



*Youth Violence*  
*& its associated difficulties*

**2 DAY SYMPOSIUM**  
**1 & 2 March 2010, Te Puke**

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**OUTCOMES REPORT**

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**Prepared By:**

Relationship Services  
Whakawhanaungatanga (Bay of Plenty)

**For:**

Strengthening Families (Tauranga Moana)  
&  
Youth Violence Symposium Organising Committee

**Distributed To:**

Delegates, Individuals, Families, Whanau, Iwi, Hapu,  
Community Agencies, Local Government,  
Government Based Agencies,  
Central Government Based In The Region,  
& Central Government

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## CONTENTS

**Executive Summary..... Page 3**



**Symposium Overview.....Page 5**



**Panel Recommendations  
Summary..... Page 7**



**Youth Workshop Report..... Page 9**

### Appendices:

**Appendix A.....Page 11**  
Symposium Brochure



**Appendix B.....Page 13**  
Symposium Programme

**Appendix C.....Page 15**  
Transcript of Panel Discussions



**Appendix D.....Page 26**  
Symposium Evaluations Report

**Appendix E.....Page 28**  
Youth Workshop Evaluations Report



**Appendix F.....Page 30**  
Symposium CD Index

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Introduction

This two day event was aimed at persons who work with youth and youth violence and designed as a high quality, low cost event. It attracted an enormous response with 382 delegates from throughout the country. The key sectors, including NGO programme providers, social workers, CYF, NZ Police, Community Probation Service, education, justice, and researchers, were well represented both as speakers and as delegates.

The event combined:

1. Presentations by experts in youth violence- to upskill and inform the audience,
2. Programme providers - describing how they work and the outcomes they are achieving, and
3. Panel discussions - considering what could be done differently at a local level.

### Evaluations

The event was a tremendous success with an unprecedented volume of unsolicited congratulatory and appreciative emails and phone calls received after the event. Many called for this to become an annual and/or national event. This was reflected in the positive Evaluation Forms returned by delegates. An Evaluations Report is attached as Appendix D, summarised as follows (on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being highest):

Evaluation Questions	Rated 3/5 or higher	Rated 4/5 or higher
Quality and relevance of the presentations	100%	87%
Usefulness of the panel discussions	92%	61%
Suitability of the venue	100%	98%
Organisation of the Symposium	100%	97%

### Key Recommendations – Panels

Summarised below are a number of key recommendations that were developed from the panel discussions and interaction between panellists and the audience (full transcript Appendix C). The recommendations are for decision makers across the key sectors to:

- **Focus on the family and whanau, not just the child.**
- **Implement early identification and intervention (schools play a key part in this).**
- **Support Maori development including capacity building of *By Maori For Maori* initiatives.**
- **Break down the silos between and across agencies and departments.**
- **Include the business sector in youth job creation.**
- **Focus on parental involvement & support.**
- **Implement local youth development strategies.**
- **Focus on programme effectiveness.**
- **Consider new ideas.**
- **Include Local Government. Council has role to play in brokering relationships.**
- **Ensure youth values are core within our community.**
- **Implement funding frameworks which deliver appropriate & effective services.**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** continued

### **Key points from Youth Report**

- Youth model what they learn at home
- Help, programmes and advertising needs to be done from a young age right through school
- Youth often presumed guilty until proven innocent, both at school and in contact with Police
- Young people often not treated with respect resulting in disrespectful behaviours in response
- If young people associate in groups of two or more society assumes they are up to no good
- Important for Police to engage with young people in positive ways to see youth more positively
- Involve youth in community, with greater youth representation on community boards etc
- Best ways to reach youth is through advertising which is graphic, mass text alerts, social networking campaigning

The points raised from the youth workshop in many ways correlated to the recommendations put forward by the delegates. For example, the involvement of family, the need for a strengths based focus, and earlier intervention through school, are some of the parallels that can be drawn from the youth responses.

### **Conclusions**

In drawing conclusions from the two day youth violence symposium it is clear that this issue is a high priority for professionals working in the sectors of welfare, education, health and justice. Equally evident, as noted many times during the Symposium, is the need for early intervention, parenting programmes, family and whanau focused approaches, culturally appropriate programmes, the building of agency and Iwi capacity, a non-competitive capacity building funding approach looking 10 years out, and collaboration between and across agencies, NGO's, government departments and business, as being paramount in reducing youth violence within our communities.

A general sense amongst the delegates is that recommendations and initiatives along the lines of the ones recommended have been attempted a number of times but have failed to gain traction in terms of a whole of community approach. However, a sense of optimism remains, and much work is required post-Symposium in order to take the appropriate steps to realising the Symposium's objectives.

### **Next Steps**

Tauranga Moana is rising to the challenge offered by the Symposium and is currently in the process of developing an Action Plan as a first step towards a youth development strategy for this area. The challenge is for decision makers in all sectors to become involved in supporting this community in developing and implementing this strategy.

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## **SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW**

### **Event**

#### **Youth Violence Symposium (& its associated difficulties)**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2010

The Orchard, Te Puke

### **Attended By**

382 Delegates, 33 Presenters, and 17 Panellists from throughout the country.

### **Hosted By**

Strengthening Families, Tauranga Moana (SF), in partnership with  
Relationship Services Whakawhanaungatanga, Bay of Plenty (RSW BOP)

### **Organising Committee**

SF, Tessa Mackenzie and Gynette Gainfort	Ph 07 576 8392
RSW BOP, Les Simmonds	Ph 07 576 8392
Family Works Northern, Sylvia Powell	Ph 07 575-9709
Ministry of Youth Development (Central North), Blair Gilbert	Ph 07 921-8191
Te Runanga O Ngai Te Rangi Iwi Trust, Paul Stanley	Ph 07 575-3765
Ministry of Education (Special Education), Tauranga, John McGovern	Ph 07 571-7800
NZ Police (Youth Aid), Tauranga, Snr Constable Paul Horler	Ph 07 577-4300

### **Objectives**

1. Raise awareness of the role of Strengthening Families in its work facilitating co-ordinated services for high need families.
2. Assist the key sectors in their common purpose of reducing youth violence and promoting more positive outcomes.
3. Generate enthusiasm for greater collaboration and efficiencies in the funding and targeting of existing resources.

### **Day One**

Dedicated to treatment and research. Leading clinicians, researchers and senior government representatives from throughout the country provided information on:

1. The origins and impact of youth violence;
2. Promising outcome focused programmes; and
3. The new initiatives currently being put in place by the National Government.

### **Day Two**

Brought together the wider community within the Tauranga Moana area to consider the steps that could be taken locally in order to reduce youth violence through a series of panel discussions. The ideas generated at the Symposium were applicable to other communities.

### **Youth Workshop**

During Day One a group of 23 youth from varying backgrounds met to discuss the issues being raised during the Symposium. The Youth Workshop was co-ordinated by Family Works Northern and the youth feedback was presented to delegates on Day Two (Refer Report Page 9).

### **Masters of Ceremonies**

Day One: Jeff Sanders, CEO, Relationship Services. Day Two: Carl Crafar, General Manager, Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) and Blair Gilbert, Central North Regional Team Manager, MYD.

### **Keynote Speakers**

Dr. John Church, Senior Lecturer and Researcher, University of Canterbury

Dr. Ian Lambie, Associate Professor, University of Auckland

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## SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW continued

### Guest Speakers

Andrew J. Becroft, Chief Youth Court Judge of New Zealand

Paul Stanley, Ngai Te Rangī, Tainui

Brian Coffey, Group Manager Strategy, Special Education, Ministry of Education

Dr. Donna Swift, Social Anthropologist & Researcher, Swift Solutions

Strengthening Families Co-ordinators (Tauranga Moana), Tessa Mackenzie and Glynette Gainfort

Te Runanga O Ngai Te Rangī Iwi Trust

Graham Cameron, Manager, Merivale Community Centre, Tauranga

Peter Waru, Regional Manager, Family and Community Services, Ministry of Social Development

### Guest Speakers - Providers of Promising Youth Violence Programmes

Youth 2 Men Programme, Premier Youth Training Academy, Hastings (working with Maori youth)

Sergeant Kevin Kneebone, NZ Police (Police programmes)

Positive Pathways Programme, RSWBOP and ImpacTauranga (working with Multiple Systems)

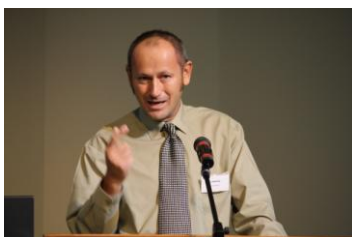
Youth Horizons Trust, Tauranga (Functional Family Therapy)

Chris Polaschek, Manager Youth Justice, Child, Youth & Family, Wellington (Fresh Start programmes)

Brian Coffey, Special Education, Ministry of Education (Programmes in Schools)

### Panellists

17 Panellists across the key sectors including: Judge Paul Geoghegan, Paul Horler NZ Police, Raheera Ohia Ngati Pukenga, Strengthening Families Co-ordinators Tessa Mackenzie and Glynette Gainfort, Ross Paterson Mayor WBOP District Council, M.P. Todd McLay, Colin Bidois Ngati Ranginui, Peter Stanley University of Waikato, Graham Cameron Merivale Community Centre, Trevor Wi-Kaitaia Child Youth & Family, Craig Campbell-Smart New Plymouth District Council, Les Simmonds RSW BOP, Peter Waru MSD, Paul Stanley Ngai Te Rangī, M.P. Te Ururoa Flavell, Lester Oakes Career Services Rapaura.



