



Tira Tūhāhā

Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa

ANNUAL REPORT 2022
RIPOATA-Ā-TAU



Introduction

He kupu whakataki

Tēnā koutou, and welcome to the fourth public annual report by Tira Tūhāhā Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa (TTPCA) – (previously known as the Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand).

TTPCA, with the oversight of a cross-section of New Zealand Churches, provides religious and spiritual services to all New Zealand prisoners under contract to The Department of Corrections Ara Poutama Aotearoa. TTPCA is also contracted by Serco New Zealand to provide chaplaincy services to Auckland South Corrections Facility. The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference works closely with TTPCA to provide Catholic chaplaincy in all prisons throughout Aotearoa, New Zealand.

**Being the
hope that
transforms
lives**

This Annual Report is based on the 2022 calendar year and our financial year 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022. Published February 2023

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"We have always been aware of the need to stay true to the vision of those who founded TTPCA, as well as being flexible in adjusting to new realities."

Board Chair's report

Te ripoata a te Tiamana

The last twelve months have been a settled time for prison chaplaincy, a time when we have seen the benefits of the training, policy work and standards setting of previous years bear fruit. During 2022, the Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCSANZ) became Tira Tūhāhā Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa (TTPCA) and a new logo was developed. These changes were not made lightly but only after lengthy consultation and reflection by the Board. We have always been aware of the need to stay true to the vision of those who founded TTPCA, as well as being flexible in adjusting to new realities.

At the end of 2022 we farewelled the Rev'd. Murray Cottle and the Rev'd. Peter Williamson from the Board. Both are long-serving members. Murray is a signatory on the original deed which established PCSANZ in 2000 and had previous service with another prison chaplaincy Board. Peter joined the PCSANZ Board in 2011 so has served for 11 years. We thank them and their appointing churches for the gift they have been to the Board over the years. Their wisdom, spirituality and knowledge will be missed. In 2023 we are welcoming the Rev'd. Henry Feleti from the Baptist Church to replace Murray, and the Rev'd Utumau'u Pupulu from the Methodist Church to replace Peter.

COVID-19 has continued to affect chaplains and prisons but in a reduced way compared to previous years. The difficulties the Department of Corrections has had in recruiting prison staff has been the limiting factor on what can be achieved by chaplains, as almost all activities require the presence of Corrections staff. We hope and pray that this situation can improve this year, not just to help chaplaincy but for the wellbeing of the men and women in prison and prison staff.

On behalf of the Board, I thank our Chief Executive, the Rev'd. John Axcell, and the National Office staff for their hard work. They combine attention to detail with a clear understanding of the bigger picture and the strategic direction of TTPCA. A special word of thanks also to our Regional Managers and the Senior Catholic Chaplain, who together do much of the hard work and exercise leadership in the space between senior management and chaplains 'on the floor'. May God bless them and all those who work for the good of some of the most disadvantaged people in our community.

Anne Dickinson

Chief Executive's report

Te ripoata a te Kaihautū

Tēnā koutou katoa.

2022 has been a year of waiting patiently.

TTPCA was hoping for a substantial return to work for our volunteers in the latter part of 2022, following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in September. Unfortunately, this return has barely eventuated due to ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks which disrupted access to prisons and Corrections staffing remaining at well under optimum levels. COVID-19 also meant the postponement of our national training event to 2023. The development of an electronic database to record individual pastoral care, which is major development in terms of managing pastoral activity, also received a significant setback in late 2022 when the IT firm designing the database experienced a major cyber-attack. All is not lost regarding the database, and we are hoping to see its implementation in the first half of 2023.

The good news was the return to site, in nearly full capacity, of the chaplains by mid-2022. This meant that the delivery of individual pastoral care to the men and women in prison has almost returned to pre-COVID-19 levels. The provision of group services however remains quite limited as those services are mostly reliant on volunteers and site staff for delivery.

It was exciting to settle on a new name and logo in 2022 and this reflects the development of our organisation and the new culture and style of chaplaincy we are

promoting. The national office team and the regional managers worked hard to finalise many new policies and practice standards over the year. Improving the organisational framework and professionalism that supports chaplaincy means better quality care for the men and women in prison.

The way ahead focuses on a service that is more sensitive to the needs of Māori men and women in prison, and those of faiths other than Christianity. The employment of a Tikanga Māori Enabler is a big step in helping our work become more bicultural.

I've been greatly encouraged over the year to see more and more chaplains and other staff attending retreats and participating in tertiary courses. As each person deepens their faith and knowledge, the organisation as a whole becomes more resilient. Faith, knowledge, and resilience are vital in an uncertain environment, and improves our ability to discern the right kind of care for prisoners and for our colleagues.

Once again, thank you to our supporters and those who fund our work, especially Ara Poutama Aotearoa who has steadfastly sustained us despite the uncertainties of the COVID-19 environment.



John Axcell



"The good news was the return to site, in nearly full capacity, of the chaplains by mid-2022."



