



FRANK HILTON ORGANIZATION

"A Centre of Excellence – Educate, Empower, Uplift, Uphold."

NEWSLETTER

Northern Outreach: Nurturing Communities through Care and Collaboration

Community engagement is at the heart of our Outreach effort. Our dedicated team spent two weeks in the lush landscapes of the Northern Division visiting children, parents, teachers and key stakeholders. This Outreach included visits to Special Schools namely, Nasavusavu Special School and Labasa Special School, and the Savusavu Sub Divisional Hospital and the Labasa Sub Divisional Hospital.

The Outreach also extended to children in the Labasa, Savusavu and Bua communities. The Audio and Speech department undertook comprehensive screenings and assessments for children, providing tailored recommendations aligned with each child's unique requirements. Our team conducted classroom observations, equipping educators with strategies to support children on their learning journey. Simultaneously, the Physiotherapy department conducted assessments for physical disabilities, mobility and functional needs as well as conducted wheelchair assessments and fit-outs.



Mobility Device follow up



FHO staff with clients during the Outreach

Active Caseload July: 425 children

27 Parent Interviews Conducted

These are essential and helps us foster a good relationship with the child and family. We aim to fully understand the child before placing them into our therapies.

83 New Assessments Conducted

Across Four Departments

Assessments are conducted by clinicians to fully understand a child's condition before deciding which specific program the child will join.

These children were part of 342 contact sessions for the month.

1 child was provided with a hearing aid

4 children provided with mobility devices



Physiotherapy assessment

We strongly believe that collaboration between parents and teachers is essential in creating a nurturing environment where every child can thrive. Each department hosted a Parent and Teacher Training session at both Nasavusavu Special School and Labasa Special School, fostering a sense of shared responsibility in nurturing the potential within every child.

With each client visit, training session, and community engagement, the team hopes to make a difference that ripples through the lives of countless individuals and leave a trail of smiles and hope.



Parent interview and assessments



Feeding and swallowing assessment

Special and Inclusive Education Training for Suva District Heads of Schools

Team Leader - Programme Coordination Mr. Pravneil Chand presented to the Head of Schools outlining strategies for enhancing access to Frank Hilton Organizations services for both Inclusive and Mainstream schools in Suva. The primary objectives of this presentation was to strengthen referral pathways and raise awareness regarding the diverse range of services offered by FHO.



Team Leader - Programme Coordination talks about FHO



Physiotherapist conducts session

Who Says Therapy Can't Be Fun

Play therapy for children needing physiotherapy allows them to explore movements, develop motor skills, and strengthen their muscles in a fun and interactive manner.

This approach enhances their physical abilities while boosting their motivation and self-confidence, making therapy sessions a fun and rewarding experience

Telecom Fiji Donates \$15,000 to the Frank Hilton Organization

In a remarkable display of dedication to social responsibility and community engagement, Telecom Fiji continues to stand by the Frank Hilton Organisation, supporting the Bara Battle 2023 Fundraiser. Telecom Fiji not only participated wholeheartedly in the physical wheelbarrow race held on the 29th of July but also organized innovative fundraising initiatives that demonstrated their unwavering commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

Telecom Fiji's involvement in the Wheelbarrow Race was more than just symbolic; it was a testament to their dedication. The company's staff organized a series of creative and fun fundraising activities that fostered team bonding while raising significant funds



for the cause. Among these initiatives were food sales where staff members cooked and sold delicious treats, personal donations from staff members, and Kati sales. With the assistance of Telecom Management, an impressive sum of \$10,000 was raised.

In total, Telecom Fiji's efforts resulted in a generous donation of \$15,000 to the Frank Hilton Organisation. Charles Goundar, the CEO of Telecom Fiji, expressed his gratitude, stating, "We are immensely grateful to the Frank Hilton Organisation for giving us the opportunity to contribute to this profoundly meaningful cause. As a local company, we hold a strong belief in giving back to our community, and I am proud of our team for showing such dedication to uplifting the community we serve."

Telecom Fiji's commitment to the cause didn't stop at fundraising; their team members also showcased their creativity and camaraderie by winning the title of "Best Dressed Team" for an impressive seventh consecutive year at the 2023 Bara Battle. Their eye-catching costumes and enthusiastic spirit added a vibrant touch to the event, earning them well-deserved accolades and reinforcing the strong bond shared among the staff.



