



NZ Certified Builders' Wellness Initiative

26 September 2018

In January this year, NZ Certified Builders (NZCB) announced its partnership with [Employee Wellness Programme](#) (EWP) to provide its member builders with access to mental health support at times of stress.

This includes a confidential counselling service nationwide, which NZCB members can access at preferential rates with NZCB picking up the cost for the first counselling session, as well as wider coaching and wellness support.

NZCB Chief Executive Grant Florence said: "The wellbeing of our members is critical to their success, and in turn to meeting the needs of their customers."

The need for such a service is reflected in indicators of the prevalence of mental health issues in the building and construction industry in particular, including New Zealand's suicide rates broken down by sector. This is attributed to the male-dominance of the industry and its culture.

"Builders may feel the need to live up to a particular image that involves 'toughing things out'. Partnering with EWP means we can make it easy for our members to access support when they need it," said Mr Florence.

NZCB provides a broad range of support to its members – from skills development to the industry's most comprehensive building guarantee product.

"Partnering with EWP to provide this wellness service to our members recognises that the wellbeing of both business owners and their staff is critical to NZCB members' business success," said Mr Florence.