*Note: All care has been taken in the production of this document but the choice of content is subjective and reflects the best efforts of the writers to correctly summarise and reflect accurately the panel discussions and the intentions of speakers and delegates. Readers of this document are encouraged to read the full transcript of panel discussions attached as Appendix C.*

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## PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY

**A full transcript of the Panel Discussions is attached as Appendix C.**

**The Panel Topics were:**

1. *All sectors of society working and pulling together to reduce youth violence (and its associated difficulties) and promote positive behaviours. How can we achieve this?*
2. *How can we act earlier together to prevent youth violence and promote positive behaviours?*
3. *What is contributing to the scattered and fragmented funding for youth violence and its associated difficulties. What can be done differently?*

**Each Panellist spoke for five minutes on the Topic, followed by audience contributions.**

A summary of recommendations, significant statements, and statements that were widely supported by the audience, are listed below (grouped by theme)

***The recommendations are to inform decision makers across all sectors TO:***

### **Focus On The Family and Whanau, Not Just The Child**

- The importance of using a strengths-based and whole of family approach.
- Focus on family interventions rather than on the child.

### **Implement Early Identification and Intervention**

- Early identification and intervention is critical.
- The involvement of early childhood centres and schools is key to this.
- Collaboration between health and education for the early screening and diagnosis of ADHD and learning difficulties
- Free and easily accessible parenting programmes critical in providing early identification of difficulties and support to parents

### **Support Maori Development**

- Developing Maori for Maori initiatives, supported by building the capacity of iwi social services.
- Proposed cost-effective, wrap around concept based on Maori cultural values of whanaungatanga, respect for elders, whakahihi (pride), whakama (shame), aroha (concern, care, love).
- Proposal for three iwi within Tauranga Moana to unite and collaborate with other welfare agencies.
- The Whanau Ora programme promises to allow organisations to focus more on the outcomes for whanau rather than the dollars.

### **Break Down The Silos Between Agencies & Departments**

- Inter-agency collaboration is important to achieve a more cohesive, co-ordinated agency response.
- Interagency/multi agency approaches to issues which relate to violent behaviour. Sharing information regarding signs and symptoms.
- Organisations need to work together instead of competitively, taking a long-term (i.e. 10 year) focus rather than 6 or 12 months in order to get us out of this cycle.

### **Include The Business Sector in Youth Job Creation**

- The importance of involving the business sector in creating employment or alternative education.

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## **PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY continued**

### **Implement Local Youth Development Strategies**

- Develop and implement a youth development strategy with input from all sectors of the community.
- Youth health and wellbeing must be a policy priority at local and central government

### **Ensure Youth Values Are Core Within Our Communities**

- Conscious identification of values within our community
- Youth should be central

### **Focus on Parental Involvement & Support**

- Parents kept engaged through the schooling years. Improved communication between school and whanau.
- Additional, low-level support around mental health of parents.
- Parents must support schools to do their work.
- Parents and schools must be both accountable and responsible in addressing youth development and youth issues.

### **Focus on Programme Effectiveness**

- Need to develop, fund and deliver programmes that are based on evidence (although they need not be evidence based programmes).
- Formalised list of approved programmes contained to a workable amount, and everyone funnels to these programmes.
- Collaboration insufficient unless programmes are both rigorous and appropriate.
- By community for community – those who live in a community need to lead programmes.

### **Consider New Ideas**

- Formation of early childhood intervention teams.
- Formation of community centres driven from a central hub to receive referrals from schools , DHBs etc.

### **Include Local Government**

- Council has a role to play, by focusing on brokering relationships with those who deliver on social wellbeing.

### **Implement Funding Frameworks Which Deliver Appropriate & Effective Services**

- Organisations could move towards improved sharing of resources / buildings / administration support.
- Should be funding programmes that are based on evidence.
- Funding seems very complex and would benefit from being streamlined, within and across social service agencies, and funding agencies/foundations, to avoid the empire building that threatens the funding process.
- Fundamental requirements include;
  - staff credentialed in both life and formal schooling
  - clarity from within organisations as to when they are the most appropriate for a whanau's needs, and also when they may not be most appropriate
  - seeking longer term funding arrangements so that NGOs can make longer terms (5 year) plans
  - supporting the devolution of resources so that iwi can look after their own
- Schools are a tremendous place to focus resources because they provide a captive audience.
- New concept of “high trust contracting”, in which funders work with organisations with a long history of strong governance and financial stability. High trust contracting still requires evidence that a programme is effective,

**A Consensus at the Symposium was that whilst many of the above recommendations are held as being vital for reducing youth violence, it is not the reality in practice.**

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## YOUTH WORKSHOP REPORT

**Youth Workshop Facilitated by:** Sylvia Powell and Claire Moloney,  
Child Advocates for Children Who Experience Family Violence,  
Family Works Northern, Tauranga.  
Dan Bolten, Youth Facilitator, Tauranga.

The following is a result of a one day workshop conducted on the first day of the Youth Violence Symposium with 23 young people from 7 out of 8 Tauranga High Schools, two alternative education training providers, and one agency who are involved with youth not currently attending school.

The following information on the representation of young people is only as a result of what the young people chose to share with us. There were students from a broad cross of cultures and socio economic status. A nearly equal number of male and female participants were represented.

### **Youth defined violence as the following:**

YOUTH - identified as being aged 12 – 25.

Violence can involve sexual, spiritual, verbal, physical and emotional abuse. Violence is about those (people) who cannot accept the differences of others.

Violence is also about a Cry for help; an explosion of emotion. Violence may involve yelling, swearing, and crying it may include text bullying or getting a hiding. It is about culture, an attitude of people and racism. Those who are violent may have mental health issues. Those who are violent are carrying on what they learned in their family. Violence can be expressed by the use of symbolism such as “your patch” or colours. Peer pressure can lead to involvement in youth violence.

### **Youth felt the following were some reasons why there is youth violence:**

To show dominance; not knowing any other ways to express anger; wanting to feel accepted or belonging; desensitised by media and technology; racism; unhealthy environments; jealousy and anger; carrying burdens; grief; gender roles – males violence more accepted and expected in a co-ed school; lack of parental support, lack of family role models; hormones; lack of finance; social expectations; it's human nature/lack of control; upbringing/childhood; used to establish pecking order; issues within the family; the absence of gentleman rules where morals came into fights in other generations such as a shoot out.

### **Strong themes coming out of the workshop:**

#### **Family:**

- This was something that popped up with nearly every question put to the young participants. There was a strong consensus that the children would be modelling what they saw at home. This led into discussions that young people may not always have the resources around them or the relationships with others that would help them learn new ways of behaving.
- The youth felt that help, programs and advertising needs to be done from a young age right through school.

#### **School:** School was identified as both positive and negative

- Young people felt that school contributed greatly to the reasons young people become violent in school. Youth found it particularly frustrating that they would generally be guilty of something in school unless proven otherwise. Another aspect of school was raised that you have little respect from teachers and you are seldom allowed to express your thoughts if they are contrary to what is being taught however in year 13 suddenly you are expected to have the freedom of speech. The young people identified this as a peculiar practice. School was also identified as being a place young people may become involved in violent acts or gangs and peer pressure allowed them little choice to not be involved.
- School however is a place that youth identified as being a central part in reaching young people and educating them on youth violence. Where teachers were less dominant, willing to get to know the young people and show an interest in them students felt a young person was likely to speak to the teacher if they had concerns.

