

Sands NZ 2025 National Conference

Friday 13 th June 2025 (James Cook Hotel – Grand Chancellor, Wellington)		
7:30am	8:30am	Registration
8:30am	9:00am	Haere Mai, Welcome & Conference Opening
9:00am	10am	Deana Stuart Butler & Valerie Ah Chee, Australia Honouring Our Babies: Strengthening First Nations Stillbirth Prevention Through Culture and Knowledge
10am	10:30am	Morning tea
10:30am	11:30am	Adrienne Gordon, Australia Can We Save Babies From 22 Weeks Gestation?
11:30am	12:00pm	Gathering, Remembering, Gratitude
12:00pm	1:00pm	Lunch
		Stream 1 – Professionals
		Stream 2 – Māori/Indigenous
		Stream 3 – Bereaved Whānau
1:00pm	1:45pm	Paul Brown, Perinatal Pathologist Perinatal Pathology – Helping Us to Look Ahead
		Aroha Healion & Sarah Trinder - Hapū Wānanga ki Taranaki Hapū Wānanga ki Taranaki - Culturally Safe Bereavement Care
		Maree Robertson, Bereaved Parent and Counsellor Being a grieving parent/whānau – strategies for living with my grief
1:50pm	2:35pm	Amanda Evans, Paediatric Palliative Care Specialist Rei Kōtuku – Caring for Whānau When a Baby or Child Has a Serious Illness
		Faye Selby Law, Hāpai Te Hauora SUDI: Ka Mua, Ka Muri - Walking Backwards into the Future
		Rose Rooney, MA, PhD Candidate in Clinical Psychology Listening to Stories of Miscarriage to Grow our Capacity for Care
2:40pm	3:35pm	Poonam Rishi & Vishal Rishi Caring for Indian Families When a Baby Dies
		Kahurangi Ross Mate atu he tētē kura, ara mai he tētē kura: Experiencing Trauma and (Other) Loss During Pregnancy
		Mary Wheeler, Farewell Cocoons for Love & Loss Making Farewell Cocoons and baby loss mementoes
3:40pm	4:00pm	Afternoon tea
4:00pm	4:50pm	Nicola Bright, Kendall Stevenson & Sam Jackson E Hine, taiahoahotia tōku ara i te pō – Hineteiwaiwa, illuminate my pathway through the night
4:50pm	5:00pm	Friday Wrap Up
6:00pm	7:00pm	Whakamaumahara/Memorial Service Venue to be confirmed

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		Saturday 14 th June 2025 (James Cook Hotel – Grand Chancellor, Wellington)		
7:30	8:30	Registration/Breakfast		
8:45	9:00	Welcome (back)		
9:00 9:15	10:00 10:15	Kate Gudsell and Sam Arcus – From 'The Unthinkable' Podcast		
10:15	10:45	Morning tea		
10:45	12:00	Adrienne Gordon, Deanna Stuart-Butler and Valerie Ah Chee The Safer Baby Bundle – Learning from our Australian Cousins about a Baby Loss Prevention programme		
12:00	1:00	Lunch		
		Stream 1 – Professionals	Stream 2 Māori/Indigenous	Stream 3 – Bereaved Whānau
1:00	1:50	Debbie Davies, NMRC, HQSC Skills Session for Professionals – The physical care of a deceased baby with compassion and respect; making memories; conversations with whānau; providing post-natal care.	A Kōrero and a Yarn A session for Māori and indigenous attendees - facilitated by Nicola Bright (Tuhoe, Ngati Awa) & Pania Mitchell (Ngāruahinerangi ki Taranaki, Ngāti Rakaipaaka ki Nūhaka, Te Aitanga o Hauiti ki Tologa Bay)	Jane Weekes, Bereaved Parent and Counsellor "I don't know whether to laugh or cry": Navigating Parenthood After Loss.
2:00	2:50	Professionals Learning From Each Other A panel of three health professionals talk about their experiences of caring for bereaved whānau whilst taking care of themselves at the same time.		Bereaved Whānau Learning from Each Other Bereaved parents, whose babies died 2 years, 5 years and 10 years ago, talk about their experiences of loss and the ways they have incorporated their baby/babies and their grief into their lives.
2:50	3:15	Afternoon tea		
3:15	4:00	Matariki: He wā huihui tahi, he wā whakamaumahara ki ā tātou pēpi, he wā mō te titiro whakamua A time to gather, to remember our babies, and to look ahead. Conference speakers reflect on our two days and look ahead to what's next		
4:00	4:30	Conference closing		
4:30 on		Time for some to say goodbye; back to the room for a nap; get ready for conference dinner		
6:00pm		Conference Dinner		