Year in numbers 2021-2022



AN AVERAGE OF
6.8% OF PAIHĒRE
(PRISONERS)
ATTENDED A GROUP SERVICE



AT LEAST ONCE
A MONTH

2,048

GROUP SERVICES
WERE DELIVERED
IN ALL NZ PRISONS



THE TOTAL PAIHĒRE NUMBERS AS AT
4 JULY 2022 WAS



7,796

(ARA POUTAMA
AOTEAROA)

CHAPLAIN

11,716

INDIVIDUAL
SESSIONS
WERE PROVIDED
TO PAIHĒRE



AN AVERAGE OF
12.2%
OF PAIHERE
RECEIVED INDIVIDUAL
CARE AT
LEAST
ONCE A
MONTH



800 ACTIVE
VOLUNTEERS

WERE ON OUR DATABASE



(AS AT JUNE 2022)

WE PROVIDED

1 FULL-TIME
CHAPLAIN



PER **285** PAIHERE

TTPCA
HAS **48**
STAFF



IN A TYPICAL
MONTH - **667**
INDIVIDUAL PRISONERS
RECEIVED ONE OR MORE
SUPPORT SESSIONS



IN A TYPICAL MONTH

543



INDIVIDUAL PAIHERE
ATTENDED GROUP SERVICES

About us

Ā mātou

In 2000, churches formed a charitable trust known then as the Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The new organisation set up a different structure for providing religious and spiritual services to prisoners in New Zealand, under contract to the Department of Corrections Ara Poutama Aotearoa, which is also its main funder. The Trust now employed and supplied chaplains, where previously they were employed by Corrections.

The Trust took over responsibility from Corrections for the faith-based volunteers in 2015. In August 2020, a new five-year funding agreement was settled between the Trust and Corrections.

During 2022 the Board renamed the organisation which is now called **Tira Tūhāhā Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa** (see page 24-25 for the background and meaning of the new name).

TTPCA is governed by a Board comprising representatives from the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia, the Associated Pentecostal Churches of New Zealand, the Baptist Churches of New Zealand Ko Ngā Hahi Iriri o Aotearoa, the Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa, The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, The Roman Catholic Church of New Zealand, The Salvation Army Te Ope Whakaora, and Te Rūnanga Whakawhanaunga i ngā Haahi o Aotearoa (National Council of Māori Churches). Up to five members can be nominated onto the Board.





Where we work

Ngā wāhi mahi

Northern Region

Northland Region Corrections Facility
Spring Hill Corrections Facility
Waikeria Prison
Hawke's Bay Regional Prison

Auckland Region

Auckland Prison (Paremoremo)
Mt Eden Corrections Facility
Auckland South Corrections Facility
Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility

Central Region

Tongariro Prison
New Plymouth Remand Centre
Whanganui Prison
Manawatu Prison
Rimutaka Prison
Arohata Prison

Southern Region

Christchurch Men's Prison
Christchurch Women's Prison
Rolleston Prison
Otago Corrections Facility
Invercargill Prison



An introduction to prison chaplaincy

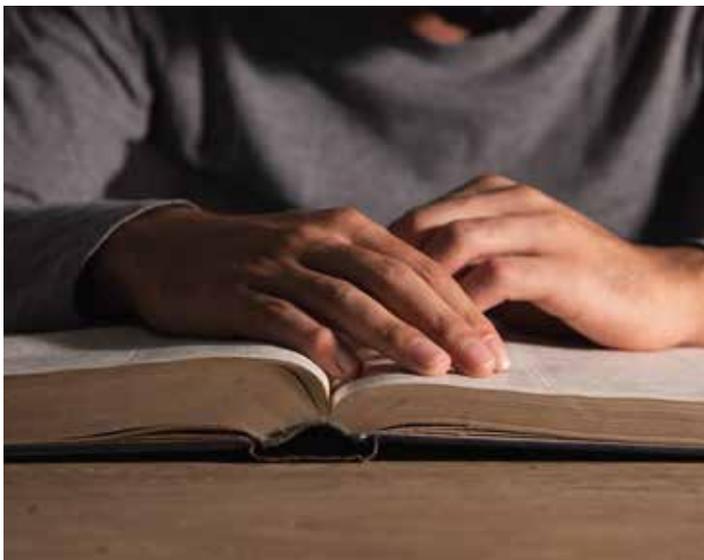
Anei tō mātou kaupapa
matua

What is prison chaplaincy?

The origin of the term 'chaplain' comes from the French word 'chappelle', which is a coat or covering.

The term originates from the old Christian story of St Martin who offered his chappelle to someone in deep distress and gave him a covering, a lifesaving protection, in a similar manner to the parable of the Good Samaritan; offering kindness, compassion and a Christ-like presence. Prison chaplaincy is focused on providing that covering or care to those in prison, regardless of their faith or spiritual identification.

Our organisation is dedicated to supporting some of the most disadvantaged and hurt people in our society. For many of them, this disadvantage has been experienced since birth and that has led them to prison.



Prison chaplaincy in action

Our chaplains and volunteers journey with paihere as they encounter the challenges of incarceration and separation from loved ones and whānau.

Prison chaplaincy has two areas of focus: ministry with individual paihere, and building a healthy spiritual community at each prison site. This ministry is delivered both intentionally and serendipitously, through good organisation and unintended encounters as chaplains offer a ministry of presence.

Day-to-day, chaplains have a critical role in facilitating the building of a Spirit-filled community at their site and ensuring that all who wish to can contribute to that community – whether they are paihere, volunteers, chaplains or prison staff. Chaplains ensure the service at each site is of the highest quality and reflects TTPCA's values, while also leading and managing volunteers. They offer expertise in the core chaplaincy disciplines of pastoral care,

delivering worship and occasional services (for example, cell blessings), and giving opportunities to study the scriptures and other religious and spiritual material.

