

Butterfly Project 2022

Butterfly template



"The rise in the number of women and children seeking help due to Family Violence, is not a statistic that New Zealand should proud of.



Social Issues Leader Kathryn Hopkinson:

After networking with Jynine Berryman and Marie Clark from Te Whare Hauora (Otautahi Maori Women's refuge) based in Christchurch, I presented a report to the NEC as part of the Social Issue Sub-Committee. This led to the Butterfly initiative being activated throughout the NZFWI with the visual display playing an important part at AGM/Conference 2022 held at the Lower Hutt Town Hall

Primarily, it was to raise awareness amongst the NZFWI members through the research and collation of the huge numbers of families seeking help within the regions. The white butterflies would represent the number of people asking for help whilst a red butterfly would identify a death due to family violence.



New Zealand is ranked the worst developed country in the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) for family violence, with only 33% of family violence being reported.

The NZFWI support women and families within their communities with many WI's donating funds, toys, puzzles, books, Manchester items and emergency toiletries for women's refuges in the region.

Kathryn Hopkinson.

A basket of butterflies from across NZFWI



“Ensuring effective support for people who experience domestic abuse – women, men or non-binary people – is critical to ending domestic violence in New Zealand.”

Shine*



Butterflies were brought to the venue and then pinned by the NEC on to a 12 feet teal cloth. This had to be undertaken when the AGM agenda was not in progress (ie after Monday afternoon session prior to the Gold Honours reception). It was a tight time frame for completion. The display was impressive. **Not an inch of teal cloth was to be seen.**



Plenty of butterflies strew the floor, due to no more space available on the cloth. It proved to be an emotive exercise for all of us who pinned on these hundreds of paper butterflies. We all wept at some point. There were too many red butterflies.



In conclusion, it is our intention to lobby as many organisations, agencies, government departments and officials, the press and local MPs highlighting the subject of domestic violence which has to be addressed here in New Zealand. *That all adults and children in Aotearoa can live free from domestic and family violence.*

Thank you to each and every one who took time to research and cut out the butterfly templates. Thank you to those who quietly donated funds. Thank you for supporting the project in such a short time.

