

Danielle's story: "I want to break the cycle for Missy."

With an attempted suicide, shoplifting, drug taking and violent relationships in her past, Danielle didn't think she had any hope of regaining her baby daughter – until Merivale helped her turned her life around.

Danielle is a young Mum who has truly managed to transform her life. By age 15, she'd left school and by 20, she was addicted to meth and moving from one violent, drug-fuelled relationship to another. After a particularly violent beating from her partner, which put her in hospital, she also became hooked on Tramadol.

Not long after that, her baby was placed in foster care by OT (Oranga Tamariki). Desperate to get her baby back, she was referred to Merivale (our residential parenting programme for Mums who are

struggling with the challenges of parenting), where finally, her life took a turn for the better.

"I knew I needed to be a good mum."

Danielle underwent a six-week detox and has now been off Tramadol for over six months. She admits that, initially, life wasn't easy at Merivale. "I had a terrible time at the start when I was going through detox - I nearly gave Missy up to OT. But I kept going. I knew when I finally got to leave with my head held high, it would all be worth it. No drug can compare to family."

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*"I can now say that I can give Missy what she needs as a mother." - Danielle**



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CEO's message

As another year draws to a close, Christmas is a time for family, reflection and new beginnings. As you'll see by the snapshot of our annual report on page 3, it's been a busy and productive year here at Iosis.



Tunumafono Tracey-Leigh Peters

Thanks to your support, we've achieved so much! Many families in South Auckland are now stronger and better able to raise their children to be healthy adults; more mothers have left Merivale better able to care for their children (like Danielle's whose story featured on the front page); teenage dads and couples have received training to be better parents; children at fifteen local schools now have social work support; and every night, around 30 children are cared for in our foster families.

In other news, I'm sad to report that Peter Browning, our very able Chairperson will leave the board at the end of the year. Peter has been an active and generous contributor to the Board since 2011. Thank you, Peter, for your tremendous contribution, guidance and vision for the past 7 years and our best wishes for the future.

Thank you so much for your faith, prayers and commitment this year – you make our work possible. We look forward to continuing to bring hope and healing to families throughout the Christmas season and beyond.

Tunumafono Tracey-Leigh Peters, CEO

Danielle's Story

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Since going off drugs, she has never felt better. "I see things so differently now – I'm present with Missy and I'm actually there. I've worked hard on fixing myself," she says. "I can now say that I can give Missy what she needs as a mother."

Today, Danielle is rebuilding her life and is looking forward to spending her first Christmas at home with Missy and her family (read more in the enclosed Christmas appeal letter). "This year, I want to show Missy what a special time Christmas is – that it's a time to be with family and to be happy."

"Merivale has given me this gift and I couldn't have done this without them. The people are so wonderful and caring," she tells us. "Every single person here has touched my life and taught me something that I can take away." ☺

What is Merivale?

Merivale is a residential parenting programme for women with a background of abuse, addiction or domestic violence – and who are struggling with the challenges of parenting.

Women receive counselling and attend a range of life skill, self-development and parenting classes.

Most mothers graduate after six months and can then leave the programme with their children in their care.

Prayer needs

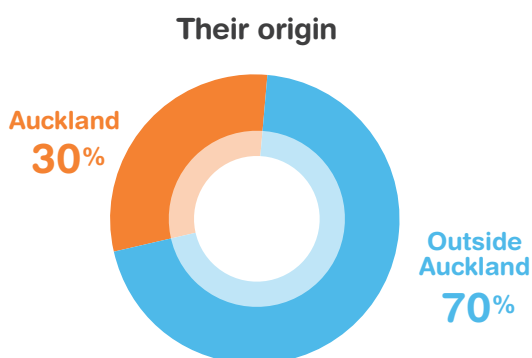
- At Christmas, we pray for our Iosis families and their children, our wonderful foster carers and the children they care for, and all the staff at Iosis.
- We pray for all the families in need in South Auckland and that our Christmas hamper appeal makes their Christmas a happier time.

The Iosis Annual Report 2018

A snapshot of our year: the many people we help, the highlights and the success stories.

