Table of Contents

President’s Report.................................................................................................................. 2
Chief Executive’s Report ......................................................................................................... 4
Kaipurongo .............................................................................................................................. 6
A Call to all Branches & Roopu AND Special Interest Groups .............................................. 6
  We Want Your News! ............................................................................................................... 6
Qualifications Update ............................................................................................................... 6
ANZASW in 2012 ..................................................................................................................... 7
  Non Payment or Incorrect Payment of Membership Fees ...................................................... 7
  What does this mean? ............................................................................................................ 7
  ANZASW is a business ........................................................................................................... 7
  The Way Forward .................................................................................................................. 8
  Terminating Membership ...................................................................................................... 8
  Summary ................................................................................................................................. 9
National DHB Health Social Work Leaders’ Council Meeting By Helene Stock ....................... 9
Invitation to Participate in Research with Women Social Workers ........................................ 10
News Flash! News Flash! News Flash! News Flash! News Flash! News Flash! ....................... 11
Members’ Contributions ......................................................................................................... 11
  My Social Work Experience in Greece 2011 ...................................................................... 11
  My Inspiration ...................................................................................................................... 13
  Hutt Valley Violent Intervention Programme .................................................................... 13
  Salvation Army’s Earthquake Recovery Unit .................................................................. 14
National Office Titbits ........................................................................................................... 15
  Shave to Save ....................................................................................................................... 15
  Before & After Image of CHCH ......................................................................................... 15
Advertising .............................................................................................................................. 16
  Massey University: Postgraduate Options ....................................................................... 16
  Unitec: Further your Career in Social Practice ................................................................. 17
  Interactive Drawing Therapy .............................................................................................. 17
  Goodfellow Unit: Sexual Therapies Course ..................................................................... 18
  The University of Auckland: Advance your Knowledge and Skills .............................. 19
President’s Report

Tena koutou katoa nga mema o te whanau ANZASW

Any ideology that needs to attack the thing that least threatens it

Is an ideology that will not outlive its own generation.

Inclusion not exclusion is the key to survival!

“The Power of One”

As I write my second President report for the year 2012 I continue to be concerned and distressed by the events that occur across our country. After my last report I had naively hoped that the situation would change in the positive. Sadly however, the political decisions of government and the impact of the global recession have meant a continuance of policies that disturb the well-being, the ‘mauri ora’ of the people of Aotearoa. It appears that our current leaders have perhaps turned the ear of ignorance to the truths of social history hewn, carved out of the turbulent landscape of social change and social justice of Aotearoa. The voices of our ‘tipuna’ who raised the banner of the “anti-nuclear stance” and those who defiantly stood against a nation and ‘trumpeted’ the call of “anti-apartheid” and those who bravely stood against the Crown to say that the occupation of Takaparawha, Bastion Point was the right of the Tangata Whenua, the ancestral legacy of Ngati Whatua, are ignored at our peril.

These proud examples of the voice of the people in action are but a snapshot, a glimpse of the social history of Aotearoa and I proudly reflect on the knowledge that there are many life members, ex members and current members of ANZASW who will vividly recall their own moments of civil defiance that contributed to the social development, to the pursuit of the ideal that Aotearoa be a nation of respect for humanity and justice. