

2018

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20 WOMEN LOW SECURITY

Culture of Hope & **Ambition** 

Desire to Change

Collaboration



Lifestyle & Academic **Programmes** 

2019 **FOCUS** 

Remand Low 1 & 2 Self Care 60-70 reach & impact



Graduates from **YOW** on the inside



Healthy Whānau Healthy

Communities



Conflict Management Confidence

Personal Growth

Education

Hobbies



Healthy Whānau Relationships



Lifestyle



Careers

Communication Awareness



Contribution to **RAW Kaupapa** Sustainability Whānau & NZ Leading from within

Community

15-20 NEW

WOMEN

raw

### INTRODUCTION

RAW's mission is to surround disadvantaged women emerging from an incarcerated environment with all the skills, confidence, and support they need to turn a life of crime into a life of promise.

Based in the Waikato, RAW was founded by Annah Stretton in 2014 to help break New Zealand's intergenerational cycles of offending, domestic and sexual abuse, poverty, under-education and inequality that exists for growing numbers of disadvantaged women and their families.

While initially providing mentoring support to women transitioning through the Waikato Women's Refuge, RAW soon turned its attention to a demographic of the population that society would sooner forget; recidivist offenders.

## WHO DO WE SERVE?

RAW works with recidivist female offenders (with a preference for Māori) who are serving sentences in female prisons throughout New Zealand. This group of women not only create a significant social and fiscal burden for the country, but their entrenched behavioural patterns are often seen by Corrections as too hard to change.

# WHAT IS OUR APPROACH?

Over the course of a five-year period, RAW has developed a comprehensive and successful integration support model for a selected group of women offenders who demonstrate a genuine desire to change. This model involves the provision of safe accommodation, mentoring and community partnerships that enable each woman to gain an education, find meaningful employment, rebuild relationships with children and family, and ultimately achieve emotional and financial prosperity.

RAW is the only organisation in this country providing intensive support for this group of women on release, and has been recognised by NZ Corrections as the only model of its kind successfully breaking a cycle of crime, drugs and violence by targeting the mothers and their tamariki; giving them visibility, acceptance and real choice for a different way of life.

## WHAT DO WE STRIVE FOR?

RAW's long-term goals for each woman participating in the model are to:

- Support each woman to live a legal life which includes functioning at optimal levels of well-being and living independently and doing a job or course of study that she is truly passionate about.
- Reconnect a woman with her children; creating a healthy and safe environment for them to prosper in.

In 2018, RAW expanded its remit with the launch of RAW On the Inside at Auckland Regional Women's Corrections Facility.

The goal of RAW On the Inside is to create a culture of hope and ambition for a better future earlier in a woman's rehabilitation journey to help facilitate and accelerate their reintegration journey.

UNDERSTANDING
THE BIRTHRIGHT AND
LIFESTYLE THAT
FUELS THIS LIFESTYLE,
ALONG WITH SEEKING
OUT CONSTRUCTIVE
INTERVENTION POINTS
THAT COULD HELP
BREAK THIS ENDLESS
CYCLE OF DISADVANTAGE,
REMAINS AT THE CORE
OF RAW'S WORK INSIDE
AND OUTSIDE OF
NEW ZEALAND'S
FEMALE PRISONS.

### THE REACH & IMPACT OF RAW

**REACH:** To date, RAW has worked intensively with 42 women, or 9% of the female prison population, and touched over 180 women still serving their sentences.

**IMPACT:** For a group of women that carried a 100% probability of returning to prison, our success rate to date stands at almost 100%. We have only had one woman, who joined the RAW model very early on in our journey, continue her criminal pathway.

# **HOW ARE WE FUNDED?**

RAW relies on external funding from private trusts and corporate partnerships to continue and strengthen our reintegration work. We don't seek contract funding direct from Corrections to ensure that our model and entrepreneurial thinking isn't compromised.

To find out more visit www.raw.org.nz