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## YOUTH WORKSHOP REPORT – continued

**Police:** Police also viewed as positive and negative

- Young people expressed a feeling of being fed up with police negative attitude toward them. There is felt to be a culture amongst police that if you are young people and in more than groups of two you are likely to be doing something wrong. Police often treat young people with little respect regardless of the young person, this was felt to be a strong reason young people have lost respect for the police and are often confrontational with them.
- Young people strongly expressed their knowledge of the role of the police and their difficulty with sometimes doing this when it came to dealing with young people. The youth expressed wanting to feel confident (as they didn't already) they can call police or approach them if the need was there as they identified the police as having an important role with young people.
- The participants identified a big gap in relationships between young people and police and the young people believed it would be important for police to engage with young people in positive ways in their communities as well as in a law and punitive role. By doing this the police would see the many great youth who are not out committing crime and will help to instil a more positive perception of young people.

**Community involvement:**

- Youth participants expressed the need for youth representation in the community. More youth voices are needed in projects that will involve them or affect them, having youth representation on the community boards and forums need to be valued and looked at. Young people wanted to be given the opportunity to participate; engaging them in projects would help them have ownership as well as a feeling of contributing to solutions in problems that affect them now and that will impact their future. When asked about how we might include youth into the community forums etc they responded "Just ask us to come".
- There was strong voice with these 25 participants to keep this group together for future meetings as they would like to continue this discussion group and use these discussions as opportunities to develop action plans for the young people to take back into their schools and communities.

**Effective ways to reach youth:**

- The more graphic the better – realistic consequences of actions. Whilst young people felt they should be involved in resources and campaigns that involved them, it was an overall consensus that the more graphic an advert or message the more impact it was likely to have on them. Having young people from cross sections of the community involved in campaigning and advertising would be beneficial in a project being successful with young people.
- Having people not their age but older who can identify, have the knowledge and skills
- Show positive role models
- Permanent mass text alerts
- Social networking – youth taking ownership of the issues. Using Facebook, Bebo and Twitter for campaigning

### **Campaign**

The youth were asked to come up with a campaign that would challenge youth violence.

**Three catch phrases for young people were designed:**

*"It's not the anger its how you show it"*

*"Everyone has a story – everyone wants a voice"*

*"Violence consumed him and eventually killed him"*

## APPENDIX A – Symposium Brochure

The **Youth Violence Symposium** is an opportunity for people who work, volunteer, or have a professional interest in this area to come together and make contacts, learn of different approaches, develop understanding, and find new ideas to inform them in their practice in regard to “**Reducing Youth Violence and promoting positive behaviours**”.

The **first day** is dedicated to treatment and research. Leading clinicians, researchers and senior government representatives from throughout the country will provide information on: *The origins and impact of youth violence; promising outcome focused programmes; and the new initiatives currently being put in place by the National Government.*

The **second day** is designed to bring together the wider community within the Tauranga Moana area to consider the steps that can be taken locally in order to reduce youth violence. The ideas generated at the Symposium will undoubtedly be applicable to other communities.

The Symposium has been developed in partnership by **Strengthening Families** and **Relationship Services** as an accessible, quality, ‘no frills’ community event.

It is **intended to be helpful for a wide range of people**, including community helpers, social workers, youth workers, educators, counsellors, school staff, mental health and medical professionals, support workers, and staff from Government departments such as NZ Police, Corrections and Child, Youth and Family.

### DAY 1 PROGRAMME:

Monday 1 March

8.30	Registration	
9.30	Whakatau Introduction Guest Speaker	Colin Bidois, Ngati Ranginui Iwi Jeff Sanders, CEO, Relationship Services Judge Paul Geoghegan
10.15	Morning Tea	
<b>Topic: Youth Violence &amp; its associated difficulties: What are the drivers? What is its prevalence? What are its effects?</b>		
10.35	Guest Speaker	<i>Justice Perspective</i> Principal Youth Court Judge Andrew J. Becroft
11.05	Guest Speaker	<i>Maori Perspective</i> Paul Stanley, Ngai Te Rangi, Tainui
11.35	Guest Speaker	<i>Education Perspective</i> Brian Coffey, Ministry of Education
12.05	<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>	<i>Research Perspective</i> <b>Dr. John Church</b> , Senior Lecturer and Researcher, University of Canterbury
12.50	Lunch	
<b>Promising Youth Violence Programmes</b>		
1.35	<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>	<b>Dr. Ian Lambie</b> , Associate Professor, Psychology Department, University of Auckland
2.25	Parallel Presentations	1. <i>Working with Maori Youth:</i> Youth 2 Men Programme. Premier Youth Training Academy, Hastings
		2. <i>Police Programme: Sergeant Kevin Kneebone</i> , NZ Police
3.00	Parallel Presentations	1. <i>Multiple Systems:</i> Positive Pathways Programme. Relationship Services & ImpacTauranga
		2. <i>Functional Family Therapy:</i> Youth Horizons, Tauranga
3.30	Aft. Tea	
3.50	Parallel Presentations	1. <i>Fresh Start Programmes</i> - Chris Polaschek, Manager Youth Justice, CYF
		2. <i>Programmes in Schools:</i> Brian Coffey, Group Manager - Special Education Strategy, Ministry of Education
<b>Girl Violence</b>		
4.25	<b>Guest Speaker</b>	<i>Girl Fighting:</i> <b>Dr. Donna Swift</b> , Social Anthropologist & Researcher
4.55	Closing Remarks	Jeff Sanders, Chief Executive, Relationship Services
5.00	Day 1 ends	

### DAY 2 PROGRAMME:

Tuesday 2 March

9.00	Opening Speech	Strengthening Families: Its role in reducing youth violence
<b>Morning Workshops</b>		
9.30	Parallel Workshops	1. <i>Te Runanga O Ngai Te Rangi Iwi Trust</i> Youth projects for Maori youth/families
		2. <i>Merivale Community Centre</i> Programme attendance and engagement
10.30	Morning Tea	
<b>Panel Discussions 1 &amp; 2</b>		
10.50	Panel Discussion:	<i>M.C. Carl Crafar, General Manager, Ministry of Youth Development</i> <i>Panelists:</i> Judge Geoghegan, Paul Horler NZ Police, Rahera Ohia Ngati Pukenga, Strengthening Families Co-ordinators, Ross Paterson Mayor WBOP District Council, M.P. Todd McClay
12.00	Panel Discussion:	<i>M.C. Blair Gilbert, MYD</i> <i>Panelists:</i> Colin Bidois Ngati Ranginui, Peter Stanley University of Waikato, Graham Cameron Merivale Community Centre, Trevor Wi-Kaitaia CYF, Craig Campbell- Smart, New Plymouth District Council
1.00	Lunch	
<b>Youth Workshop</b>		
2.00	Presentation	Feedback from Day 1 Youth Workshop in which local youth 14-16yrs discuss youth violence issues assisted by Youth Facilitators
2.30	Presentation	Feedback & results from morning Workshops: Relationship Services
<b>Panel Discussion 3</b>		
2.45	Panel Discussion:	<i>M.C. Blair Gilbert, MYD</i> <i>Panelists:</i> Judge Geoghegan, Peter Waru Regional Mgr MSD, Paul Stanley Ngai Te Rangi, Les Simmonds Relationship Services, Lester Oakes CEO Career Services, M.P. Te Ururoa Flavell
3.50	Presentation	<i>Strengthening Families, Family &amp; Community Services:</i> How can Strengthening Families play a part?
4.05	Closing Remarks	<i>Summation and Where To From Here?</i> M.C.'s Jeff Sanders & Blair Gilbert
4.20	Poroporoaki	Colin Bidois, Ngati Ranginui Iwi
4.30	Day 2 ends	

## REGISTRATION FORM

### Tax Invoice GST No. 13-381-844

Name (for name badge) \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Daytime \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you choose to complete the 'Delegate Additional Information Form' below (optional) you will receive a 'Youth Violence Service Directory' at the Symposium. We encourage you to complete this Form to help collectively assist networking and services to youth post-Symposium.

