

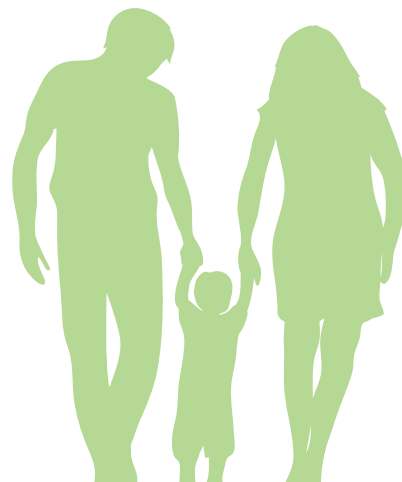
Family Works Northern

Family Works Northern builds safe, strong and connected families.
Our social services help children, young people and families feel supported and included in their communities.



Supporting families and communities

- + Family Works Northern provides over **20 different services** (including financial mentoring) in **11 locations** from Whangarei to Turangi.
- + Family Works Northern is the largest provider of Social Workers in Schools (SWiS), working with children in **134 low decile schools**.
- + Family Works Northern supported more than **15,000 children and their families** in the last year.
- + **1,036 people** benefited from our financial mentoring services.
- + **2,045 emergency food parcels** were given to people living below the poverty line.



Parenting Course Brings Positive Change

Violence was a way of life for Dayna when he was growing up so when he had his own children, hitting them was the only form of discipline he knew.

Dayna would take out his anger and hurt on his kids – until the day they were taken away and he realised he would have to make big changes to get them back.

When he referred himself to a 14-week The Incredible Years parenting programme run by Family Works, his two facilitators constantly lifted him up and supported him to become a better parent.

Family Works helped Dayna to break the cycle of violence. He now connects well with his children who love being with their dad and are no longer scared of him.

Learning Kindness After Seeing Violence

Maya* didn't realise how much the abusive relationship she had left was still affecting her children, especially Ashley* and Emily*, her oldest daughters. Emily had started hitting her sister and would withdraw when upset. Ashley lacked confidence and wanted to protect her younger siblings by parenting them.

The family was referred to Family Works' Restore programme, which helps traumatised children to overcome the devastating effects of being exposed to domestic violence. Working with our social worker and programme facilitator, Emily learnt safe ways to express her frustration. Ashley gained more self-confidence and she now lets Mum be the parent.

"Thanks to the eight-week programme, we are all getting along better at home," says Maya.

(*Names changed and models used to protect identities)



Family Works Northern



Goals

- + **Overcome** the effects of abuse
- + **Resolve** challenging behaviour
- + **Develop** parenting skills
- + **Strengthen** family relationships
- + **Help** children and young people make positive changes
- + **Increase** confidence and self-esteem
- + **Encourage** families to develop their own resources
- + **Advocate** to prevent family violence
- + **Enable** children and their families to connect with their communities

New Initiatives

- + The introduction of an early childhood education social worker to support Northland families
- + The expansion of our prison services to include a parenting programme for men.

“Family Works is a wonderful service and I feel so fortunate to be able to access professional help at such a difficult time.”

FAMILY WORKS CLIENT

Programmes, services & locations

For Whanau and Families

- + Family counselling
- + Social work support
- + Strengthening Families Coordinator and lead agency
- + Women Against Violence (WAVE) programme
- + Family Dispute Resolution Services
- + Support for children in care who are reuniting with their families

For Matua (parents)

- + The Incredible Years programme
- + Parenting Through Separation programme
- + Strengthening Step-Families programme
- + Financial mentoring for families

For Tamariki (children) and Rangatahi (young people)

- + Child abuse counselling
- + Child and family counselling
- + Social Workers in Schools (SWiS)
- + Restore programme for children and young people who have experienced abuse
- + Youth Workers in Secondary Schools (YWiSS)
- + Family Start home visits for babies and young children

(Note: not all services are offered at all sites)

For Communities

- + Family Violence response coordinators
- + Community Violence Prevention advocates
- + Support for families needing housing

