

Gandhi Nivas focuses on:

- Ensuring 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.
- Surge in the number of men accessing the service.
- Fewer men offending after intervention.
- Decrease in the frequency of individual offending.
- Decrease in number of recorded offences.
- Families stay in their homes and schools during interventions

More than 900 men of 19 ethnicities have been referred to Gandhi Nivas since December 2014.



Make contact

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Key partners:

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

The Gandhi Nivas partnership 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, Catholic Services, and other private funders.



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

What is Gandhi Nivas?

Gandhi Nivas is a partnership between Auckland's Serenity Foundation, Total Healthcare PHO, NZ Police and Sahaayta Counselling & Social Support.

It provides free counselling, emergency housing and referral 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 domestic harm is helping to change behaviour, reduce the likelihood of further domestic harm and increase safety for families. Men can receive help from Gandhi Nivas via a referral by 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. More than 900 men of 19 ethnicities have been referred to Gandhi Nivas.

How does it work?

- Referral from Police or self-referral.
- Free assistance within 24 hours of referral.
- Men offered counselling and emergency 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.

* Police Safety Orders are issued as an interim safety measure when police have reasonable grounds to believe that there is a risk of family harm, or that an incident of family harm has occurred.

Early results praised

A Massey University study from December 2014 to December 2015 of Gandhi Nivas showed early positive results:

- 93% of clients had not been involved in another family harm incident.
- The 7% of men who offended after coming to Gandhi Nivas refused to engage with services offered.
- 90% of men referred to Gandhi Nivas had help within 24 hours.

The Massey University researchers praised Gandhi Nivas for its rapid response to police referrals, the service's high standard of community leadership, and its culturally appropriate services provided by Sahaayta Counselling and Social Support.

Testimonials

"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 now;"

"These guys are trying to help me, calm me down, turn my life around. I'll never turn back. I respect the way they've shown generosity to me;"

What the statistics show



*90% of all men referred to Gandhi Nivas had help within 24 hours.



The number of clients who had not been involved in another family harm incident.

*Statistics from Massey University December 2014 to December 2015 evaluation

How you can help

- Become a sponsor.
- Donate furnishings, furniture, beds etc for accommodation.
- Support volunteers with a donation.
- Contribute to reduced rents for Gandhi Nivas houses.
- Raise awareness about our work.

Find out more from the Gandhi Nivas website gandhinivas.nz