### PAYMENT DETAILS

**\$55** Earlybird Fee (register **before 8 February**)  
The Fee covers both days and lunches & refreshments

**\$20** Late Registration Fee (after 8 February)  
===== *TOTAL PRICE* (all prices are GST inclusive)

LUNCH: Each day we will supply a Packed Lunch (roll/fruit/slice). Please tick your preference:

Vegetarian roll  Meat roll

(We ask that you bring your own lunch supplements if you have special dietary requirements, thank you)

**Cheque** enclosed (*payable to Relationship Services*)  
Please post the completed form, with cheque, to:

Relationship Services  
9 Brookfield Tce, Tauranga 3110

**Eftpos/Cash** in person to Relationship Services' office  
AT: 9 Brookfield Tce, Tauranga

**Direct Credit** to Relationship Services Bank A/c:  
Westpac 03 0502 0137912 00 – provided you specify  
**your name & "Symposium"**

**Payment Policy:** 1. Places will only be allocated once payment has been received 2. You may send a substitute in your place (please advise us of this). 3. Cancellations (in writing) prior to 12 February will be fully refunded. 4. Regrettably no refunds will be given from Monday 15 February.

DATE 6.5.10

### SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVES

- To assist the key sectors in their common purpose of reducing youth violence and promoting more positive outcomes.
- To bring together practitioners, community workers, volunteers and government agencies to listen and learn from each other.
- To raise awareness of the role of government agency Strengthening Families, in its work facilitating co-ordinated services for high need families.
- To generate enthusiasm for greater collaboration and efficiencies in the funding and targeting of existing resources.
- To generate an Outcomes Report of Symposium learnings and/or recommendations for dissemination to individuals, families, iwi/hapu, community agencies, local government, government based agencies, central government based in the region, and central government to inform practice and policy.

**Venue:** The Orchard, 20 MacLoughlin Drive (off No. 3 Rd), Te Puke (20 minutes from Tauranga Airport). Wheelchair accessible. Free carparking at venue. Directions and a map will be posted or emailed after registration.

#### Working Party Organising Committee:

Tessa Mackenzie & Gynette Gainfort,  
Strengthening Families Co-ordinators Tauranga  
Les Simmonds, Clinical Leader, Relationship Services Tga  
Sylvia Powell, Child Advocate for Youth 12-17 who experience family violence, Family Works Northern  
Kevin Austin, Regional Youth Development Advisor, Ministry of Youth Development, Central North  
Paul Stanley, Ngai Te Rangi, Tainui, Te Runanga O Ngai Te Rangi Iwi Trust  
John McGovern, Service Manager/Educational Psychologist, Special Education, Ministry of Education, Tauranga  
Paul Horler, Senior Constable, Youth Aid-Te Aranui, NZ Police

**Enquiries:** Kiri Prentice, Relationship Services, Tauranga  
**Email:** tauranga@relationships.org.nz **Tel:** 07 576 8392  
**Web:** www.relate.org.nz **Fax:** 07 576 8397

## Youth Violence & its associated difficulties

### 2 DAY SYMPOSIUM

Hosted by

**Strengthening Families**  
**Whakapiripiri Nga Whānau**

in association with

**Relationship Services**  
**Whakawhanaungatanga**  
*helping you find your own answers*



**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010**

The Orchard, Te Puke

## APPENDIX B – Symposium Programme

### YOUTH VIOLENCE SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME DAY ONE, MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> Mach, Te Puke

Time	Item	Presentation Topics	Speakers	Room
9.00 – 9.30	Registration			Foyer
9.30 – 9.40 9.40 – 9.45 9.45 – 9.50	Whakatau M.C. Housekeeping	Introduction	Colin Bidois, Ngati Ranginui Iwi Jeff Sanders, CEO, Relationship Services Kiri Prentice, Relationship Services	Auditorium
9.50 – 10.15	<b>Guest Speaker</b>	<b>Opening Comments</b>	<b>Judge Paul Geoghegan</b>	
10.15 – 10.35	MORNING TEA BREAK (20 minutes)			Foyer
<b>Youth Violence &amp; it's associated difficulties: What are the drivers? What is it's prevalence? What are it's effects?</b>				
10.35 – 11.05 (30 mins)	GUEST SPEAKER	<i>Justice Perspective</i>	Principal Youth Court Judge, Andrew J. Becroft	Auditorium
11.05 – 11.35 (30 mins)	GUEST SPEAKER	<i>Maori Perspective</i>	Paul Stanley, Ngai Te Rangī, Tainui	Auditorium
11.35 – 12.05 (30 mins)	GUEST SPEAKER	<i>Education Perspective</i>	Brian Coffey, Group Manager Strategy, Special Education, Ministry of Education	Auditorium
12.05 – 12.50 (45 mins)	<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>	<i>Research Perspective</i>	<b>Dr. John Church,</b> Senior Lecturer and Researcher, University of Canterbury	Auditorium
12.50 – 1.35	LUNCH (45 minutes)			Foyer
<b>Promising Youth Violence Programmes</b>				
1.35 – 2.20 (45 mins)	<b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION</b>	What's Hot, What's Not and What's Rot?	<b>Dr. Ian Lambie</b> Associate Professor, University of Auckland	Auditorium
2.20 – 2.25 2.25 – 2.55 (30 mins)	<b>PARALLEL PRESENTATIONS</b>	Youth 2 Men Programme, working with Maori Youth  Police Programme	Premier Youth Training Academy, Hastings  Sergeant Kevin Kneebone	Change Rooms Auditorium  Breakout
2.55 – 3.00 3.00 – 3.30 (30 mins)	<b>PARALLEL PRESENTATIONS</b>	1. Positive Pathways Programme, working with Multiple Systems  2. Functional Family Therapy	Relationship Services BOP and ImpacTauranga  Youth Horizons Trust, Tauranga	Change Rooms Auditorium  Breakout
3.30 – 3.50	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK (20 minutes)			Foyer
3.50 – 4.20 (30 mins)	<b>PARALLEL PRESENTATIONS</b>	1. Youth Justice Fresh Start Programmes  2. Programmes in Schools	Chris Polaschek Manager Youth Justice, Child, Youth and Family  Brian Coffey, Special Education	Auditorium  Breakout
4.20 – 4.25 4.25 – 4.55 (30 mins)	<b>GUEST SPEAKER</b>	<i>Girl Fighting</i>	<b>Dr. Donna Swift</b> Social Anthropologist and researcher, Director of Swift Solutions	Auditorium
4.55 – 5.00	<i>Closing Speaker</i>	Wrap Up & Introduction to Day Two	M.C. Jeff Sanders, Chief Executive Relationship Services	Auditorium

**YOUTH VIOLENCE SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME**  
**DAY TWO, TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Te Puke**

Time	Item	Presentation Topics	Speakers	Room
9.00 – 9.05 (5 mins)	M.C.	Introduction to Day Two	Blair Gilbert, Regional Team Manager Central North, Ministry of Youth Development	Auditorium
9.05 – 9.25 (20 mins)	Introductory Speech	Strengthening Families: It's Role in Reducing Youth Violence	Strengthening Families Co-ordinators	Auditorium
9.25 – 9.30				Change Rooms
<b>Morning Workshops</b>				
9.30 – 10.30 (60 mins)	<b>PARALLEL</b>	<b>1.</b> How can a community better meet the needs of Maori youth/families in the context of service provision?  <b>2.</b> What are the barriers to attending Programmes? How can we ensure Programme attendance and how do we engage parents in the process of change?	<b>Paul Stanley</b> Te Runanga O Ngai Te Rangi Iwi Trust	Auditorium
	<b>WORKSHOPS</b>		<b>Graham Cameron</b> Manager, Merivale Community Centre, Tauranga	Breakout
10.30 – 10.50	MORNING TEA BREAK (20 minutes)			
<b>Panel Discussions 1 &amp; 2</b>				
10.50 – 10.55	M.C.	How the Panel Discussions will operate	Blair Gilbert, Regional Mgr, MYD	Auditorium
10.55 – 12.00 (1 hour 5)	Panel M.C.	Topic Introduction	Carl Crafar, General Manager, Ministry of Youth Development	Auditorium
	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION 1</b>	<i>All sectors of society working and pulling together to reduce youth violence (&amp; it's associated difficulties) and promote positive behaviours. How can we do this?</i>	Panellists (5 mins each): Judge Geoghegan, Paul Horler NZ Police, Raheera Ohia Ngati Pukenga, Strengthening Families Co-ordinator, Ross Paterson Mayor WBOP District Council, M.P. Todd McClay	
12.00 – 12.05	<b>5 minute micro-break before next panel discussion</b>			
12.05 – 1.00 (55 minutes)	Panel M.C.	Topic Introduction	Blair Gilbert, Regional Mgr, MYD	Auditorium
	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION 2</b>	<i>How can we act earlier together to prevent youth violence and promote positive behaviour?</i>	Panellists (5 mins each): Colin Bidois Ngati Ranginui, Peter Stanley SenLecturer, Univ. of Waikato, Graham Cameron Merivale Community Centre, Suse Sligo Regional Director Midlands CYF, Craig Campbell-Smart, New Plymouth District Council	
1.00 – 2.00	LUNCH (1 hour)			
2.00 – 2.30 (30 mins)	<b>Presentation</b>	Feedback from Day One Youth Workshop involving group of local youth aged 14-16 years	Youth Facilitators and /or Youth	Auditorium
2.30 – 2.45 (15 mins)	<b>Presentation</b>	Feedback from morning Workshops	Relationship Services	Auditorium
<b>Panel Discussion 3</b>				
2.45 – 3.50 (1 hour 5)	Panel M.C.	Topic Introduction	Blair Gilbert, Regional Mgr, MYD	Auditorium
	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION 3</b>	<i>What is contributing to the scattered and fragmented funding for youth violence and it's associated difficulties? What can be done differently?</i>	Panellists (5 mins each): Judge Geoghegan, Les Simmonds Relationship Services, Peter Waru Regional Mgr MSD, Paul Stanley Ngai Te Rangi Iwi, M.P. Te Ururoa Flavell, Lester Oakes, CEO Career Services	
3.50 – 4.05 (15 mins)	<b>Presentation</b>	How can Strengthening Families play a part in this?	Strengthening Families, Family & Community Services	Auditorium
4.05 – 4.20 (15 minutes)	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Summation of Days One & Two, and Where To From Here?	M.C.'s Jeff Sanders and Blair Gilbert	Auditorium
4.20 – 4.30	<b>Poroporoaki</b>	Closing of Conference	Colin Bidois, Ngati Ranginui Iwi	Auditorium