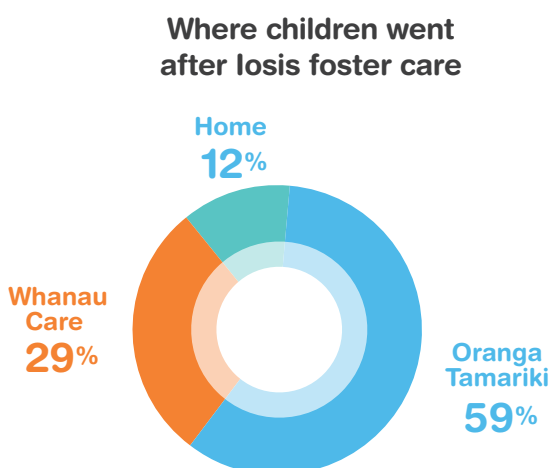
Merivale Residential Programme

14 mothers and 23 children undertook the Merivale residential programme, of which 57% graduated with their children in their care. One mother left after a week without her child and another mum left with her child to attend an Odyssey programme. Four mums and their children were still engaged in the programme as at 30th June 2018.



Foster Care

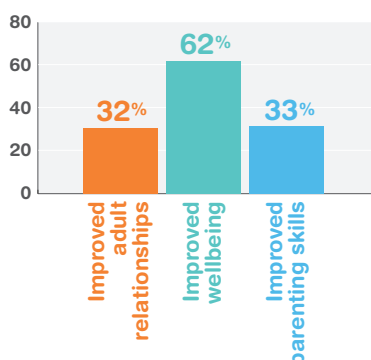
Iosis Foster carers cared for 79 children during the year, with 33 of these in care for 6 or more months.



Counselling

120 clients participated in Iosis counselling services, of which nearly 40% left with their goals fully achieved and 42% are on their way to achieving their goals.

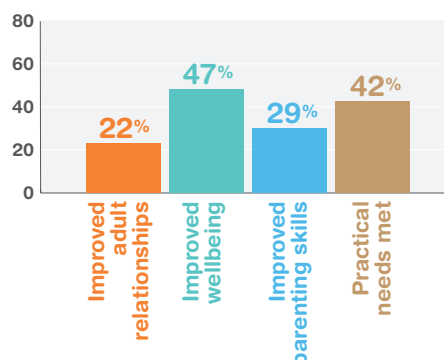
Outcomes from counselling



Social Work

144 clients participated in Iosis Community Social Work services, of which nearly 60% left with their goals fully achieved.

Outcomes from social work



Family Learning Centre

346 clients participated in the Family Learning Centre, of which nearly 55% completed the programme.



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What I'm looking forward to this Christmas...

Our best wishes for a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us here at Iosis. We are so grateful for your support in all that we do.



"Christmas for me is about spending time with loved ones." Teina Mita, Team Leader Counselling Services and Men's Programmes

"Without a doubt it's the excitement of the grandkids in ripping open their presents - even if they are too young to understand what it is all about! And the reflection once again on what Christmas is all about - the baby born in a manger." Wayne Boyd, Finance Manager



"It's not the presents that make Christmas so special, it's the presence of those we love. Whether they're with us in person or spirit." Michele Efaraimo, Service Manager for Foster Care

"Praise God for giving us the strength, courage and passion to serve him through the work we do at Iosis. Thank you to all those who have been generous and gracious with your help and support - we have seen many great outcomes of families transforming their lives for good." Sunema Ah-Hing, Team Leader for Community Social Work, Parent Support, Intensive Family Social Work and Merivale Teams



"To me, Christmas is the day our Lord Jesus Christ came into the world. It's a time of celebration with loved ones, eating, laughing and enjoying each other's company. The focus is to be together, sharing the love." Pearl Segi, Family Learning Centre Coordinator

"Gathering with loved ones to praise God and enjoy a great New Zealand barbecue." Daphne Maposua, Operations Manager



A decade of transformation: Tracey-Leigh's story

Our CEO, Tunumafono Tracey-Leigh Peters, began working at Iosis ten years ago as an Executive Administrator, before moving up the ranks to Operations Manager and eventually CEO in September 2015. Tracey-Leigh reflects on the past decade, the highs, lows and transformations she's seen during her time at Iosis.



- Iosis' foster care service has grown significantly, from just one Social Worker in 2008 to a team of three Social Workers working with 25+ children and 20+ caregivers today.
- We now have nine men on our team, up from four a decade ago. In 2008, John Thrush was our only Men's Programme Facilitator – now we're fortunate to have three.
- Back then, we had three Social Workers in three local high schools. Today we have 11 Social Workers working across 15 schools in Manurewa and Papakura.
- In 2008, we ran the Toolbox group programme across three age groups. Today we have eight group programmes each term running a wide variety of topics.
- When I started, we had two Ministry of Justice contracted programmes: Parenting Through Separation and Kids Feeling Safe. Today, we are contracted to deliver 12 programmes across South Auckland and Pukekohe.

Congratulations Tracey-Leigh on 10 years of loyal service to Iosis.