Joining alongside chaplains are the volunteers, who are a critical part of service delivery. There are rules and processes that volunteers are subject to in a prison setting, which adds a level of commitment not found in other forms of volunteering. There are around 800 faith-based prison volunteers across the country.

Importantly, the relationship between TTPCA, Ara Poutama Aotearoa, and Serco is a partnership. The work chaplains and volunteers do helps with the tensions that can arise, as paihere struggle with issues that are difficult to resolve while in prison. Every day, prison staff also help facilitate the chaplains' ministry and programmes in numerous ways across the country. Government-church cooperation is truly at its best in prisons.



"My role is to make sure that our chaplains are getting the personal support and spiritual direction that they need to fulfil their ministry."

Sister Veronica Casey

Senior Catholic Chaplain

Where do you fit in to prison chaplaincy?

As Senior Catholic Chaplain I represent the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference (NZCBC) in all operational matters. I have been in this role for 10 years. It involves keeping lines of communication open between the various parties, supporting chaplaincy developments and processes, and caring for Catholic chaplains.

Describe the relationship between the NZCBC and TTPCA

The NZCBC has been in partnership with TTPCA since it was formed in 2000. The NZCBC has a member on the Board, and supplies a Catholic chaplain to each prison. Each chaplain is employed by their Diocese, but they are managed by TTPCA.

The success of this partnership comes down to the strong relationships we've formed over the years. The Catholic chaplains work as a team with the TTPCA chaplains. When you have differences in theologies, teamwork is absolutely vital. It's an ecumenical relationship, where we all share a common goal.

Describe your journey into prison chaplaincy?

Many years ago, when I was doing a psychiatric nursing course, I visited the old Mount Eden prison. Seeing the conditions people were being kept in had a huge

impact on me. I remember realising that paihere were coming into that place with low self-esteem and were having that reinforced while there. That made me question why anyone would expect them to change their lives. In my travels overseas, I volunteered in an Irish prison, visiting and leading groups. When I came home 16 years ago, I was invited to apply to be chaplain for Otago Corrections Facility.

What stands out to you in your role?

It's really disturbing seeing our society's desire for retribution, and the 'lock them up and throw away the key' mentality. On the whole, our prison population hasn't had a chance in life and they are usually broken people. But they need to know that they are children of God, and they do have a place in this world. So, if our community's views could be turned around, we would undoubtedly have a better country.

What advice would you give to our new chaplains?

I would remind them that they are not there to fix things. They are instruments of God, and they need to watch, listen, and learn in the early part of their ministry. Another point is that they are not taking God into prison, God is already there, and they will probably get more from the people they minister to than they will give!

Arii Taimataora

Regional Manager Southern

Describe your journey into prison chaplaincy.

I was a parish minister for the Presbyterian church for 15 years. While I was searching for a new opportunity, a Prison Chaplain vacancy in Christchurch kept popping up. In my wildest dreams I never saw myself working in a prison, but I applied to make the advert stop showing up! Little did I know that God had a plan for me because once I started, everything made sense. There was a renewal in my spirit, and I could sense God's confirmation and presence in my new journey. I knew this was where I was meant to be. I was a chaplain for one year when the role of Regional Manager became available, and I again felt prompted by God to apply.

What stands out to you in your role?

It's important to acknowledge that our chaplaincy team is made up of people from many backgrounds and approaches, which is really positive, but it does require great communication to discuss our differences and work together. There are two outstanding spaces that really matter to this work. One is when the national management team gets together to discuss trends and issues. We learn from each other, and take gold nuggets back to our prisons. There is something in that space that feels life-giving, as we support and

encourage each other to grow. The other space is our time with the chaplains. We ensure that their wellbeing is taken care of, and they have everything they need to focus on their work and give their all to the paihere.

What advice would you give to our new chaplains?

A lot of new chaplains come in thinking they are here to change lives. But actually that's God's role, and maybe you're really in this role because God wants to change your life instead! My advice is to pay attention, learn well, and seek wisdom if you're unsure. Also, you have to be open; open to a space that is completely different to your experience of your church, open to letting go of your preconceptions about prisoners, and open to grow.

What do you do in your spare time?

Whenever I do get spare time, my husband and I have a goal to visit every town in the South Island for a weekend. I also like to create, so I do painting, sewing, stonecraft, and carving.



"... you have to be open; open to a space that is completely different to your experience of your church, open to letting go of your preconceptions about prisoners, and open to grow."



Our Vision, Mission and Values

Anei o mātou pūtake

Our Mission

Being the hope that transforms lives

Tū Rangatira - Professionalism

He aha te kai o te rangatira?
He kōrero, he kōrero, he kōrero.
What is the food of the leader?
It is knowledge.
It is communication.

Haumarū - Keeping Safe

Waiho i te toipoto,
kaua i te toiroa.
Let us keep close
together, not
wide apart.

Mahi Tahī - Teamwork

Naku te rourou nau te rourou
ka ora ai te iwi.
With your basket and my basket
the people will live.

Our Vision

Every prisoner has the opportunity to have
their spiritual and religious life enriched

Pononga - Servants of God

He taonga rongonui te aroha ki te tangata.
Goodwill towards others is a precious
treasure.

Whakaute - Respect

He aha te mea nui o te ao?
He tāngata! He tāngata! He tāngata!
What is the most important thing in the world?
It is people! It is people! It is people!

