived experience."

"Access to structured information and resources. A positive, but realistic approach."

[Click here](#) for more details.

A few words from rangatahi with FASD

From small beginnings at a Tamaki Makaurau Pizza Club and other events for young people, some rangatahi with FASD have not only found friends, but some are now finding an increasingly confident voice across much of FASD-CAN's advocacy.

Recent FASD-CAN training has included valuable input from them from their lived experience in mental health, tertiary education and youth justice; they've helped in FASD-CAN's research and in [media interviews](#) and have been advocating directly with Members of Parliament. Their voices are powerful – they want to make a difference and they are.

[Click here](#) to see some brave and thought-provoking short videos from a rangatahi weekend in Wellington in March. As well as 'What's one thing you wish people knew about FASD?' these now include, 'What's one of your strengths?' and 'What's one thing your parents do that's helpful for you?'

Stop the Ram Raid Bill!

The petition against the 'Ram Raid Offending and Related Measures Amendment Bill' will be presented at Parliament Grounds on Wednesday, 26th June at 12pm. This bill will effectively criminalise children and further traumatise our most vulnerable; it fails to address the root causes that contribute to tamariki and rangatahi causing harm in our communities – and simply won't work. Click [here](#) to read FASD-CAN's submission. Please [sign the petition](#), share it – and consider being present to support the handover at Parliament, June 26 at midday!

FASD-CAN online groups – upcoming meeting dates

Find out more and register at any time to join our special FASD-informed groups on FASD-CAN's [event page](#).

- LANSAS online group for social workers / support workers – 4pm, Tuesday 25 June.
- Online Caregiver Support Group – 12:30 pm, Thursday 4 July.