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## APPENDIX C – Transcript of Panel Discussions

### Panel Discussion 1

All sectors of society working and pulling together to reduce youth violence (and its associated difficulties) and to promote positive behaviours. How can we do this?

The topic was introduced by Carl Crafar, GM, Ministry of Youth Development. Carl highlighted, as the primary goal of any programme or intervention, the benefit to the young people at the end of the service, rather than any institutional or political ambitions.

- **Ross Paterson** – Mayor, Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Mayor Paterson highlighted that the WBOP council views its role as addressing more than the traditional councils priorities such as roading, rubbish, water for example. He added that his council also sees itself as having a role in addressing environmental, economic, social and cultural issues in the region. He outlined current WBOP Council initiatives including;

1. Community Development programmes, whereby respective towns / community areas identify their own development priorities.
2. The Crime Prevention through Environmental Development scheme, whereby infrastructure programmes incorporate community safety as an integral consideration, for example, appropriate fencing, planting etc.
3. Community Safety forums (Te Puke and Katikati). These groups meet 6 weekly and the forum provides the opportunity for members to share the problems and challenges within their communities so that a collective response can be planned and initiated. The forums include representatives from the Police, Fire Service, Council, Community Boards, Church Association, Department of Corrections, Night Patrols, Sport BoP, local schools, Civil Defence and Emergency, Neighbourhood Watch, Road Safety Coordinator.

These initiatives indicate that the structure and communication lines are currently in place within and beyond Council for a collective response to this issue.

Mayor Paterson acknowledged the challenges associated with funding initiatives in the region. He highlighted the necessity for community consensus around funding decisions.

- **Paul Horler** – Youth Development Officer, NZ Police

The current focus of the Youth Development section is on better understanding why young offenders engage in offending. The typical pathway is that the young offender begins by acting violently at home, and then shifts this behaviour to the school setting. S/he then typically begins truanting and then shoplifting.

Paul attends the Tauranga interagency case management meetings which focus on family violence. This forum includes any referrals of children / young people under 17 years of age who are relatively new to violent offending, for example the first or second time that they have come to the attention of the Police.

Paul identified the business sector as offering the potential to assist with the issue of youth violence. He described one case whereby a 12 year old who had been struggling at school, was offered a position in a kiwifruit orchard on a part-time basis, with considerable success. It is essential, however, that the business sector recognises that these young people need support and some grace should they make mistakes.

- **Tessa Makenzie and Gynette Gainfort** – Strengthening Families Coordinators

Strengthening Families is currently focusing on supporting and strengthening agencies, networking, with a series of community forums (three in total) planned for 2010. These forums involve 4-5 agencies in a particular field outlining their services are designed to focus on public information sharing, for example, what programmes / services are currently being delivered locally and how can they be accessed?

The agency also offers a half day seminar which outlines the role of Strengthening Families. This forum enables local agencies to both network and to collaborate on experiential case collaboration.

The organisation also offer peer group meetings for lead agencies and Strengthening Families facilitators, where colleagues can share and compare best practice.

Glynette outlined a typical Strengthening Families case study, involving a teen-aged boy who had come to the attention of the Police. The case study highlighted the way in which Strengthening Families can contribute to a more cohesive, coordinated agency response to a family with complex challenges including violence.

- **Rahera Ohia – Ngati Pukenga**

Rahera challenges the sector to approach this issue in terms of youth development rather than youth violence.

The key principles of a strengths-based approach include understanding values and belief systems, being connected to society, quality relationships, greater control, and having good information upon which to base initiatives. These principle together help provide young people with a sense of connectedness to their communities and believing they have choices. These principles lie at the very heart of working in community development.

Initiatives that have been built on a “by Maori for Maori” philosophy focus on building capability within Maori and there has been a clear level of success based on this model, thanks largely to the ability of whanau, hapu and iwi to take up the challenge. However, government agencies are unable to coalesce over funding and policy streams to support this model. Resource strapped communities, rather than government, are still charged with driving a “whole of government” approach.

Rahera offers a solution to this challenge beginning in the Tauranga Moana region. A Tauranga Moana Youth Development Strategy would require sound coalition between young people, their whanau, and their communities, funded by a coalition of local, regional and central government, and implemented in the communities of Tauranga Moana.

- **Judge Geoghegan**

Judge Geoghegan acknowledged the unique role of judges, which involves working with young people who offend, but not at the coal face in the way that those in a therapeutic role, for example, work with them. However there has been some improvement recently, in terms of working collaboratively. For example, Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) provide an example of this improved collaboration.

Judge Geoghegan highlighted the central role which schools play in addressing the issues challenging young people and their communities. They offer a tremendous place to focus resources because they provide a captive audience of young people who want to do well, although not all are sure of how to do so. However, schools must also be clear that the good of the many must always outweigh the interests of the few. Schools should not be expected to keep on dangerous and violence students. We do, however, need to support schools in finding alternatives for the young people. In addition, parents must support schools to do their work. Parents and schools must be both accountable and responsible in addressing youth development and youth issues.

The solution is not necessarily in a zero tolerance approach. Mt Maunganui College, for example, places emphasis on restorative justice, based on the understanding that young people will attend and achieve if they feel part of the school community.

Of note is that the most serious offenders are beyond the reach of schools. Many have not been at school for years which makes it increasingly difficult for schools and communities to interact with, and therefore support, them and their families.

- **Todd McClay – National Member of Parliament, Rotorua**

Todd McClay outlined the “Fresh Start” legislation which was recently passed through parliament from his perspective as a member of the Social Services Select Committee. This committee found that there are approximately 1000 young offenders at the most serious levels of offending in New Zealand. The focus of this new legislation is on focusing on some of the tools that

are given to the Police and Ministry of Justice who work with these serious offenders. The legislation recognises that these young people have not had great opportunities in education, many have drug and alcohol problems, many have less than ideal family lives, and many need different supports from what they are currently receiving, particularly, additional support when they return to their families and communities.

Todd McClay also noted the integral role of education in youth development, beginning in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) years.

### Questions from the floor

- How can government and local councils work together, especially around social issues?

Ross Paterson

TCC and WBoP have combined to develop Smart Growth which includes a strong focus on social issues such as aged care. This model could be expanded to incorporate youth development for example.

Safer Communities forum was started as a joint, government funded operation but once established central government withdrew. Now fully funded by local government.

There are areas within council budgets that incorporate social issues, although not as significant as other local councils perhaps.

- Should we not begin by looking at our own practices before we share this with our communities? Who are we to dictate to the community how to behave when maybe we should be looking at some of our own workplace behaviours?

Todd McClay

Absolutely, anybody in public life needs to think seriously about how they do this, be they politicians, sportsmen or others, we are role models. But it's not enough to say that we should get our own house down in Wellington in order before we do anything in the community because of the growing problem of violence.