Aroha - Compassion

Aroha mai, aroha atu.
Love received, love returned.

One man's story

He kōrero ā tētahi tāne

My journey goes all the way back to my childhood. I was abused from 5 to 11 years old, and that created a lot of pain and anger inside me. As I got older I directed a lot of that anger towards women, and I committed terrible crimes. I went to prison, and was divorced after being with my wife for 25 years.

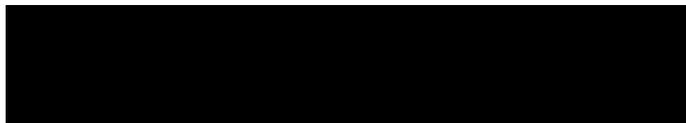
I did always believe in God, but I always had one foot in and one foot out of my faith. But when I went to prison I realised I needed to commit to it. I came across the chaplains and the church, which really helped me start to get through everything. My upbringing and my crimes have always been hard to talk about, and God helped me bring everything back up so that I could heal. I loved being around other Christians. It was nice to have the chaplains comfort you, and other guys who were in the church group supporting you. The church became a place to get out of my own mind and the prison environment, find peace, and start resolving issues like my anger.

I grew a relationship with the chaplains,

and was looked at as a leader in the group, especially because I could play music and organise the songs. I was also baptised in prison which was one of the best moments of my life. I was so humbled and grateful for that – especially in a place where you wouldn't expect something like that to happen.

Through God, and the chaplain service, people are brought together who you would never know. Something that stands out, is how every Christmas the chaplains would organise me to visit people in different units to reach out and spread the Gospel – often through music. That really resonated with me, and I still stay in touch with some of those guys today.

Before I was released, some leaders from my local church met with me and asked if I would like to join and play music for them. I have been attending every Sunday since then, and it is wonderful. Now I'm retired, and I am led by God – he is my shepherd. My life is all about the church, my family, and growing veggies here and there.



Our volunteers

Anei ō mātou kaiāwhina

The role

TTPCA offers spiritual and religious support to all men and women inside prisons. To provide this service, TTPCA relies on faith-based volunteers to come into prisons to help deliver group worship, group study and individual pastoral care to paihere every week. Our volunteers enable us to reach more of those paihere who choose to begin or continue their spiritual journey.

Volunteers are managed by our chaplains at each prison site. Our professional chaplains provide leadership to the volunteers' chaplaincy activities in the prisons, maintain relationships with key Corrections staff, and liaise with the local church and faith communities.

We value the commitment of our volunteer network. They work with our chaplains to deliver religious and spiritual services to groups of paihere, provide individual pastoral care (assistant chaplains), and facilitate Bible studies and other faith-based study groups.



Who our volunteers are

Our volunteers come from all walks of life. They vary in age, ethnicity, faith and denominational background. Most are Christian, and some are of other religions (e.g. Muslim or Buddhist). They are all endorsed members of a faith-based organisation. All are welcome and important for the service.

In 2022 we had 800 volunteers. This is an astounding number of people who have chosen to offer their skills, experience, faith, and time to paihere. The diversity of gifts that volunteers bring to prison ministry could never be provided by the chaplains alone.

Safety and relationships

The process to become a volunteer is comprehensive. Every person is vetted by TTPCA, with commendations from their respective church or faith-based community, and there are extensive requirements from Ara Poutama Aotearoa and Serco to gain access to the prison.

When organising the volunteers' activities at prisons, the chaplains are constantly aware of the need to be prepared for disruptions. The main disruptions include sudden prison or unit lockdown, or there being too few prison staff on site at a given time to facilitate the volunteers' activities and/or ensure their safety.

Being a TTPCA volunteer is different to being a personal visitor to a paihere. As a member of the public, you may be able to become a visitor to a paihere. However, this relationship is initiated by the paihere and must be approved by prison management (Corrections or Serco). Generally, TTPCA does not allow its volunteers to also be a personal visitor to any paihere.



Volunteers Malcolm Crawford (left) and Des Barton (right) with their recognition awards – Des 27 years and Malcolm 12 years.

"Listening to their stories, it was clear that a lot of them didn't have a chance from very early in their lives. I just felt drawn to be there with them, and to share the good news."

Desmond Barton

Volunteer Assistant Chaplain – Spring Hill Prison

Describe your journey into volunteering as an assistant chaplain.

It all started back in 1994, when someone in our neighbourhood ended up in Waikeria prison. I went to share the Gospel with him, and began visiting with some of the other men I had met. One day, Waikeria's prison chaplain found out about what I was doing, and invited me to visit more of the prisoners. I also ended up visiting other prisons around the country to follow up with guys that had moved, and I worked at Spring Hill when it opened. I was involved for 27 years until I retired.

What do you do in your role?

Firstly, I told the guys why they needed God, showed them how to use the Bible, and kept them going in it. I made sure the men knew what the Gospel was: God's offer to simple men. I also taught them how to memorise scripture, so they could share God's message to others, even when they didn't have a Bible. I would ask questions, sit and listen to their stories, and invariably God would bring a verse to my mind that had helped me in my life.

What stood out to you in your role?

I didn't come to faith in Jesus until I was 32, so once I started reading the Bible I knew that I desperately needed help, and a spiritual life was the answer. In prisons, I got to see the men's excitement when they made the same amazing realisation! A man could finally let go of all of the rubbish that had tormented him for years, like being abused by the system, ending up in prison, and being rejected by his family. Thinking of it now, seeing someone know that God has forgiven him for the first time in his life makes me cry.

