

Gandhi Nivas focuses on:

- Ensuring that victims do not have to leave their homes and families.
- Preventing family harm from reoccurring by providing appropriate early intervention counselling and support services.
- Placing greater emphasis on early intervention (within 24 hours) and prevention by identifying harm early and intervening immediately.
- Recognising and providing for diverse needs and circumstances.

Positive outcomes include:

- Men have a place to cool down and think things through.
- A surge in the number of men accessing the service.
- Fewer men are offending after the intervention.
- A decrease in the frequency of individual offending.
- A decrease in the number of recorded offences.
- Family, especially children, stay in their homes and continue with normal life/school during interventions.

More than 2,750 men and whanau of 50 ethnicities have been referred to Gandhi Nivas from December 2014 to July 2020.

Key partners:

ACC, Serenity Foundation, Total Healthcare PHO, NZ Police and Sahaayta Counselling & Social Support.

The Gandhi Nivas was established using a Lotteries Commission grant and receives on-going funding and support from ACC, Total Healthcare PHO, Massey University, Ministry of Social Development, The Tindall Foundation and Foundation North.

How You Can Help

- Become a sponsor.
- Support as volunteers or help with fundraising.
- Contribute to reduced rents for Gandhi Nivas houses.
- Raise awareness about our work.



Contact us
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Gandhi Nivas
Serving our families

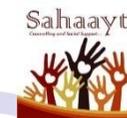
Helping prevent family harm in New Zealand by providing men with early intervention services.

Initiative of



SERENITY
FOUNDATION

In Partnership with



Supported by



Te Kaporeihana Āwhina
Hunga Whānau



What is Gandhi Nivas?

Gandhi Nivas is a partnership between Auckland's Serenity Foundation, Total Healthcare, New Zealand Police & Sahaayta Counselling & Social Support. It provides free counselling, temporary accommodation, and referrals to social services for men who have either been issued with a *Police Safety Order or are otherwise involved in police matters related to family harm.

This unique model of early intervention and prevention services for men identified at risk of committing family harm is helping to change behaviour, reduce the likelihood of further violence and increase safety for families.

Men can receive help from Gandhi Nivas via a referral by the Police or self-referral. The need for help for men involved in family harm was identified by Counties Manukau Police and subsequently the Owen Glenn report.

How does it work?

- Referral from Police or self-referral.
- Free assistance within 24 hours of referral provided to men - counselling and temporary accommodation.
- Help from counsellors, social workers, alcohol and drug practitioners and support workers.
- Referral depending on other needs to WINZ, doctor, budgeting help etc.
- Clients' family offered counselling and support.

** PSOs are a tool for Police in family harm episodes. They protect persons at risk of family harm when there is insufficient evidence of an offence. The person at risk can seek support and assistance and for the perpetrator to cool down and also seek support and assistance.*

Results from 5 years of research by Massey University

- The research was done from Jan. 2015 to Dec. 2019
- More than 800 individuals and families
- 57.5% of previous offenders did not re-offend
- One in three Serious offenders did not re-offend
- Almost 70% of the early intervention clients continued non-offending.

Testimonials

I have had time to make peace within myself; the staff were very understanding and helpful. My first night at Gandhi Nivas was very hard because I was away from home but as the days went by I realised how much time I had to look back and identify the areas that needed to be worked on.

The message from this place: stop wishing, start doing, wake up! This place has helped me to wake up. This place has helped me to remake myself. This is where I start from new."

Houses

The first house opened in 2014 in Otahuhu and the second house in Te Atatu in March 2018. The third house was officially opened in Papakura in September 2018. Men receive free counselling, temporary accommodation and referral to other services, depending on their needs, including WINZ, doctors, budgeting services etc. Clients' families are also offered counselling and support.



OTAHUHU



PAPAKURA



TE ATATU