



Transforming family violence takes a team approach

When the Police are called out to a family violence situation, they refer the family to the most appropriate agency, one of which is Iosis. In these cases, our new teamwork is already making a difference.

New legislation introduced on July 1st means that a Police Safety Order (PSO) can now be issued for up to 10 days whereas previously it was anything from 12 hours to 5 days. This means that the perpetrator can't go back to the home for that period of time. If Iosis is appointed to the case, our family violence workers, Teina and Poulamee, work together as a team.

Firstly, they attempt to connect with the perpetrator, either by phone or visiting them. "The first thing we

do is listen – sometimes the people involved can't wait to share their story," says Teina. "The great thing is that most people recognise that they need help."

Depending on the situation, the Police might also put a protection order in place. Then, once they assess the situation, Iosis puts together a support plan. We identify the underlying issue – often there are a number of complex issues – then work together to address these through our wide range of services.

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CEO's message



Tunumafono Tracey-Leigh Peters

I can't believe it's August, in a year that's already been full of challenges and success stories alike. In this issue of Turnaround, our focus is on the importance of working together – together with other organisations that work to transform lives, and together as a team within our organisation.

For example, two of our family violence workers, Poulamee and Teina, have teamed up to meet the complex needs of many of our clients, with great success. They support and draw strength from each other – and it enables them to better support the perpetrators of family violence and their families.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that Iosis has been selected to participate in a test service working with families to address family violence issues where a PSO has been ordered – I'm pleased to report that this is going very well to date.

On the subject of teamwork, our morning devotions strengthen us both as a team and as individuals. As you'll see on page 3, our staff members find this morning ritual of waiata and prayers powerful and uplifting, even for those who aren't religious. It helps us stand strong together in the challenging work we do, every day.

Lastly, we have welcomed new members of staff who

have joined us in recent months. These highly committed individuals each bring a wealth of experience and energy to Iosis. With our wonderful team around us – and with God's blessing – we look forward to continuing to transform family life, for good. Kia kaha.

Tunumafono Tracey-Leigh Peters
CEO

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"I'm relatively new to Iosis, but the range of services available here is such an advantage," says Poulamee "Dealing with these issues in the right way is crucial. We often recommend a mix of services - from alcohol and drug addictions to parenting to anger management, from one-to-one counselling to budgeting."

She says that one of the most common trigger points is after separation. "Visits to children or family can often trigger abusive behaviour. When children witness this, it's particularly concerning. Lack of accommodation and overcrowding is also a real issue and a trigger point." 🌀

Prayer needs

- We pray for our team members, Winnie, Rangī, Poulamee, Heidi, Dolly and Peta
- We pray for the new foster carers who have recently joined Iosis
- We pray for our Iosis families as they work to make positive changes for the good of their family

New faces. New skills. New strengths.

During the first few months of this year, the losis team has grown with the addition of even more highly experienced and committed staff members. We're also thrilled to welcome back a past employee, Rangī Vaitohi, to the team.

Rangī Vaitohi, Community Social Worker

"The most important thing I do is listen. From listening comes understanding and this is so important to helping our families overcome the challenges they're facing," says Rangī. As a Community Social Worker, Rangī advocates for and collaborates with her clients, enabling them to make changes and overcome challenges. Rangī previously worked at losis from 2006 to 2009.



budgeting to relationship counselling. As a Social Worker, having wraparound services directly on hand makes a huge difference and is enormously helpful. I am excited to be here - losis is a unique and special place."

Peta Palalagi, Counsellor

Peta Palalagi has joined the Counselling and Men's Team at losis as a Counsellor, having previously worked in counselling roles with Friendship House, Relationship Services and MIT. "I live in Manurewa and I am really looking forward to serving the people of my local community," says Peta. "My role involves working one-to-one with people as they work through challenges. It could be anything from overcoming grief and loss to relationship and parenting to self-esteem. Working alongside such a capable team at losis is a privilege."



Poulamee Guha, Family Violence Social Worker

Poulamee works closely with families who are dealing with complicated and challenging issues. "I make a lot of house calls and once we've established contact, most people are keen to talk and access support to change their situation. One of the strengths of losis is our wide range of services. It feels good to be able to create a support plan that can address the underlying issues and really support the family to be in a better place."



Heidi Crawford, SwiS Manager

Heidi joined the losis team in December, 2018 and leads our SWiS (Social Workers in Schools) team. A registered Social Worker with a Masters of Applied Social Work, Heidi leads a team of eleven social workers working across 15 schools in the Manurewa and Papakura area. "They're an awesome, diverse team who are highly experienced. My role is to support them to continue to do the great work they are doing." 🌟



Dolly Proffitt, Social Work Team Leader

Leading a team of seven social workers, Dolly is looking forward to supporting them as they work to help losis families. "losis offers a range of different ways to support families from



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Being strong together, every day

Our staff face extremely challenging situations as they work to transform families' lives, so bringing the team together first thing each day sets us all up well for whatever may come our way.

On Monday mornings we get together for devotions, and every other morning we have a 'stand up' which includes waiata and prayer. While not all staff members follow a faith, they tell us they still find this morning ritual enormously beneficial.

Poulamee

"No matter whether you follow a faith or not, the morning prayers at Iosis provide a sense of mental peace and positivity. Starting the day on that note provides such a good vibe and gives me strength for whatever is ahead."

Rangi

"I find them immensely helpful and rewarding. From that point on I believe God is with us all as we move through the day – not just the staff but the clients we work with. For me, I feel He is walking with me when working with these families and helps me do what I need to do."

Glenis

"It was a very different way of starting the day when I joined Iosis ten years ago but now it's become an important part of my morning routine and I'd miss it now."



Rangi brings ACC to the party

Disabled as the result of a car accident 21 years ago, Steve* received one payment from ACC at the time. Since then, he's been living with his daughter and extended family.

However, his health has declined, and, while he loves his family dearly, it wasn't the right situation for him.

Rangi, an Iosis Social Worker, arranged a meeting with ACC and a doctor, who confirmed that Steve's decline in health was a result of the accident. WINZ have now confirmed that he's eligible for a full time

carer and emergency housing, plus we've applied for disability equipment from ACC.

Steve is now on the path to a better place in his life: where once he was shy and withdrawn, he is now excited and grateful. He has his dignity back. 🎯

* Name changed to protect identity.