What would you say to other potential volunteers?

Some people want to go in and preach their own message, but listening is key. These guys need to know that you hear their story, and you take them seriously. If you don't do that, your message won't be remembered. It's also important to ignore the negative things people say about prisoners, because they are God's children. Yes, they have broken God's law but so have all of us. When you go into prison, just let the spirit of God melt you, and see what He is going to do. It will blow your mind!

Avish Petras

Volunteer Assistant Chaplain – Whanganui Prison

Describe your journey into volunteering as an assistant chaplain.

I always had a passion to minister the word of God, so while working as an assistant professor in India, my wife Monica and I started ministering to men and women in prisons. In 2017, God told me I had to drop everything and come to New Zealand. He brought us to Whanganui, where I became a pastor for my church, and then I saw an ad pop up for an assistant chaplain. When I applied, Pona, the local regional manager, told me he sensed he needed to visit me in person to ask what I could offer. His invitation confirmed that God had opened a door for me, and I started visiting Whanganui Prison one day a week.

What do you do in your role?

Walking with a man in this phase of his life is a privilege. My approach is always to allow them to pour out whatever they have in their hearts. I also have a sincere desire to develop trust, so that together we can reach more brothers in different units. I respect the Prison Chaplains like Pona so much. The work they do, and the connections they create with the prison makes it so easy for me to access different people and do my job. I've also heard from

Corrections officers how much it means for them to have our team here and that they look forward to our visits. That melted my heart, and now I always make sure to have casual chats with the officers too, and it gives me an opportunity to minister with officers.

What stands out to you in your role?

Seeing how someone with a negative background can change into a good man is just out of this world, and it's hard to believe they are the same person! When I'm going into prison, I wake up excited because I will witness another awesome story. When I leave, I wonder if I have counselled these people who are broken, angry, and hurt, or if they have counselled me!

What would you say to other potential volunteers?

I see this as an opportunity. I feel that these guys, who are trying to change their lives, are better than us, they just have some rust on them, and once that is removed they can really shine. It is a privilege to play a small role in that, by acting as a bridge to someone's glorious moment!



“I have seen a number of paihere and their families whose lives have completely changed, and are now living a dignified life. That is so amazing, and it really is a collective effort.”





Pastoral visitors

A vital role in our volunteer set up is the pastoral visitor. Pastoral visitors have a particular role in providing specialist one-on-one support to those prisoners whose religious and spiritual needs can't ordinarily be met by the chaplains. Pastoral visitors are mostly drawn from qualified members of the following religions: Islam, Buddhism, Sikhism, Hinduism, and Judaism, but there are also pastoral visitors from other backgrounds including Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons.

By having pastoral visitors, TTPCA is able to meet a broad range of prisoner needs. Where there is a particular need, TTPCA aims to find the appropriate pastoral support, where resources permit. It is the role of the chaplains at each site to recruit pastoral visitors and make sure they have all the support they need as a chaplaincy volunteer. Pastoral visitors sometimes work across several prisons due to their specialist skills and the

relative scarcity of qualified pastoral visitors.

We find it much easier to recruit pastoral visitors in the main cities where there is a reasonable population representing each faith community. Recruiting pastoral visitors in the provinces is challenging, so in their absence the chaplains have to do their best to connect a prisoner by phone to a suitable religious representative in the community.

Sometimes the chaplain is the only person available to provide spiritual support, and so they work hard to be as sensitive as possible to the particular needs of the prisoner. The provision of spiritual and religious literature is critical to supporting prisoners who do not have easy access to pastoral visitors or personal visitors from their own faith community or family. Chaplains keep a broad range of religious material on site for just these situations.

Haroun Ali

Volunteer pastoral visitor – Auckland region

Pastoral visitors are volunteers who provide specialist one-on-one support to prisoners with distinct religious and spiritual needs. Haroun Ali, one of our Muslim pastoral visitors shared his experience of this kind of work.

Describe your journey into volunteering as a pastoral visitor?

In the mid-80s, I was part of the Fiji Muslim Youth Movement, and we supported a prisoner in Suva's maximum security prison. A few years later, I moved to New Zealand, and one day a friend of mine told me about someone in Paremoremo Prison who needed a bit of help. I started visiting the prison under the NZ Muslim Association (NZMA) banner, then eventually I became the bridge between them and TTPCA. The NZMA have given me a free hand to work how I want to in prisons. TTPCA facilitates my visits, and NZMA helps if we ever need more volunteers or resources like Korans or prayer mats.

What do you do as a volunteer?

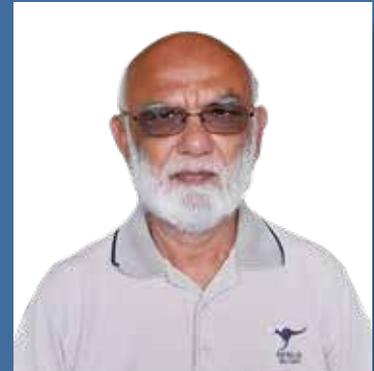
For me as a Muslim, if anyone needs my help I am there – irrespective of their religion. I'm not there to proselytise, I'm there to make sure someone never goes back to prison. If I can walk the path with them, show them the good, and inspire them, then I have achieved something. Some people may be new to my faith and have questions about it, and others I have

been seeing for a long time. I tell people that even though I get to leave, while they are serving a sentence I am here with them. Then when they find out I've been coming there since 1989 they get a real shock!

You have to play a few roles, sometimes teacher, other times friend, or even a shoulder to cry on. The really good sessions for me are the one-to-ones, where someone can open up to you. You realise some of the horrendous things prisoners have been through. They may have committed crimes, but they are human beings, and every single one has a soft spot inside them that you can touch.

What would you say to other potential volunteers?

The number one thing about volunteering is that if you don't care about these guys, then don't go. You have to be motivated to meet with them because they look forward to seeing you, and you become their release valve. At times it can be frustrating, but it's also very fulfilling and it gives you a lot to reflect on in your own life.



“If I can walk the path with them, show them the good, and inspire them, then I have achieved something.”



Prison Director perspective

Lane Groen, Acting Prison Director, Otago Corrections Facility (OCF)

Otago Corrections Facility (OCF) and TTPCA have had a great relationship for over 15 years. Currently we have two paid chaplains, and one volunteer assistant chaplain. They provide a fantastic service, primarily to the men in our care but also to our staff, and they're a great resource for our team.

The chaplaincy team wants to support our community in every way possible. We use them whenever and however we can, from blessing kai through to times when a person is feeling a bit tense and might need some support to calm down and find a bit of hope. Family bereavements are also really tough for our men, especially as they may not be able to attend the funeral. So instead, they can go to our beautiful whare to watch the live stream if there's one available, and have the chaplain sit in with them. No matter how tough a prisoner is, losing a loved one hurts, and a chaplain's support brings a lot of light in dark times, which is invaluable.

We know that the chaplains' God-given task is to look out for the wellbeing of people, so they're here for anybody and everybody. They are absolutely non-judgemental about someone's particular faith, or their crime. They've got giant hearts, and have a genuine

desire to see our men changed. That's critical in a prison environment, because many of our men don't have whānau connections, and at times they really do want to talk deeply with someone. Our staff do the best we can, but we simply aren't able to sit and talk with a prisoner for extended periods. The chaplains make a huge difference, because they can take that time out. Often you'll see a chaplain talking with one person, and then a group forms around them.

It's inevitable that some of our men see the blue uniform as a bit of a barrier as well, so it's important that the chaplains are independent of the prison. People in prison know the chaplains are here because they genuinely want to help and see the good in them. In that way, the chaplaincy team can also be a link, a listening ear, a voice, and even a bridge of understanding between people in prison and the prison system.

We let the chaplains get out there and form relationships with the guys as much as possible. Within the wider parameters of a prison, we give our chaplains free rein around the site, to show the manaaki (respect) we have for them. That might mean allowing a chaplain to sit face-to-face with a prisoner without an officer in the room, and it works because of the relationship we've maintained over the years. The chaplains fully understand what it

"We know that the chaplains' God-given task is to look out for the wellbeing of people, so they're here for anybody and everybody. "



Above: Otago Corrections Facility.

means to work in a prison, and the job our staff need to do.

I would feel lost without our chaplains, they are a huge part of our service and they offer lots of value to the OCF community. COVID-19 restrictions meant that, for quite a long time, the chaplains weren't able to come in person. Now that they're back, there is definitely a warm feeling on site. One thing we're focusing on now is strengthening our volunteer group, which is being led by our chaplains. It's so important that everyone who works with our prisoners is committed because they need to see you here regularly to get to know you and trust you.

Some of these guys have had a life full of abuse and feeling worthless. Our chaplains sow those little seeds, by seeing the best in the person, finding the positive things, and building on them. As a result, I have seen many prisoners completely change their thinking, find hope, and become totally different people. All of us have to realise that this kind of rehabilitation is so important because when these men have served their time they will live in our communities, and we should want them to live a good life!



Our new name and logo

He tohu, me te ingoa hou

In 2022, our organisation changed its name and developed a new logo as part of the rebranding work of the last couple of years. The old name of the Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCSANZ) was replaced with Tira Tūhāhā Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa (TTPCA). A new logo was also approved by the Board.

The name and logo reflect the Board's desire for a name that included both English and Māori components and therefore reflected TTPCA's commitment to a bicultural service. An English and

Māori name also demonstrates an alignment with Ara Poutama Aotearoa's emphasis on the wellness and wellbeing of prisoners (especially the Māori men and women in prison) as expressed in their Hōkai Rangi Strategy and the 2021-2025 Women's Strategy: Wāhine: E rere ana ki te pae hou. A change of name also reflects the broader development that is taking place in TTPCA towards greater professionalism, sensitivity to the needs of prisoners and a deepening of the organisation's faith and commitment.

The meaning of the name

The Māori name of **Tira Tūhāhā** is designed to reflect both a Māori and a Christian identity.

The Māori word 'tira' means a group of people travelling together (which could be made up of individuals or groups of individuals or both). In our context this means everyone involved in prison chaplaincy, especially the men and women in prison, but also chaplaincy staff and volunteers, prison staff, supporting churches and faith communities, and the wider community.

The destination for the travelling group is a safe and ordered space (tūhāhā). Tūhāhā is the word used to describe the ordered heavens in Māori mythology which represent a place of order and independence, a place of potential where knowledge leads to creativity and the emergence of new life. The same name is used in the biblical book of Acts to describe the heavenly realm that Stephen sees in his vision of God and Christ before his death.

