

## WHAT GUIDES US

The Council's work is guided by its dream for the ideal family.

## NGĀ KAUPAPA O MOEMOEĀ – THE DREAM FOR FAMILIES

### IN THIS FAMILY...

- They have knowledge of their whakapapa (genealogy) and history/taonga (treasures) and are confident within their identity, able to live in the present and shape their futures
- People can speak their own language
- Spiritual aspects are central to their lives where they wish them to be
- They value and respect all who belong to them, e.g. children and older members
- They are aware of and active within their community
- They realise their roles, functions and responsibilities
- They have sufficient access to resources to enable them to provide for their needs
- They are able to collectively meet their community and family responsibilities
- They are adaptable, entrepreneurial and well educated
- They are visionary, with a sense of future possibilities
- They are able to own their own homes should they wish to
- Family members are able to make decisions about their own lives
- Family members are able to participate in all aspects of life
- People are 'comfortable in their own skins'.

### THE DREAM WILL BE ACHIEVED WHEN...

- Elders, Kuia and Kaumātua play a full role within the family in all aspects of life, and are valued, supported and cared for
- Mātua/parents are supported and grow in the way they 'plant' and nurture the family
- Children/tamariki are loved and grow to their full potential
- Young people are able to achieve choices in all aspects of their lives
- All children/tamariki are comfortable and safe in a place where they can learn safely and well
- People take collective responsibility for their family, whilst being responsible for their own destiny
- People are able to function well in today's world, whilst retaining their culture
- They are contributing to a sustainable society and environment.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Council members are:

### Central Government

**Paul Curry** Families Commission  
**Tui Tararo/Greg Motu** Housing NZ Corporation  
**Sarah Hill** Department of Internal Affairs  
**Bill Harrison** NZ Police  
**Pat Tuohy** Ministry Of Health  
**Kathy Phillips** Ministry Of Education  
**Susan Howan** Ministry of Justice  
**Te Atarangi Whiu** Te Puni Kōkiri  
**Richard Wood** MSD – Family and Community Services  
**Ruth Palmer** MSD – Social Services Policy  
**Heker Robertson** Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs

### Māori/iwi

**Druis Barrett** Ngāti Whātua/Ngāpuhi, Board Member Northland DHB, Plunket, Family Planning, Kohanga Reō Trust, past President Māori Women's Welfare League  
**Ngaire Te Hira** Waipasifika Family Start, Secretary Auckland District Māori Council  
**Roku Mihinui** Te Arawa Trust Board

### Pacific

**Alfred Ngaro** Tamaki Family Centre  
**Gerardine Clifford** Taeaomanino Trust, Porirua

### Non-Government Organisations

**Paul Baigent** Plunket Society  
**Murray Edridge** Barnardos  
**Viv Gurrey** Parent Centres NZ  
**Heather Henare** National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges  
**Lesley Max** Great Potentials  
**Jeff Sanders** Relationship Services  
**Anthea Simcock** CPS Training  
**Vaughan Milner** Presbyterian Support  
**Viv Maidaborn** CCS

## CONTACTING THE COUNCIL

You can contact members of the Council individually or through Family and Community Services:

### National Office

Family and Community Services  
Bowen State Building, Bowen Street  
PO Box 1556, Wellington 6140  
New Zealand  
Phone: 64 4 913 6601  
Fax : 64 4 917 5584

Email: [information@familyservices.govt.nz](mailto:information@familyservices.govt.nz)  
[www.familyservices.govt.nz](http://www.familyservices.govt.nz)

## FAMILY SERVICES NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

# WORKING TOGETHER FOR FAMILIES

*“We value the family as the heart of our society.”*

*“Families are strong and richly connected.”*

## OUR ROLE

The Council's role is to develop and promote shared views about the needs and place of families, and policies and services to support them. Its functions are to:

- develop and review the outcomes for families to which both government and non-government should contribute
- oversee the development of strategies to achieve these outcomes
- provide a point of contact between government, non-government organisations and community representatives to
  - influence policy and service delivery
  - influence and advise on new initiatives that support families
- optimise opportunities to work together collaboratively and share information.

## WHO WE ARE

The Family Services National Advisory Council is a forum of senior representatives from government agencies and non-government organisations (NGOs) and people who provide an iwi/Māori and Pacific people's perspective.

It was established in March 2004 to work with Family and Community Services to develop and promote shared views about the needs and place of families, and the policies and services to support them.

## OUR VISION

### STRONG FAMILIES – CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

The overarching outcome that will bring the Moemoeā to life is:

Families are strong and richly connected with their communities. They are able to support their members' wellbeing, identity, participation and interdependence.

## FAMILY IS THE HEART OF OUR SOCIETY

WE RECOGNISE THE RICH DIVERSITY OF ALL FAMILY TYPES IN NEW ZEALAND. WE VALUE THE FAMILY AS THE HEART OF OUR SOCIETY.

### FAMILIES:

- look after the wellbeing of their members
- love, nurture and protect their children
- care for their members who need care because of disabilities or age
- provide material and emotional support
- pass on laughter, stories, culture, knowledge, values, attitudes, property rights and obligations from one generation to the next.

Families need to be resilient to fulfil these roles successfully. The resilience of families in contemporary New Zealand is under strain because of changes in their social and economic circumstances.

Most families cope with these changes. For some, the stress contributes to such things as family violence, abuse and neglect of children, and break-ups. Families need to be aware of and have access to support which is effective in helping them deal with these challenges.

*“The Council's work is guided by its dream for the ideal family.”*

## OUR WORK

Since 2004, the Council has met on a regular basis to provide advice and guidance to government about a range of issues pertaining to children and families.

These include:

- building awareness, dialogue and action on issues central to strong families
- identifying and supporting families with needs
- investing in family strengths and community capacity
- strengthening the support services environment to deliver a more effective response to family needs.