

## Workplace Support and Seed begin a new life as Vitae.

Two of New Zealand's leading workplace wellness and employment assistance providers, Workplace Support North Island and Seed, have merged to become one entity, Vitae.

This combination of skills and resources allows the new organisation to provide a more comprehensive, nationwide offering of wellness, assistance and trauma services, as well as new opportunities to improve and measure workplace productivity.

While much of what Vitae does is about enhancing the lives of employees, they believe it's equally vital to provide measurable benefits to the company's bottom line. Hence, they offer the Vitae Advantage: based on providing accountability and tangibility, as well as expertise, visibility and an individual approach tailored to suit the needs and nature of different clients.

A not-for-profit, values-based organisation, Vitae started life during the building of the Manapouri Power Project in 1965, when The Inter-church Trade & Industry Mission (ITIM) provided support to workers building the power station. Within 45 years, ITIM had developed into four regional centres, trading as Workplace Support North Island, Seed (Central), Workplace Support Canterbury/ Westland and Workplace Support Southern. Now the two Northern companies have joined forces as one organisation, Vitae.

Vitae's Board is made up of ten members and chaired by Murray Edridge, Chief Executive of Barnardos New Zealand. The Chief Executive's role is shared by CEO of Business, David Rodgers, and CEO of Services, Sarah Stockdale. Both have enjoyed successful careers at Seed and Workplace Support for nearly a decade.

"As a country we are living through testing times, and the role of Vitae is to ensure that people are resilient and fit for work and have the capacity to overcome life's challenges. Our new organisation reflects these changing times, enabling us to better help New Zealanders cope with the pressures of life and work," says CEO of Business, David Rodgers.

Vitae offers a range of tailored solutions and packages to suit the different size and needs of a diverse range of clients, including large, national organisations, small to medium sized businesses, schools and not-for-profit organisations. Their 400-strong team of on-site support specialists, counsellors, trauma specialists and career specialists are all highly qualified with many years of combined service.

Vitae means 'life' and that reflects the philosophy at the heart of the organisation. After 45 years of enhancing staff wellbeing and business productivity, they firmly believe that 'when life works better, business works better'.

**For more information about Vitae, please call Sarah Stockdale on 09 307 7801 or David Rodgers on 04 472 2331.**