

PLAY YOUR PART FOR CHILDREN

Give them the right start in the early years (first 1000 days) and children are more likely to be healthy, educated and productive citizens. This leads to social and economic benefits for all New Zealanders.

This 'Community Wheel of Action' identifies the actions all New Zealanders can take to help get it right for every child.



He Mana tō ia Tamaiti
Every Child Counts

- Prioritise children's nutrition, emotional security, health and education
- Provide consistently positive, peaceful parenting
- Seek support and assistance from friends, family and neighbours if you are not able to meet your child's needs
- Ensure you are accessing all of the services and supports available to you and your children

- Provide support that builds self-esteem and confidence
- Help with childcare
- Provide material support, food, clothing and books
- Write to community newspapers and Members of Parliament about the issues affecting children and families in your area

- Provide leadership that strengthens community and whānau ora
- Partner with others to build the assets and conditions that children need
- Encourage Kuia and Kaumatua to speak in support positive parenting and investment in children to address disadvantage
- Ensure children's needs are a priority

- Promote the human rights of children so their interests can come first
- Participate in community-led development
- Invite speakers to increase awareness of what can be done to improve outcomes for children
- Support small businesses that employ local people

- Speak out against inequality and disadvantage
- Promote awareness of the benefits of connected, caring communities
- Display information about where parents can go for help
- Support the charities and community groups working with children and families

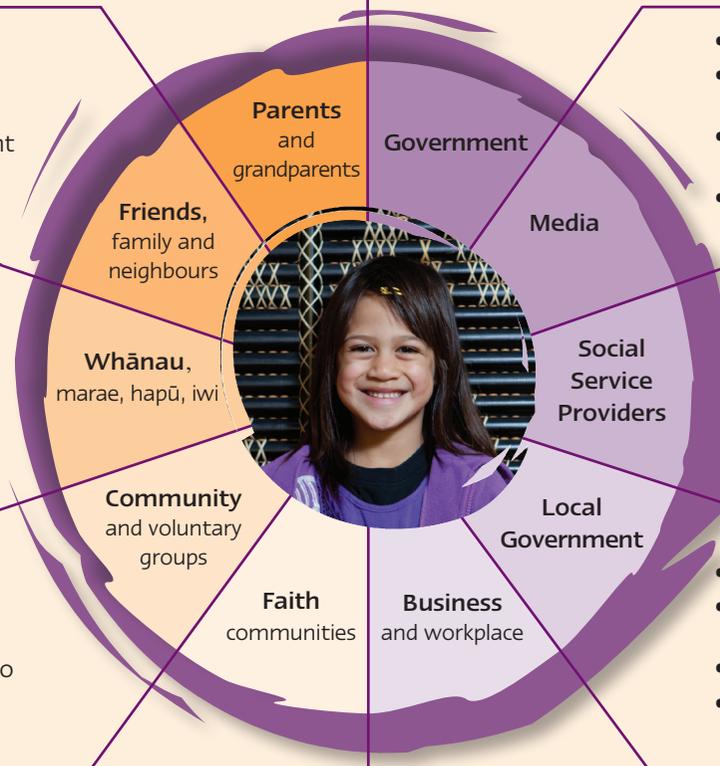
- Show leadership and implement policy that delivers optimal outcomes for children
- Use the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as a framework for policy development
- Ensure the equitable delivery of health, education and housing services that meet children's needs
- Improve paid parental leave provisions and support for parents of infants and young children
- Work in partnership with Māori, Pasifika and non-governmental organisations to achieve strong communities and whānau ora

- Challenge and inform
- Report on poor child outcomes and the factors contributing to them, including deprivation
- Include and respect the voices of children and families on the issues that affect them
- Avoid perpetuating myths and misunderstandings about the circumstances impacting on children

- Advocate for children and families to ensure their role in community development and secure their wellbeing
- Collaborate with other social service agencies to share information and ensure all children have their needs met
- Ensure services are delivered in culturally appropriate ways
- Promote awareness of the rights and needs of children

- Provide leadership to improve child outcomes
- Use council communications to promote the inclusion of children in public life and policies that improve outcomes for children
- Ensure the availability of quality housing and recreational facilities
- Sponsor community-led development

- Participate in community-led development efforts
- Provide family-friendly workplaces and flexible working arrangements
- Ensure living wages are paid to staff



For more ideas and information visit www.everychildcounts.org.nz