

# CHILD POVERTY AND THE SOCIAL SERVICES



Social Service Providers Aotearoa, National Seminar Series April—June 2015

## Linking Knowledge, Practice and Action

Poverty, especially child poverty, has been the centre of attention in a range of policy, academic and research activities over recent years. At the same time, social service agencies and social work practitioners have identified it as a significant factor in their work, both because of its pervasiveness and because of the ways in which it impacts on the lives, experiences and aspirations of the individuals, families and communities they work with. It is no coincidence that the groups which are over-represented in the poverty statistics are also significantly represented in daily practice in the social services. The multi-faceted nature of poverty and its effects mean that there are multiple and diverse impacts on the lives of families and communities.

## Workshop Structures

Each workshop will be facilitated by **Mike O'Brien** (Auckland University) jointly with an identified practitioner in the region. Each workshop runs for three hours and will contain three elements:

- ◆ A summary presentation of the existing data on child poverty
- ◆ Discussion of case studies on poverty and of case experiences of participants
- ◆ Identification of actions which might be taken to effect policy and practice in relation to child poverty including professional and ethical considerations

## Facilitator

**Associate Professor Mike O'Brien** works part-time at Auckland University. He is also a member of the Management Committee of the Child Poverty Action Group and a former Convenor of the Group and is a member of the social justice group of ANZASW. He has written widely in New Zealand and overseas on social policy, child poverty and welfare, and social work and social service issues and is currently jointly editing an update of the CPAG publication, *Choices for Children* and writing book chapters on the politics of child poverty and on advocacy and social work.



## Dates and Venues

### 30 April—Hamilton

*The Auditorium, Te Ara Hou,  
100 Morrinsville Rd*

### 5 May—Gisborne

*Te Wananga O Aotearoa,  
630 Childers Rd*

### 7 May—Napier

*Hetley Building, A101, Eastern  
Institute of Technology,  
501 Gloucester St, Taradale*

### 28 May—Whangarei

*STAND Children's Services  
Northern, 436 Maunu Road*

### 4 June—Dunedin

*Burns Hall, First Church of  
Otago, Moray Place*

*All workshops 9:30am —  
12:30pm, Morning tea will be  
provided*

## Registration

\$10 donation

(pay online or at door)

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