- How are the Police referring to local iwi organisations given that many Maori are refusing to work with government agencies?

Paul Horler

This is not an easy process, because most often state agencies, such as CYFs, are already involved. Funding is a real issue in this regard.

- How can I work with children from violent backgrounds who are not already involved with any government agency so that they can avoid that track to jail?

Paul Horler

The only way that the Police and Youth Development can address this problem is to go back to the old model where we take referrals from the community. However this would detract the Youth Development agency from focusing on young offenders which is crucial work.

- Is there anything proposed at a government level that would address the need for early identification and wrap around services for young people, which research shows provides improved outcomes?

Todd McClay

The important thing is how to identify and work young people and families before they start getting in trouble. I want to touch on the Whanau Ora policy which may lead to earlier identification and support for many families. And certainly much more support in and around schools is very important.

- In looking at what it costs to train one person in restorative practices, as part of the Learning Behaviour Action Plan, what does the government have in mind in helping fund this initiative in secondary schools across the country?

Todd McClay

I'm sorry I don't have the answer for you right now but certainly, where there is going to be extra burden on schools, it is something that has to be looked at.

Panel discussion 1 was summarised by Carl Crafar who identified the following key points;

- The importance of interagency collaboration
- The importance of the business sector in the solution
- Funding is limited so use it wisely
- Strengthen the capability of the sector
- Share best practice
- The importance of cultural identity
- Decision making should be made at the local level
- One size does not fit all
- Schools are a critical point of entry
- We should not get stuck by criteria so often

How can we act earlier to prevent youth violence and promote positive behaviour?

- **Colin Bidois** – Ngati Ranginui

Youth violence is not an issue of race, it is an issue of socio-economics. Violence is more common in families affected by poverty, overcrowding, poor nutrition, drugs, alcohol, parental dysfunction, unemployment etc. Violence would reduce substantially if we could address these other issues. How can we do this? The proposed solution must be based on the inherent characteristics of Maori including, delivered within an appropriate Maori construct, using the concepts of;

- whanaungatanga
- respect for elders
- whakahihi / pride
- whakama / shame
- aroha, concern, care, love

These aspects of Maori culture would contribute to a wrap-around concept, like the korowai aroha, the whanau ora journey, however such a model must be resourced realistically. While the funding currently dedicated to prisons and welfare agencies is upwards of \$100 000 per person per year, the model proposed here would cost, at most, \$20 000 per family. Perhaps this proposal could qualify under the Whanau Ora scheme? And if the three iwi within the Tauranga Moana could unite and collaborate with other welfare agencies such as the Maori Women's Welfare League, Relationship Services, Strengthening Families, Peaceful Warriors etc, we could have a significant impact on these socio-economic issues, including violence.

- **Peter Stanley** – Senior Lecturer, University of Waikato

New Zealand youth, like those in the USA, have higher percentages of problem behaviours than youth in similar developed societies. New Zealand has world rankings in social issues including;

- child poverty
- youth suicide
- sexually transmitted diseases
- child maltreatment
- learning difficulties
- school drop out
- drug abuse
- delinquency
- social service engagement
- depression
- early sexual activity
- misuse of motor vehicles
- unemployment
- higher hospitalisation and mortality rates

And young people do not specialise in just one of these social problems, they typically do it all. These social issues are inextricably linked.

The United States of America can provide lessons / solutions to the issue of youth violence. They have empirically supported interventions (for example, using the randomised control trial) which are based on best practice for addressing certain behaviours. These programmes can simply be taken from the shelf. For example, the Incredible Years parenting programme which some government and non-government organisations have adopted.

Peter Stanley noted that all the coordination / collaboration in the world is insufficient unless our programmes are both rigorous and appropriate. Currently, government organisations are so very different that this can not happen. Programmes must become the common denominator in order to overcome interagency cultural divides.

- **Graham Cameron** – Merivale Community Centre

We need to look beyond programmes that look after the many to what is happening for specific individuals, families and whanau. We need to fully engage in whanau development. This shores up many challenges in terms of traditional therapeutic principles, for example;

1. Relational distancing - whereby we are taught to distance ourselves from our clients. This, however, is the most dangerous thing to do if we want to develop communities. Professional boundaries have become a sacred cow, the reason NOT to act. These boundaries need to be refashioned to focus on our health and safety rather than on our practice, which is, essentially, relationally based.
2. Relocation – we need to understand “by community, for community”. Those who live in our community need to lead the programmes. This is not to say that we don’t have a role to play in supporting this development. However, if communities are not leading it, there is something fundamentally wrong with our delivery.
3. Values – schools are the shining light in this regard. We need to start exploring the values held within our communities. These values will be community specific. This resonates with Rahera Ohia’s call for the development of a Tauranga Moana Youth Development Strategy, which must be a values based document that places the values of our youth as central.

The powhiri model provides a perfect example of respectful entry into a community. The patience to wait is imperative.

- **Craig Campbell-Smart** - New Plymouth District Council

Communities are made of groups of people, families and individuals. To have strong families we need strong individuals and to have strong individuals we need to ensure a loving, nurturing environment. The four pillars of social well-being, or the four protective factors in people’s lives, are education, social, family and positive relationships and we all have a role to play in that, including councils.

Democratic participation is essential if council is to be increasingly effective. Local government is in the odd position of having a vested interested in, but not delivering on, social well-being. While social well-being is a core part of council business, the focus must be on brokering relationships with those who do deliver on social well-being.

Youth violence as a social problem needs to be broken into fragments, and the solution lies in responding to the respective fragments. What are the indicators which show us where we can act earlier? Some solutions include community based programmes, wrap around models, early intervention programmes, parenting programmes, focusing on early attachment (0-3 years). The connecting factor in this hinges on strong and trusting relationships between agencies. Resources must be dedicated to any proposal and agencies must commit to action. Progress is much easier once relationships are established.

- **Trevor Wi Kaitaia** – Youth Justice Manager, Child, Youth and Family

Trevor highlighted the operative words in this discussion as being to act earlier together. His key interest is in the how we can do this. The answer is in relationships, which, when they stick, will be effective regardless of budgets, policies etc. If we have ineffective relationships, no change in policy or increased budget will work.

Trevor summarised the “differential response” model which is one way by which we can act earlier together. This model centres on early, low-level, whanau-centred interventions rather than increased engagement with the Police or CYF, for example. Avoid the pathway of youth justice where an alternative, early and low level response is sufficient / appropriate.

The audience were then invited to break into small groups to develop and explore their own suggestions on how to prevent youth violence and promote positive behaviour. Their suggestions were as follows;

- Collaboration between health and education for early screening and diagnosis of ADHD and learning difficulties
- Referrals from teachers to educational psychologists
- Parenting programmes critical in providing early support / identification. Must be free and accessible. Perhaps provide “carrots” to young mothers to attend programmes?
- Sharing information between agencies regarding signs and symptoms of violence
- Develop processes for timely referrals
- Multi-agency approach which addresses each facet of the cycle of violence
- Social workers / counsellors in early childhood education centres / primary schools
- Formation of early childhood intervention team (birth to 9yrs)
- Compulsory, funded regular home visits (0-3yrs)
- Additional, low-level support around mental health of parents
- Compulsory programmes in all schools, regardless of socio-economic status of community
- Parents kept engaged through all schooling years
- Conscious and honest identification of values within our communities
- Need to develop and fund robust programmes that are evidence-based
- Support for non-Maori to refer Maori whanau appropriately
- Improved communication between schools and whanau
- Improving children’s knowledge of / access to help-lines
- Focus on family rather than the child
- Formalised list of approved programmes contained to a workable amount e.g. 12 programmes and everyone funnels into these programmes
- Contracts which allow for out of the square situations / solutions, but which remain accountable
- Rural services and funding need to be addressed / increased
- Trade training / practical learning for young people who do not fit comfortably at school
- Behavioural Response Team (BRT) – interagency initiative including schools, CYF, Work and Income, Police, MoE, Housing NZ, Peaceful Warriors, RTLBs etc (see Tauranga Intermediate for example of how it works)
- Three pronged approach which firstly, explores current concerns with programmes and agencies, secondly, promotes early intervention and thirdly, gathers information about effectiveness of interventions.
- Increased support for family violence screening in the health sector
- Transfer money to low decile / high need areas
- Attending to the influence of the media in violence
- Evaluate the effectiveness / validity of overseas programmes for the New Zealand setting
- Explore how we are addressing adult violence which is the foundation of youth violence
- Develop programmes which address and restore the effects of colonisation
- Iwi trusts and organisations to be more engaged with other organisations and support training and placements for youngsters where needed
- Use the IT media more creatively to reach young people
- Foster the tuakana / teina relationship so that older children can educate / support younger children
- Use the Whare Tapa Wha model to guide young people to assess their own needs and solutions
- Involving young people in community initiatives
- Flexibility around criteria for accessing services is essential – current rigid criteria provides barriers to support
- More support for parents of pre-school aged children
- Community centres driven from a central hub which would receive referrals from schools, DHBs etc. Hub provides resources and access to service providers

#### Questions from the floor

- There is absolutely nothing we can learn from the USA, perhaps Canada, but certainly not the USA. My question is to what extent are movies influencing the minds and behaviour of young people?

