



# PPDVP Conference

Regional Conference Newsletter - Friday 15 October 2010

## White Ribbon Day - 25 November

'White Ribbon Day' was highlighted on the last day of the conference. This is globally recognised as being on the 25 November.

Wearing a white ribbon marks a personal "pledge to never commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls". It also represents a partnership between men and women. It is the largest effort by men across the world, working in partnership with women to end men's violence against women. Women activists have marked the 25 November as a day against violence since 1981.

White Ribbon Day on the 25 November in some countries is followed by 16 days of activism which links International Human Rights Day on the 10 December.

The participants were taken through the history behind White Ribbon Day as well as the use of the 'White Ribbon' as a symbol.

The participants were also taken through a number of exercises in planning for different events building up to white ribbon day, including: identifying key partners, identifying key messages and how to plan for an event. They were taken through how to write a media release and some ideas on effective use of the media as a forum for delivery.

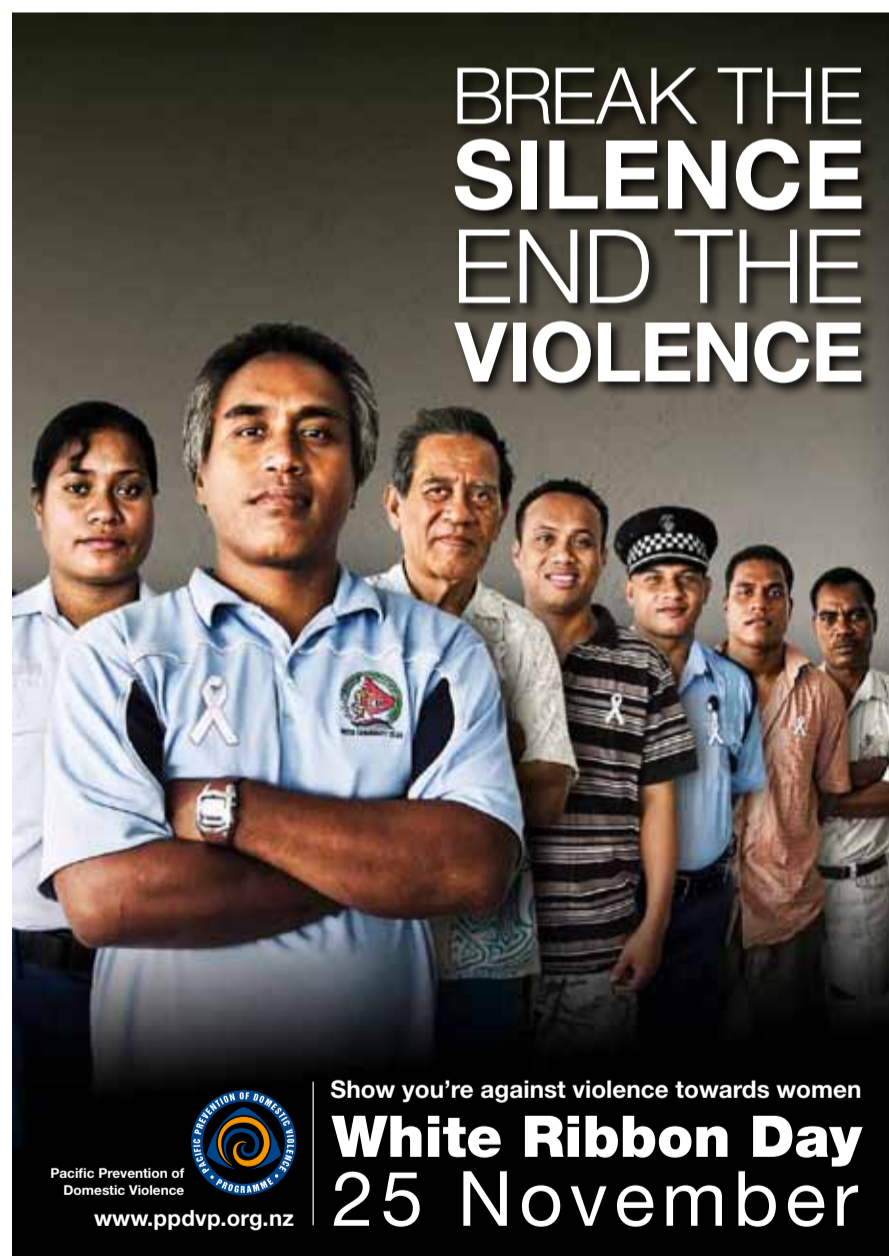
The programme participants have been provided with white ribbon 'Country packages' to take back to their home countries.

The packages included such items as:

- White Ribbon Day Banners
- Wrist bands
- Balloons
- Stickers
- White Ribbon Day cards and ribbons for use on White Ribbon Day.

White Ribbon Day is an important event in the PPDVP - Programmes calendar. It will be the culmination of a large piece of work done by many of the participants in conjunction with the programme throughout the year building up to the in country White Ribbon Day activities says Inspector Malaulau (Programme Officer/Regional Coordinator).

Each of the programmes mentors will be travelling in country to be alongside their counterparts for White Ribbon Day this year to provide support and assistance.



Kiribati and Vanuatu receive their White Ribbon Day packs.



New Zealand Government



## The Journey Continues

First and foremost I want to thank the organisers of this conference for inviting me to participate as the NZ Police Pacific Liaison Officer. I get the opportunity to visit many of you in your countries and it is almost inevitable that I come away having learnt more from you and your culture than I can ever hope to share with you.

I have often wondered if over the passage of time we have forgotten the relevance of the meaning of the phrase 'Service to others'. The opportunity to serve our fellow mankind is available to all of us but sadly many of us do not take advantage of those opportunities. To me you have clearly demonstrated that all of you know the meaning of the word service. I cannot help but admire your enthusiasm, dedication and caring attitude towards the victims of domestic violence.

Sadly, in many cases you are the last resort of many of these victims. They are relying on you and they have expectations, which they hope that you are going to meet. I know that you are not going to let these people down and that you will do all that is humanly possible to make their lives better. That is what your role is, that is what you have implied that you will do by making yourself available to them. You are in the wonderful position of being able to make a difference, and you do.

Do not go home and forget what you have learnt here. I ask that you gather your colleagues around you at every opportunity and share with them what you have learnt. Do more than just report to your supervisor on the conference, get along side your Commissioner, Chief of Police or Chief Executive and enthuse them with your new learning. For you - please understand that this journey has just begun, take as many people as you can with you and remember always that you are here to serve those who stand in need of you most.



Hermis Edmund from Pohnpei receiving certificate of attendance.

### Home to your families

As you begin to leave the regional conference and travel home to your loved ones, we wish you a safe journey. Some of you will be home this evening or tomorrow morning, others over the next couple of days, but some will not be home for another 10 days - this shows just how remote some countries are.

However, there was nothing remote in the way that everyone has worked together at this conference - you have all participated equally and to the very best that you could - and this has made the regional conference the great success that we have all talked about.

Travel safe, bless you for your participation and your commitment, and lets all keep this conversation and voyage moving along.

Vinaka vaka levu, Cam

## PPDVP Conference - Our Journey 10-15 October 2010

