



Kia ora,

In August 2017, more than 1200 suppliers, staff and friends of The Warehouse Group came together at a Gala Dinner in Auckland. The Gala Dinner was aimed at raising funds for Breakthrough – a life-changing two year programme for fathers and their children, created and delivered by The Salvation Army and Parenting Place. In just one evening, almost \$650,000 was raised for Breakthrough thanks to the generosity of hundreds of individuals and businesses.

This incredible fundraising achievement will allow us to work with 630 families, supporting fathers with a history of violence to deepen their insights and enhance their skills to build stronger families, strengthen their relationships and live violence free. We hope Breakthrough will help create enduring change in Aotearoa where all children can grow up knowing they are loved, safe and supported by their whānau.

Exciting new beginnings

Over the past six months, our Breakthrough delivery team from Parenting Place and The Salvation Army has been busy developing the programme for rollout in July 2018. It's been an amazing experience that has not only drawn on our collective expertise, resources and networks, but has connected with other local and international experts to test and strengthen our approaches.

Our programme design reflects recent theory and evidence on family violence, a Māori worldview and inputs from those with lived experience of violence. Our programme researchers and evaluators at the University of Canterbury have also worked closely with us during the design phase to ensure we can robustly assess Breakthrough's effectiveness at the end of each programme. The programme privileges a Māori worldview, and we are excited that all participants, Māori and non-Māori, will experience the richness of these cultural values, expressed within a family context. It is a powerful programme and we can't wait to see it in action from next month.

In May we held a pōwhiri at Umupuia marae in Clevedon that brought together our key stakeholders as well as our local Breakthrough facilitators and mentors – an amazing group who will guide men through their journey of discovery and change. We are so grateful to Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki for their incredible generosity and hospitality to us.

In July, Breakthrough begins in seven locations – Whangarei, West Auckland, South Auckland, Central Auckland, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, and Dunedin – with more centres being added as local facilitators come on board. To find out more about becoming a facilitator or running a local Breakthrough programme click [here](#). In each location our facilitators and mentors will work with groups of 8-12 men – leading them through a four month programme involving some or all of the following depending on individual needs – group sessions, individual mentoring, an adventure experience with one of their children and a graduation.

Connect with us

We would love to connect more men and centres with Breakthrough and are looking for more participants in our initial centres. If you know of men with a history or risk of violence, who want to strengthen their relationship with their children, and are personally motivated to change, contact tekarere.scarborough@parentingplace.nz to find out how to sign up.

To find out more about Breakthrough and to receive newsletters and updates, go to salvationarmy.org.nz/breakthrough, theparentingplace.com/breakthrough or contact tekarere.scarborough@parentingplace.nz.

Special thanks again to all those who have helped fund and develop Breakthrough. Together we hope to create lasting, positive change by strengthening families in Aotearoa.

Ngā manaakitanga,

The Breakthrough team