

## **He Korowai Whakapono – ‘A Cloak of Faith’**

The name of the faith based unit, ‘He Korowai Whakapono’ – originated from an inspirational speech by the Hon Paul Swain, Minister of Corrections, at the opening of the Prison Fellowship prisoner after-care program – Operation Jericho.

When you spoke at the Operation Jericho opening in July 2004 , he said,

“This programme deserves to be replicated throughout New Zealand – it addresses the core needs of released prisoners, and it’s all wrapped up in a ‘cloak of faith’ “.

The imagery of that phrase touched many of those present and Prison Fellowship staff suggested to the local iwi and national Maori church organisations that the name of the new unit should be “He Korowai Whakapono” – A Cloak of Faith. That name became the preferred choice of those organisations, and was adopted by the Department of Corrections.