Colin Bidois

The censors need to be censored themselves.

Trevor Wi Kaitaia

Communities need to find their own sense of direction and their own value base in order to counter these external influences.

Peter Stanley

There are programmes which have made demonstrable impact on the families who access them. It's a question of whether we want the best. And if we use alternative programmes, how do we know whether they are effective?

- Could young people have a voice on local councils, in the interests of youth development?

Craig Campbell-Smart

Yes in New Plymouth and elsewhere in New Zealand, there are youth sub-committees and youth reference groups. The New Plymouth youth sub-committee is a sub-group of council so the youth representatives are paid and they get a chance to look at all agenda items and reports that go through to full Council, and to make comment and recommendations. Youth participation is an important part of democratic participation.

Blair Gilbert

The Ministry of Youth Development has invested in ensuring that youth are involved in local government. We have the Youth in Local Government conference coming up in Porirua in April which all the Youth Councils will be attending.

Also Youth Parliament comes up three-yearly, and is next scheduled for June this year.

- How representative are these youth councils?

Graham Cameron

The harsh reality is that many of these programmes take their members from kura / schools and many of those who left at 13, 14 will struggle to engage with these wider issues. I'm not aware of our Tauranga City Council having a programme for trying to address this disparity.

Craig Campbell-Smart

Yes youth councils are generally dealing with the top performers, the people who are politically engaged, those who have an interest in society, those who want to put themselves forward as emerging leaders. That's a small percentage and in reality there's a huge band in between them and the at-risk kids, the adult onset kids who engage in at-risk behaviours. And in the middle there's the band that don't really care, they go to school, they don't get in trouble, they stick to what they do, and the real challenge is to actually engage with those youth, to get them involved, to get them interested.

What is contributing to the scattered and fragmented funding for addressing youth violence and its associated difficulties?

- **Te Ururoa Flavell** – Maori Party Member of Parliament, Waiariki

The Maori Party voted against the Youth Courts Jurisdiction and Orders Amendment Bill ("Fresh Start"), recently debated in Parliament. Part of the reason was to challenge the assumption that the issues facing these young people can be dealt with by punitive regimes, by separating them out from society, by sanctions, by punishment and harsh shock tactics. The Party is also concerned with addressing the needs and interests of the more than 310 000 young people (2006 Census) which the legislation is seen to overlook.

The Maori Party takes the same view with the issue of youth violence. We know that violence is endemic in our communities. But while any incidence of violence is devastating, there will always be a reason within a context. This is not to excuse behaviour, but to understanding the reasons for it. We need to better understand / contextualise the reasons for the behaviour of those most at-risk before we can make progress.

Identity, language and culture are fundamental to who Maori students are. The importance of this must be better understood by educators in order for Maori young people to achieve.

Youth violence interventions must follow Moana Jackson's 4-step model as follows;

1. Stop the hurt
2. Explore the reasons
3. Deny the presumptions, for example that youth are a problem, or that violence is a Maori issue
4. Address the causes

The Maori Party's position is that family violence is a global issue and not limited to any particular population or religion for example. Violence is caused by multiple complex factors. It is widely known that for indigenous peoples the loss of cultural identity, land, language and the ability to be self-determining, are associated factors.

Our response has been to develop an approach, based on the wisdom of our elders, called *Whanau Ora*. This approach is based on the principle of self-managed economic, cultural and social development. The Party calls for placing whanau at the centre, and focusing on what's strong rather than what's wrong. Key facets of the model are prevention, early intervention, sustainable change. We need to support communities to develop and implement their own solutions.

Finally, it appears that system as it stands, characterised by multiple contracts / funders, and competition between the sectors, places enormous pressure on agencies to address holistic whanau development and capability building.

- **Lester Oaks** – CEO, Career Services Rapuara

The link between careers and violence is not so obvious – but is critical. The role of Career Services is comprehensive career advice that is accessible to the range of young people. The organisation holds certain key beliefs about young people. Firstly, that all young people want to do well but many don't know how, or what well might look like. Secondly, it's ok not to know what I want to do or be. Thirdly, all young people have things that they are good at, or things that they'd like to be good at. Fourthly, all young people have options, albeit somewhat limited for some. Fifthly, family and whanau are the single biggest influence on a young person's career and learning decisions. And finally, young people do not need our advice as such, but our interest and questions.

Simply, the role of Career Services is to provide comprehensive, independent careers and learning information. This information must be accessible to a wide range of users, so the Service is currently working on using contemporary technologies to increase the accessibility of the information, such as a text-based programme which has been particularly effective in accessing young men. Such a model provides the anonymity that many young people, especially young males, appreciate.

- **Les Simmonds** – Clinical Leader, Relationship Services BOP

Competition is one of the most significant of the many funding issues which impact on the issue of youth violence. The current system forces organisations to put significant energy into promoting themselves in a way that may not be entirely honest.

Secondly, the current system does not allow for the building of capacity in organisations because of the short-term nature of contracting. Organisations need to work together instead of competitively, taking a long-term (i.e. 10 year) focus rather than 6 or 12 months in order to get us out of this cycle.

We also need to be mindful of developing and delivering programmes that are based on evidence, although they need not be evidence based programmes. We should also be funded on programmes that are based on evidence.

Effective collaboration requires clarity / honesty about the strengths and capacity of the respective organisations.

We could also move towards improved sharing of resources / buildings / administration support.

- **Judge Geoghegan**

Funding seems very complex and would benefit from being streamlined, both within and across social service agencies, but also at the level of funding agencies / foundations to avoid the empire building that threatens the funding process. The providers also need clarity regarding the objective of their processes.

We need also to constantly question whether the programmes we are delivering are making a difference for young people. Good intentions must be backed up with evidence of effectiveness.

However, funding must not lead to a sense of entitlement, or dependency, because motivated communities are capable of generating significant resources.

- **Paul Stanley** – Ngai Te Rangī Iwi

From a sociological perspective, the current fragmented funding model suggests that the State / government is struggling, not the service providers. This suggests that the State is searching for a silver bullet for particular social policy challenges.

If the funding environment is competitive, then people will act competitively. So this model is essentially anti-collaborative – a shift at the government / policy level is required to change this, if that is indeed the goal.

From the perspective of an NGO / iwi organisation, the world has become somewhat easier, in terms of funding, since the Maori Party was established.

Fundamental requirements for addressing social issues such as youth violence include;

- staff credentialed in both life and formal schooling
- clarity from within organisations as to when they are the most appropriate for a whanau's needs, and also when they may not be most appropriate
- seeking longer term funding arrangements so that NGOs can make longer terms (5 year) plans
- supporting the devolution of resources so that iwi can look after their own

Finally, Paul reiterated that the lens through which Maori view the world is different from the one which influences funding models, that is, it is whanau / hapu / iwi based. The child, or "client" is not viewed in isolation.

- **Peter Waru** – Regional Manager, Ministry of Social Development

Competitive, short-term contracting has contributed to the fragmentation of services / organisations. The focus on outcomes for the family has often been compromised by the dollars available.

The Whanau Ora programme promises to allow organisations to focus more on the outcomes for whanau rather than the dollars.

New concept of “high trust contracting”, in which funders work with organisations with a long history of strong governance and financial stability. This model is being piloted in the Bay of Plenty with Ngati Awa. High trust contracting still requires evidence that a programme is effective, although this model allows for some people / organisations / programmes to prove their effectiveness, which can take longer than traditional funding processes allow.

### **Questions from the floor**

- Do any of the speakers have any concrete suggestions about where we can take the proposal for a local youth strategy?

Paul Stanley

Expressed support for such a strategy and noted that youth health and wellbeing must be a policy priority at local and central government.

Les Simmonds

We must be committed to sharing resources / contracts in order for such a proposal to process. We must be prepared to work together to create funds.

