



**FASD-CAN**  
Aotearoa New Zealand

## February 2023

Tēnā koe



We hope you have not been badly affected by the terrible weather events and flooding in Northland, Auckland, Waikato and the Coromandel Peninsula. FASD-CAN is considering what

assistance we can offer to those in need.

We have very recently received some government funding to reactivate our Whānau Direct grant scheme, so we'll be getting it up and running again as soon as possible. Requests for help in relation to the emergency events (perhaps arising as a longer-term consequence of them) will be favourably considered by our grant review group. If this applies to you, you can keep an eye on our website over the next few days, or if it's an emergency, **[contact us now](#)**.

We have also had an offer of help from Auckland-based disability organisation **[Te Roopu Waiora](#)**. This is a kaupapa-Māori organisation founded and governed entirely by whānau hauā, established to ensure whānau with disabilities and their

communities have access to information and services that affect them. If you need on-the-ground support, please contact them directly, or via our **FASD-CAN admin email address**.

FASD-CAN is taking part in daily update meetings with the Office for Disability Issues and other disability organisations to provide information on support requirements and availability. We are aware that the flooding will increase the stress of many of those families with individuals with FASD and are also mindful of mental health and anxiety issues. If you are experiencing difficulties, please don't hesitate to contact us so we can first help you and then raise any problematic issues with the right organisations.

We know how very stressful these circumstances can be and we're hoping to do whatever we can to help. In Tāmaki Makaurau our Navigator Anna Gundesen is available for crisis support – call her on 021 905 965. In Wellington our Chair, Leigh Henderson is happy to help on 022 302 2313.

## **NEW FASD-CAN caregiver training courses in Ōtautahi and Pōneke**



We are pleased to announce that this year we'll be able to present again our FREE caregiver training course 'Life with FASD: Understand and

Connect with Aroha' which was initially launched in 2022 (our Te Tai Tokerau / Northland group pictured).

Caregivers in Christchurch will be able to attend this two-day training on March 2/3, and we'll also be bringing it to Wellington on May 12/13. It runs from 9.30-2.30 each day, lunch

is provided – and places are limited, so [click here to book your spot](#).

You can read an article about our first training sessions [here](#). There's feedback from those who participated, plus heartwarming input from our two facilitators on what it's like to bring life-changing FASD strategies and insights to caregivers and whānau.

### **'Introduction to FASD' workshops for professionals**

Calling all frontline professionals who work with those who have FASD. There are still a few places left on Te Pou's full-day FASD workshops in Ōtautahi / Christchurch on February 16.

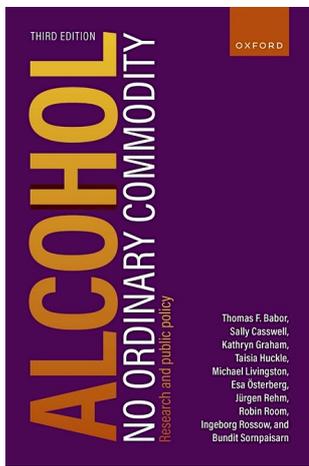
We have also been informed by Te Pou that they will be pushing out numbers just for FASD-CAN professional members, to allow a few more attendees in Tāmaki Makaurau and Pōneke / Wellington.

The workshops will help professionals to recognise the signs of FASD and the impact across a person's lifespan, as well as practical advice for developing an FASD-informed practice. Each workshop (which all include speakers with lived experience) runs from 9am-4pm.

[Click here](#) for more info, and to book the Christchurch workshop only. If you are keen on the Auckland or Wellington ones, [email us asap](#) and we'll pass your details along to Te Pou.

### **Book: 'Alcohol: No Ordinary Commodity' now available as download**

An important book which looks at alcohol misuse and social policy has just been released in its third edition – and for the



first time it's available now as a free digital download, too. The book was written by a team of ten international scientists and authors, including two from Aotearoa NZ.

It takes a hard look at everything from primary school-based prevention programmes to marketing strategies adopted by the alcoholic beverage industry, and includes new research showing improvements to population health in countries which have applied evidence-based alcohol policies. You can read more and either [buy or download your copy here](#).

## Hui presentations



Our 2022 Hui presentations represent an exceptional body of educational resources – it's worth sitting down with a cup of tea to check them out! You can skip to each one with our handy time checks.

In Part Two of the recordings for example, you can watch Valerie McGinn, Aotearoa's leading expert in FASD talking diagnosis; Trish Porter introducing the new desktop resource for kaiako / educators; Kirsty Griffiths and Denise Green talking the 5S Model (Structure, Support, Supervision, keep it Simple, build on Strengths) and grandmother Cheryl Smith with inspirational words on what she has learned from her mokopuna. [Click here](#) to view.

## Learning about self-advocacy from IHC

Finally for now, we have news of some upcoming workshops for those with an intellectual disability. Meet new friends and learn new skills in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch during March! Click [here](#) for the flyer, and email [ihc.events@ihc.org.nz](mailto:ihc.events@ihc.org.nz) for more information and to register.

**Mauri ora**

**The FASD-CAN team**

## Want to join FASD-CAN?

We have a lot of exciting initiatives that are currently in development. Many of these will be specifically created for our members, so there's never been a better time to become part of the FASD-CAN whānau.

It's easy to join us and membership is free.

**Become a member**

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder  
Care Action Network**

**Learn more about our work**

**[fasd-can.org.nz](http://fasd-can.org.nz)**

**[admin@fasd-can.org.nz](mailto:admin@fasd-can.org.nz)**

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