Tira Tūhāhā is intended to evoke a sense of a hopeful

journey, especially for the men and women in prison, towards a lifegiving and safe destination that brings hope, enlightenment, wellbeing, security and peace. This aspiration is reflected in TTPCA's mission of 'being the hope that transforms lives' and is the focus of our ministry.

The Board chose a scripture from Ephesians (1:18) to reflect this process of transformation:
Kia whakamaramatia nga kanohi o to koutou hinengaro; kia matau ai koutou ki te mea o tana kārangā e tūmanakohia atu nei, ki te korōria nui hoki o tōna tāonga i roto i te hunga tapu.

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.

The **Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa** component of the name reflects that our work is chaplaincy, that it is done in a prison environment, and that it occurs within the national context of Aotearoa.



The meaning of the logo

The logo was designed to be new, fresh, visually appealing and not too busy or overpowering. The logo presents the text of the new name, symbolises the work of God through chaplaincy, the transformation that is taking place in the organisation, and that we are based in Aotearoa.



The logo has the following components:



The manu (bird) represents Te Wairua Tapu (the Holy Spirit) and its dynamic presence represents the transformation that God works through chaplaincy.



The book is Te Paipera Tapu or the Bible and is visible but subtle. It can also represent other forms of written word that bring transformation.



Māori motifs in the manu are reflective of our Aotearoa context.



The stars can be interpreted in different ways including: Matariki (the Matariki star cluster), the heavens, the New Zealand flag, and the gathering up of people.



TTPCA strategy in action

Mahia te mahi

The key driver for TTPCA's development work is the desire to have a better quality service for the benefit of the men and women in prison. TTPCA knows that better quality comes from staff and volunteers deepening their faith, and growing their pastoral and organisational skills.

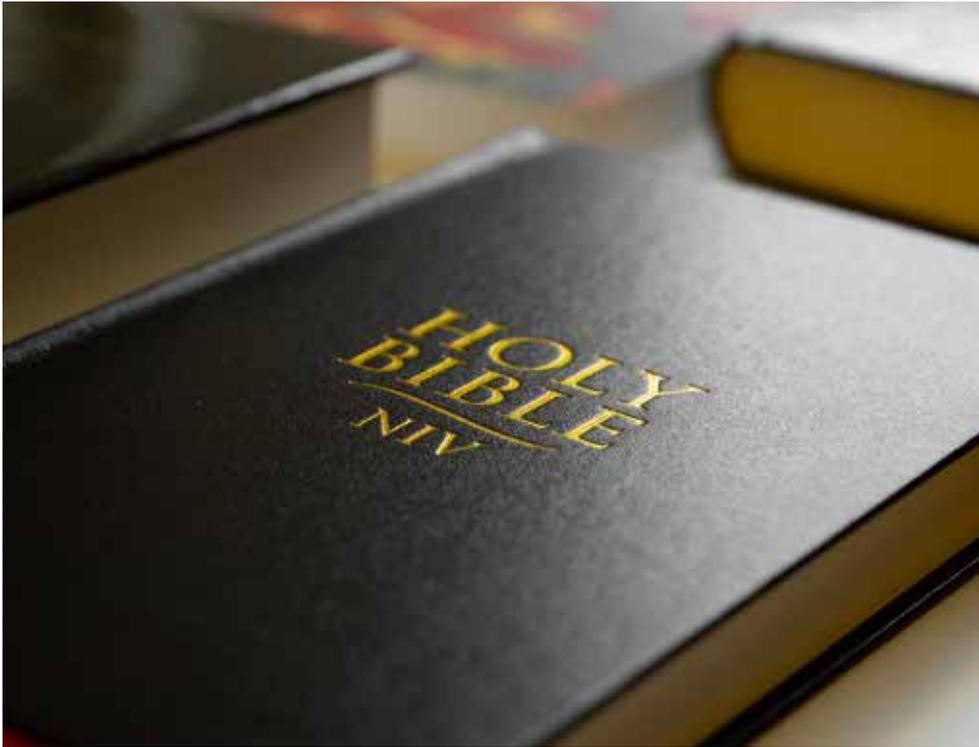
During the year, TTPCA continued to focus on four key areas of development. They are: increasing Māori involvement, developing our chaplains, strengthening volunteer participation, and community building.

The most significant development in the area of Māori involvement during 2022 was the recruitment of a person to fill the newly created Tikanga Māori Enabler – Arawhata Māori role. Jacob Tobin took up this position in late 2022. Jacob is a 4th generation Ratana minister from the Te Tai Tokerau region (Northland) and is a fluent te reo speaker. TTPCA looks forward to the work Jacob will do with chaplaincy to improve our care for the Māori men and women in prison.

The chaplains are the core of our service delivery, and to help their development TTPCA implemented a chaplain progression policy which recognises three levels of chaplain skill, experience, and responsibility. The policy aims to

encourage chaplains to grow their prison ministry competency while in the role. Chaplains also received training in a new system for managing pastoral referrals and contacts, and a new process for managing site activity and planning. TTPCA recognises that a well organised site generates a better quality service. Volunteer development continued to be very limited, due to long periods of restricted volunteer access to prisons. However, the latter part of 2022 saw a small but significant number of volunteers return to site which has prompted the trialling of a new and upgraded induction programme for volunteers. As with the chaplains, TTPCA is keen for volunteers to demonstrate a higher standard of practice in their work.