- How does the Whanau Ora model apply to all New Zealanders?

Te Ururoa Flavell

Mason Durie's report provides clear direction as to what the programme has to offer Maori. The programme is very much from a Maori world view and is informed by experts within Maoridom who understand the issues affecting Maori society. It is not designed to be adapted, it is written for Maori, about Maori, by Maori. It is up to others to decide whether they can find benefits from the Whanau Ora approach, rather than whether the model can be adapted.

Regarding the competitive funding model which has influenced contracting for some years, this programme aims to move away from competition towards collaboration, pulling providers together from housing, education, employment, justice etc to develop packages which can better enable whanau to empower themselves.

## APPENDIX D – Symposium Evaluations Report

### 170 Evaluation Forms received and evaluated

#### Overall quality and relevance of presentations

Scale (1 lowest, 5 highest)	Ratings	Percentage
1	0	
2	0	
3	22	13%
4	65	38%
5	83	49%

#### General comments:

Excellent presentation  
Great speakers, high praise for: the two judges, Dr Ian Lambie, and Graham Cameron  
More time for question and answers  
More information and speakers on Youth, youth violence and sexual violence  
Some more useful than others  
More Maori representation and issues raised  
Mis-pronunciation of Maori by some speakers

#### Did you find the panel discussions a useful symposium process?

Scale (1 lowest, 5 highest)	Ratings	Percentage
1	2	1%
2	12	7%
3	53	31%
4	39	23%
5	64	38%

#### General comments:

Frequent comment was the amount of time allocated to questions and answers, needed more time.  
Majority found it very useful  
Would like it broken down into small groups  
Stick to the question asked, address the actual question.  
Good hearing different ranges of perspectives

#### Suitability of venue

Scale (1 lowest, highest)	Ratings	Percentage
1	0	
2	0	
3	3	2%
4	23	13%
5	144	85%

#### General comments:

Friendly venue  
Very good  
Fantastic  
Great facilities  
Beautiful surroundings  
Bigger break room

#### Organisation of the Symposium

Scale (1 lowest, 5 highest)	Ratings	Percentage
1	0	
2	0	
3	5	3%
4	40	23%
5	125	74%

#### General comments:

Excellent  
Fantastic  
Ran smoothly and very professional  
Very organised

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## APPENDIX D – Symposium Evaluations Report continued

### Are there any other comments you would like to make?

- Please consider that 50% of the offenders of violence are Maori and could you possibly consider more input from successful Maori initiatives. "For Maori by Maori"
- Education not well represented
- Less is more, more time on presentation, less presenters.
- Hope this becomes an annual event. Needs to be more regular hui of this calibre.
- Government needs to fund programs in school for youth justice.
- Early intervention was a repeated solution so maybe we need a preschool symposium.
- Would like to have stories/testimonies of people who grew up in at risk backgrounds and who came out the other end and now functional with their own family and communities helping others avoid youth violence.
- Very well done. Excellent in every way. Couldn't have been better. A wonderful success on so many levels.
- More time for discussion
- Involve media on panel
- Great opportunity for networking into community agencies that can assist our organisation to get our message through to youth.
- I think we still missed the issue of Wairua Tapu - The Spirit. We are still looking at behaviours not the heart issues.
- Would be good to have youth participation at panels. Would have liked to hear the youth speak.
- The youth participation was excellent
- Would have liked to hear from more Maori presenters.
- Were no local speakers from Te Puke. Better consultation with local Manawhenua.
- I've attended lots of free seminars and conferences that have been more solution based and better catered for. I didn't see this symposium costing \$50 or \$75. The cost I felt was over the top.
- I don't know how you did it on this budget. Absolutely stunning achievement.
- Key speakers were fantastic. Good range of speakers
- Have been definitely motivated to try and impact change in our small community
- More interactive. There needed to be workshops where delegates can talk and network.
- Going forward, a representative "think tank", "select committee", idea to work on collaborative action on the ideas brought out in the Symposium so the value is not lost.
- Would have liked parallel cultural presentations
- Awesome way of networking. This provided a valuable foundation for us to build on.
- It was never clearly addressed how agencies would work more effectively together to reach the same goals, rather everyone covered what they did but not how they improved working relationships.
- Great to have a CD
- Would have liked some more solutions
- Great to hear a variety of opinions/information from panellists. A good forum to get insight from people we would not otherwise heard from within time constraints

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## APPENDIX E – Youth Workshop Evaluations Report

### Youth Workshop Evaluations Youth Violence Symposium 2010

23 Evaluation Forms received and evaluated

Scale of 0-10 (0 lowest, 10 highest)		Average
Q1	How relevant do you think today was?	9
Q2	How comfortable did you feel?	8
Q3	How easy was it to participate?	9
Q4	How well did Dan, Claire and Sylvia do?	9

#### Q5. What will you remember most about today?

- The fun
- Coming up with our own ideas to help prevent youth violence
- The video 'Children see, Children do'
- The discussions
- Good food
- Making the ad
- How youth violence can be changed by fellow youth
- The different ideas and opinions people had about youth violence
- Enthusiasm of people wanting to make a change
- The ideas
- The people
- Youth violence is more than I thought
- Learning everyone's name
- Dan, Claire and Sylvia teaching us
- The laughs
- Youth violence and how serious it is
- That a lot is from upbringing
- Positive environment
- Meeting others with similar ideas

#### Q6. What do you think would have made the day better?

- More communication
- More activities
- Focus on getting deeper into the youths thoughts and real experiences of violence
- More talk between the adults and the teenagers
- More group activities and "on your feet" games
- Air conditioning
- Being part of the seminar with the keynote speakers giving their input
- Less writing
- Getting to know everybody more than just today
- More breaks
- More laughing with everyone
- More outside time
- Bigger room

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## APPENDIX E – Youth Workshop Evaluations Report continued

### Q7. Anything else you would like to tell or ask us?

- The food was good
- The perspective of others seem really cliché and not having any other depth
- Use these students to create a support group to make a change with our schools
- We should get together to see our ideas in action and see if they worked
- Is this your job? Do you like working with kids aged 14-17 or working with people? (Krystal)
- Would like to get more involved in these forums

### Student Quotes:

“Coming up with our own ideas to help prevent youth violence”

“Focus on getting *into* the kids. Opinions need basis and a lot of the kids seemed to say “I could imagine this leads to youth violence”

“I think I am the only kid here who has been involved heavily in youth violence. The perspective of the others seems real cliché, having no depth.”

“It was an awesome day!”

“...how youth violence can be changed by fellow youth”

“Use these students to create a support group to make a change with our schools”

“The enthusiasm of people wanting to make a change.”

“We should get together to see our ideas in action and see if they worked.”

“...I learned heaps. Have a great day.”

“You did great!”

“Today was awesome and I would like to get more involved in these forums”

“Seeing different youth, who like me, want to do something to change youth violence”

“How do you get involved?”

“That a lot is from upbringing”

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## **APPENDIX F – CD Index**

Each delegate received a CD of presenters' PowerPoint presentations and a selection of research papers and reports.

The contents of that CD was as follows:

- 01 Youth Violence Symposium Brochure
- 02 Symposium Programme
- 03 Abstracts of Presenters & Panellists
- 04 Powerpoint, Brian Coffey, Education Perspective
- 05 Powerpoint, KEYNOTE, Dr John Church, Research Perspective
- 06 Powerpoint, Youth2MenProgramme, Premier Youth Academy
- 07 Powerpoint, PositivePathwaysProgramme, Relationship Services
- 08 Powerpoint, FunctionalFamilyTherapy Programme, Youth Horizons
- 09 Powerpoint, Fresh Start Programmes, Youth Justice, CYF
- 10 Powerpoint Programmes in Schools, Ministry of Education
- 11 Powerpoint GUEST SPEAKER, Dr Donna Swift, Girl Fighting
- 12 Powerpoint, Engagement, Merivale Community Centre
- 13 Powerpoint, Strengthening Families Process
- 14 Flowchart of Services, Relationship Services BOP
- 15 Background Paper, Church J, AntiSocial Development
- 16 Report, Judge A.J. Becroft
- 17 Research, Wellbeing of Rangatahi in Tauranga Moana, Te
- 18 Report, Positive and Proud, Merivale Tauranga (Merivale Community Centre)
- 19 Report, Youth '07 Young People & Violence, University of Auckland, 2010
- 20 Paper, Judge A.J. Becroft

**Note:** Presenters donated their time and this CD is only available to delegates.