"We want to express our sincere gratitude to the remarkable team at Telecom Fiji for their unwavering dedication and invaluable contributions during these significant occasions. The Wheelbarrow Race stands as a powerful platform for us to champion child rights and advocate for children living with disabilities and their families. We are profoundly appreciative of organizations like Telecom Fiji,

whose active and consistent support towards our cause every year has been instrumental in ensuring continuity of our services in communities. The commitment shown by TFL is exemplary, and we eagerly look forward to the continued support from other esteemed organizations, as together, we can create an even more profound and lasting difference in the lives of those we serve", Sureni Perera, CEO of Frank Hilton Organization.

Family Safety Planning Training Conducted in the North

Family safety planning is essential because every family possesses distinct characteristics, with members varying greatly in their abilities, ages, and health statuses. When unexpected crises arise, like natural disasters or other emergencies, it can be daunting to ensure the safety and well-being of all family members. Family safety planning becomes the solution, entailing a tailored strategy that accounts for each family member's specific needs and vulnerabilities. A total of 30 parents and primary caregivers from the Province Cakaudrove, Bua and Macuata participated in the training.



Participants of the training

Hilton Early Intervention Centre Welcomes New Head of School

FHO is the controlling authority for the Hilton Early Intervention Centre (EIC) in Suva. This month we welcomed Mr Eroni Niulele as the new Head Teacher for the School. Mr Eroni Niulele says "I am happy to be joining the Hilton Early Intervention Centre. I have previously taught at the Hilton Special School, so the Hilton Family is no stranger to me. I am looking forward to working together with the teachers and supporting the student's growth and development".

We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the former Head Teacher of EIC Ms. Cecilia Yee for her exceptional dedication and service spanning over 23 years within the Hilton Early Intervention Centre. During her tenure, she has admirably led EIC for the past eight years. "I feel sad about leaving because I have been part of the Hilton Early Intervention Centre for quite some time. I will miss my teachers and students dearly. I am also looking forward to joining a new school and sharing with them whatever I have gathered throughout my years here at EIC. I am leaving EIC in very capable hands. Mr Niulele brings with him a wealth of knowledge and I believe this will greatly benefit the teachers and students here" she shares.

As the EIC embarks on a new chapter under the capable leadership of Mr. Eroni Niulele, the organization is looking forward to continued efforts towards ensuring that the EIC continues to flourish as a beacon of educational excellence, and empowerment.



Welcoming Mr Eroni Niulele (second from left), new Head of School for EIC



Bidding farewell to former EIC Head of School Ms Cecelia Yee

Whether you give \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$100, every dollar will make a lasting difference in the life of a child. Scan the QR code to donate and help us provide specialised services for children with disabilities in Fiji



To show your support using MPAISA, please scan this QR code.



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THANK YOU FOR ENABLING OUR WORK



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NEWSLETTER

First Ever Out of Country Fundraiser Raises More Than \$10,000

A charity concert fundraiser was held in aid of the Frank Hilton Organization in Morooka, Brisbane, Australia by the Shivas Regal Project on the 9th of September, 2023. This is the first-ever fundraiser for the Frank Hilton Organization that was held outside of Fiji.

The Shivas Regal Project committed 100% of their ticket sales towards the Frank Hilton Organization which amounted to \$6025AUD. An additional \$6383.50AUD was raised through a GoFundMe Campaign resulting in a total collection of \$12,408.50AUD.

The Frank Hilton Organization is immensely grateful for the Shivas Regal Project's support and contribution to furthering our mission of providing effective and quality services in early detection, intervention, and rehabilitation for children with disabilities and their families, whilst simultaneously empowering children with essential life skills, promoting independence, inclusion, and active participation in society. Furthermore, their advocacy efforts through music align perfectly with our goal to protect and advocate for the rights of children with disabilities. The Shivas Regal Project's generosity will have a substantial impact on our shared mission to improve the lives of children, and we extend our deepest gratitude for their partnership.



Shivas Regal Project performing

Active Caseload September: 1024 children

20 Parent Interviews Conducted

These are essential and helps us foster a good relationship with the child and family. We aim to fully understand the child before placing them into our therapies.