Within the fourth area of development, community building, the most significant improvement during the year was the substantial work done towards improving our suite of policies and procedures. To build a healthy community requires a solid base of quality practice standards that guide staff and volunteer activity. Another area of development, albeit a small but significant one, is pastoral support for Corrections and Serco staff where appropriate. TTPCA recognises that this is a particularly difficult season for prison staff, and wherever TTPCA can provide some care for site staff it is much appreciated.



Our Board

Tō Mātou Poari

Trustees

Anne Dickinson - Board Chair

Peter Williamson

Murray Cottle

Seth Fawcett

Richard Wallace

Te Kitohi Pikaahu

Shaun Baker

Te Aroha Rountree

Stephen O'Connor

Appointed by

Nominated by Trustees

Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa

Baptist Churches of New Zealand Ko Ngā Hāhi Iriiri o Aotearoa

Associated Pentecostal Churches of New Zealand

Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia – Te Hāhi Mihinare ki Aotearoa ki Niu Tireni, ki Ngā Moutere o Te Moana Nui a Kiwa

Te Rūnanga Whakawhanaunga I Ngā Hāhi o Aotearoa – Māori Council of Churches
The Salvation Army

Te Rūnanga Whakawhanaunga I Ngā Hāhi o Aotearoa – Māori Council of Churches
Roman Catholic Church of New Zealand

Our Management



Chief Executive
John Axcell

Senior Catholic
Chaplain
Veronica Casey

Regional Manager
Northern
Maurice McLaughlin

Regional Manager
Auckland
Richard Ward

Regional Manager
Central
Pona Solomona

Regional Manager
Southern
Arii Taimataora

Retiring Trustees



The Rev'd. Peter Williamson (left) and the Rev'd. Murray Cottle (right).

At the November 2022 Board meeting, the Board Chair, Anne Dickinson and other Board representatives farewelled two long standing members from the Board, the Rev'd. Murray Cottle and the Rev'd. Peter Williamson.

Murray served on the Board for 24 years, including 2 years on the Prison Chaplaincy Advisory Board and then 22 years on the TTPCA Board and was an original Settlor of the Trust Deed. Peter served on the TTPCA Board for 11 years. Anne commented that Murray and Peter were ministers of the Lord, and God had plans for their journey. Anne also expressed thanks to Murray and Peter from those people who were no longer journeying with the organisation - prisoners,

chaplains, and previous trustees.

The Board Chair thanked Murray and Peter for their many years of service and very valuable contribution to TTPCA's governance. Murray and Peter were presented with a leaving gift and certificate of service.

As part of the presentation it was recognised that through the work on the Board, the two members were able to fulfil the calling expressed in Matthew 25: 35-36, "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me".

Funding

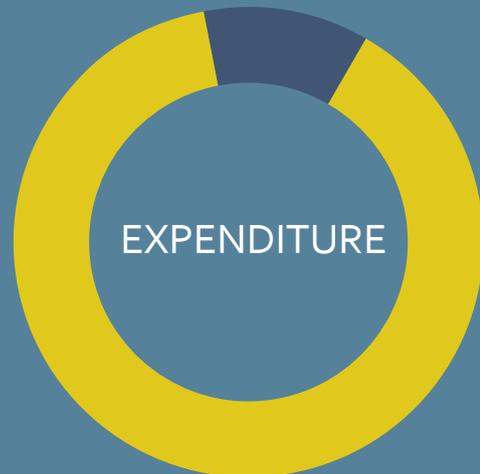
Pūtea moni



Sources of Funding

1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| ● Contracts | \$2,862,290 |
| ● Investments | \$1,833 |
| ● Other | \$40,067 |
| ● Donations | \$15,755 |



How funds were spent

1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| ● Personnel | \$2,690,600 |
| ● Operating Expenses | \$338,128 |

This financial information is extracted from the audited financial report of Tira Tūhāhā Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa. A full set of audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022 is available on request.

Charities Services Registration: CC24724.

Thank you

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou

We sincerely thank the following donors and churches who supported TTPCA during the past financial year. Their regular contributions toward our work are very much appreciated.

Donors

Charles Waldegrave

Crossroads Methodist Church

JP Axcell & AJ Shrapnell

Kohimarama Presbyterian Church

Lincoln Union Church

Louise Henare

Manukau City Baptist Church

New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference

Tasman Smith Charitable Trust

Village Baptist Church, Havelock North

St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Invercargill

Anonymous via payroll giving and other

Volunteers and supporters

We thank all our faith-based volunteers, and those in the volunteer network, who dedicate themselves to helping us to deliver prison chaplaincy, through their time and skills. We are continually amazed by our many volunteers!

Department of Corrections Ara Poutama Aotearoa

A very big thank you to The Department of Corrections Ara Poutama Aotearoa for their support and funding of our service.

Bible Society New Zealand

Thanks to the support of the Bible Society, 691 Bibles, 122 New Testaments and 50 other resources were distributed to men and women in New Zealand prisons this year. The Bible Society's mission is to "make the Bible accessible to everyone" and we are grateful that this includes providing Bibles and associated reading material to men and women in prison including resources in English, Māori and other languages. These books and resources are some of the few items that paihere can keep in their cells and are greatly valued by them.

Serco

Thank you to Serco for their funding of chaplaincy at Auckland South Corrections Facility.





Tira Tūhāhā

Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa

www.prisonchaplaincy.org.nz

