



Father and Child Trust

PO Box 11931

Ellerslie 1542

Aotearoa NZ

Ph 525 1690

auckland@fatherandchild.org.nz

Press Release – to Supporters, Subscribers, Media and Dads.

Help Save Father and Child

Father and Child Trust has provided information and support for over 16 years. In that time we have produced more than 60,000 publications, hosted weekly support groups and assisted hundreds of dads one-to-one.

Outcomes include better informed dads, involved-from-day-one couples surviving post natal depression, fathers who understand the benefits of play, and removal of anger from parenting.

Children's academic and social wellbeing are always part of our focus. We have enabled thousands of NZ dads to be better connected parents.

Demand for our Auckland support has increased every year, but funding has not kept up.

We appreciate Lotteries, COGs, ASB and similar funders, but we only get wages for one support worker in each city. We could easily employ a dozen support staff around the country if funding were available. We could print enough of our magazines and resources to meet demand.

Christchurch parents are still experiencing family trauma and mental health issues due to the earthquakes and relocations. Our Auckland group is flat out with CYFs and legal support work.

We are finding it increasingly difficult to respond to referrals as funders have declined us. We may avoid travel for clients as we are not getting enough money to cover staff mileage claims.

Unless the funding situation improves, the Auckland office may lose two key staff on Dec 22, including the coordinator/fundraiser and the General Manager. Dave Bartle and Mat Scott have managed a partial rescue plan and the office rent is paid, so we can retain a support worker at 20 hours/week, but to keep up open properly, we desperately need more support.

We have supported over 300 dads in Auckland since 2010, many of these dads have mental health, parenting, legal, CYFs, paternity or CADS issues. We produce 'Why Dads' booklets, New Dads Magazines, educational resources and courses for all fathers.

A lack of fathering is being blamed for many youth issues. NZ tops the academic achievement, but also the bottom for teenage productivity, happiness, pregnancies and suicides. Father and Child is the NZ's only charity which offers free support and information for all NZ dads.



Father and Child Trust

PO Box 11931

Ellerslie 1542

Aotearoa NZ

Ph 525 1690

auckland@fatherandchild.org.nz

As on the attached Free Services Map for Fathers, we provide some of Auckland's only free alternatives for fathers to talk to, listen and support each other about a wide range of family, parenting or related issues. We believe there could be three Father and Child Auckland offices.

Father and Child has submitted to the Maternity Sector review through Dr Paul Hutchison and presented at PMHNZ Symposium on how engaging dads helps prevent PND. According to the UNROC clause, governments are to support a child's parents, so they can support their kids.

The lack of approvals from regular charity funders leaves us vulnerable to their priorities. We know that other health, maternity and legal budgets are far greater than our annual needs.

We are often told that 'the government' should pay for what we do, as they do not provide health information or support specific to fathers, that is why we are here, we try our best.

We believe there are mothers and fathers who know NZ could be a better fathered country. With our friends at SKIP, GreatFathers.org.nz, DIYFather.com we have developed resources, but to deliver flyers, magazines, DVDs and support for all dads, we must ask others to help us.

If you have any ideas or feel you can contribute, please let us know.

All new supporters will be rewarded with a spot on our Saviours of the Trust webpage.

You are welcome to our last Fathers' Mauri Ora Circle BBQ , 6-8pm on Wed 18th Dec.

We will greatly appreciate any letters of support, sponsorship or donations.

We also invite volunteers to help in the office, or any suggestions.

Sincerely,

Mat Scott
General Manager