**53 New Assessments Conducted
Across Four Departments**

Assessments are conducted by clinicians to fully understand a child's condition before deciding which specific program the child will join.

These children were part of 342 contact sessions for the month.

5 child was provided with a hearing aid

13 children provided with mobility devices

Audiology Department Receives Much Needed Technical Support

COVID-19 brought about many challenges for the organization. One significant challenge was the inability of our Consultants to come into the country for essential training and capacity development. Although Virtual sessions were conducted, the Audiology department still needed much support in terms of calibration of equipment which can only be done in person.

Calibration ensures that the sound measurements gathered by the equipment and devices used by the department are accurate. This year, the team has been

lucky as we were able to have Mr. Paul Flynn - a calibration technician from Ears Inc Australia come into the country to conduct the much-needed calibration of our equipment. This will enable our Audiology team to deliver precise diagnoses for conditions related to Outer and Middle Ear Pathology.



Paul calibrating devices in the Audiology lab

All Departments Receive Essential Data Training

FHO places a significant emphasis on evidence-based approaches to service delivery. Similarly, our service delivery strategies are also data-driven. Therefore our Team continues to be trained and upskilled in data collection, management and governance.

Recognizing the utmost significance of data collection and analysis we use these findings to gain profound insights into the effectiveness of our services. These insights guide our decision-making processes and enable us to stay responsive to the ever-evolving needs of our clients. Our unwavering commitment to data-driven practices, evidence-based therapy, and data governance is integral in pursuing our mission to provide the best quality of care and support to our clients, facilitating continual improvement as we work towards our vision of becoming a Center of Excellence.



Data training with the Community Support Team



Data training with the Speech Pathology department

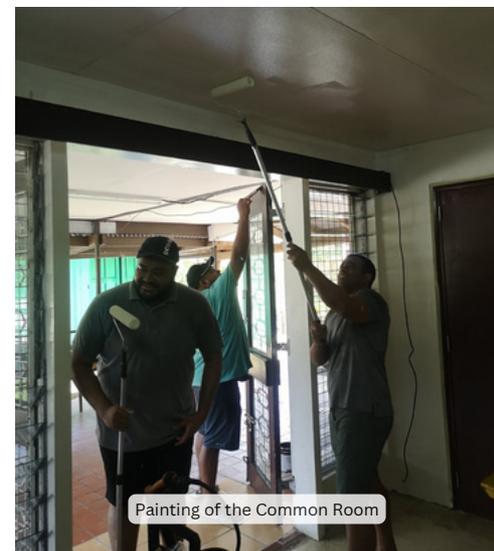
Brushstrokes of Generosity: Reserve Bank of Fiji Staff Contributes to the Hilton Home

In a heartwarming display of community spirit and corporate benevolence, the Reserve Bank of Fiji staff, in a remarkable gesture of goodwill, recently lent a helping hand to the Hilton Home—our full-time residential care facility. With a current resident count of 11 individuals, all of whom have high support needs, the Hilton Home plays a pivotal role in providing essential care and support to some of the most vulnerable members of our community. However, like many charitable institutions, the Hilton Home heavily relies on donations to sustain its services.

Under the skilful strokes of the volunteers, the walls are now adorned with fresh coats of paint breathing new life into the space. In an institution like Hilton Home, where the emphasis is on nurturing and care, the common room now stands as a testament to the love and compassion of the Reserve Bank of Fiji staff. It is a reminder that even in the midst of daily responsibilities, we can all play a part in making the world a little brighter and more inclusive.



RBF Staff at the Hilton Home



Painting of the Common Room

ASCO Motors Fiji Continues their Support for the Hilton Home

Asco Motors has maintained a steadfast and enduring commitment to the Frank Hilton Organization over an extended period of time. Their unwavering support has taken various forms, including participation in the Amazing Wheelbarrow Race - Bara Battle Fundraiser, as well as the provision of much-needed nutrition, and hygiene supplies for the residents of the Hilton Home. Through these consistent efforts, Asco Motors remains an active and dedicated partner in furthering the noble cause of the Frank Hilton Organization, which is dedicated to the care and empowerment of children with disabilities in the country.



