

White Ribbon 2024

25 November



PCANZ White Ribbon Campaign 2024: Preventing and Responding to Abuse in the Whenua

Kia Ora, Talofa, and Greetings Ministers and Parish Councils

As your White Ribbon Ambassador, I am writing to introduce the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ) White Ribbon Campaign for 2024. Our theme, "Preventing and Responding to Abuse in the Whenua - home, work, church and community", addresses a critical issue affecting our society both within and outside the church.

White Ribbon Day is officially observed on 25 November 2024. However, we encourage parishes to commemorate this important day on Saturday 23 and/or Sunday 24 November 2024, to maximise participation and awareness within our church communities (or on any day that works for your parish).

Abuse, including domestic violence, remains a pressing concern in family, work, and church environments. While statistics show that women and children are often the primary victims of male partners or family members, our campaign recognises all forms of abuse within the whanau, including abuse against men.

As your PCANZ White Ribbon Ambassador, I am here to offer valuable resources to help your congregation raise awareness, prevent abuse, identify signs of abuse, and support those in abusive situations. Below are resources that can be shared in parishes, providing an engaging way to introduce the campaign and its objectives.

It's crucial to understand that abuse impacts more than just the victim and perpetrator. Its effects ripple through the entire whanau - affecting women, children, men, family pets, and God's creation.

Available Resources

- Poster: Designed for visibility in living, working, and worship areas that can be downloaded [here](#) and has also been couriered to every church.
- Pocket/Wallet Prayer Card: Providing easy access to prayer, and my contact information, these have been couriered to every church and can also be downloaded [here](#).
- Service of Remembrance and Hope: A specially designed service to honour those affected by abuse and inspire hope for a future free from violence – emailed to every church and also available on the PCANZ website 2024 White Ribbon section [here](#).
- Past Years' Resources: A wealth of materials from previous campaigns, allows you to tailor activities to your local context/need, available on the PCANZ website White Ribbon page [here](#).

These diverse resources offer flexibility in promoting White Ribbon Day and preventing abuse and violence in our communities. We encourage you to explore both current and past materials to create a campaign that resonates with your specific congregation and community.

Sharing Your Efforts

We kindly request that you share images of your activities and services with the wider whanau. This helps to inspire and encourage others in their efforts to address abuse. Please send your photos and stories to PCANZ Communications, email them [here](#) to ensure they are shared appropriately within our Church community.

Book me to Speak at Your Church

I am available to speak with your group or congregation about this important initiative. Please don't hesitate to contact me to arrange a visit or if you need any additional information.

Together, let's work towards creating safer, more respectful environments in our homes, workplaces, churches, and communities.

Yours sincerely

Rev Hana Popea

PCANZ White Ribbon Ambassador

E: hanapd.pcanzwrnza@gmail.com

M: 027 4629313

W: www.presbyterian.org.nz/speaking-out/pcanz-white-ribbon

