

Date: 24th June 2014

Ni sa bula Vinaka, Kia orana, Fakalofa lahi atu, Taloha ni, Malo E Lelei, Talofa lava

We would like to invite you to a Fijian Community fono/meeting on Wednesday, 09th July 2014 at the Fickling Centre, 546 Mt Albert Road, Three Kings. Refreshments will be served at 630pm prior to 7-830pm meeting. Your discussions and contributions will enhance our collective understanding around suicide prevention and resilience.

With 10 people per week in New Zealand taking their own lives, and many more being treated in hospital following a suicide attempt, so many of us have been touched in some way by suicide. Whether it is through our families, friends, or community, too many of us have experienced the shock and sadness of losing someone who has taken their own life. Our Pacific suicide attempts and rates of hospitalisations are alarmingly high. The tragic issue is that many of those that attempt suicide usually don't want to die – they usually want a different life.

Le Va is responsible for leading the Pacific Suicide Prevention Programme, part of Waka Hourua National Maori and Pacific Suicide Prevention programme. We would like our Pacific families and communities to build strong resilience, so that they choose life and can live the quality of life they deserve. The challenge facing our Pacific communities is the huge negative impact suicide is having, particularly on our Pasifika young people.

The first step is to rise to this challenge and start talking with our Pasifika communities safely about suicide prevention. We believe that this process enhances our understanding of suicide prevention, and allows us to discuss Pasifika approaches and possible solutions for life. We value your participation.

If you would like to attend, or just want more information about these community fono, please contact our Suicide Prevention Community Coordinators [Pauline Taufu](#) or [Jay Williams](#), go to our [website](#), or call us on 09 261 3490.

Yours sincerely

Pauline Tupouniua-Taufu Community Co-ordinator

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