Donations brought in by the Asco Motor Team

FRANK HILTON DAY

Every year on the 26th of September we commemorate Frank Hilton Day – a day where we remember the founder of Special Education in the country.

Frank Hilton was born on September 26, 1920, in Bury, Lancashire, England, to his parents Henry and Hilda Hilton. He served in the Royal Air Force (RAF) during World War II from 1938 to 1945. He was a loving husband to Honora (Nora) Ashworth and a doting father to four children—Patricia, Michael, Paul, and Martin.

After his time in the RAF, Mr. Hilton became a schoolteacher and later migrated to Australia in 1958. He joined the Department of Education in Sydney, where he taught in several public schools. Frank's particular interest in special education eventually led to his promotion as the principal of a Special Education School in Penrith, New South Wales, Australia.

In April 1967, Frank Hilton's journey took a turn as he was seconded by the Australian Government to establish Special Education in Fiji and take on the role of Head Teacher of the Suva Crippled Children's School, under the Commonwealth Cooperation on Education Scheme. In 1969, Mr. Hilton founded the Suva Crippled Children School, now known as the Hilton Special School, with 25 children from all corners of the country. Frank worked extensively around the country, identifying children in need and finding ways to support them. In recognition of his immense contributions, Mr. Hilton was honoured with the Order of the British Empire (OBE) and Companion of the Order of Fiji (COF) by the Fijian Government. Rotary International also bestowed upon him a Paul Harris Fellowship for his exceptional service.

Frank Hilton's relentless efforts eventually gave rise to the Frank Hilton Organization, which oversees the Hilton Special School, the Hilton Early Intervention Centre, and the Hilton Home. Along this incredible journey, his wife, Nora, was his unwavering pillar of support, managing both their home and raising their four children. As Frank Hilton peacefully departed this world, he left behind three of his four children, 17 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren. His legacy of compassion, dedication, and tireless service to children with disabilities continues to inspire and uplift countless lives, a testament to a life well-lived.



Frank Hilton with some of the students of Suva Crippled Children's School in 1970



Staff of Frank Hilton Organization commemorating Frank Hilton Day

Family Safety Planning Training Continues in the Western Division



Family Safety Planning training underway

Every family is unique, with its own blend of personalities, abilities, ages, and health statuses. While these differences enrich our lives, they also mean that ensuring the safety and well-being of all family members during unexpected crises can be a challenge. In efforts to ensure parents with children living with disabilities are able to take into account their specific needs and vulnerabilities, a family safety planning training is conducted.

No two families are alike, and therefore, a one-size-fits-all approach to safety may not suffice, therefore this training aims to equip parents and primary caregivers with the knowledge and tools they need to protect their families in the face of unforeseen emergencies, such as natural disasters or other crises to foster a sense of preparedness and resilience within these communities.

The training covered a range of crucial topics, including understanding the specific risks and vulnerabilities that each family faces, considering factors such as location, health, age, and abilities. It also guided families on how to create personalized emergency kits, tailored to meet the unique needs of their loved ones. Additionally, participants were taught the significance of establishing communication strategies to ensure that family members can reconnect in the event of separation during a crisis. They learned how to develop evacuation plans that consider the special requirements of children, elderly members, and individuals with disabilities, and were familiarized with local resources and support networks available during emergencies.

The training was not just an opportunity for education but also for community building. Parents and caregivers shared their experiences and insights, creating a supportive network where they can turn to one another for advice and assistance when needed. A total of 51 parents from Rakiraki, Tavua Lautoka, Ba, Nadi and Sigatoka were part of the training.



🌟 **Our remarkable children from the Hilton Early Intervention Centre and the Hilton Special School left us all in awe at the Central Eastern Council of Special & Inclusive Educators Games!** 🏆👏

Their unwavering determination and the radiance of their abilities shine as brightly as the stars. We're immensely proud of each and every one of them for demonstrating that with dedication and a positive spirit, they can achieve anything. Their journey is an inspiration to us all. 🌟🌈

Whether you give \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$100, every dollar will make a lasting difference in the life of a child. Scan the QR code to donate and help us provide specialised services for children with disabilities in Fiji



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THANK YOU FOR ENABLING OUR WORK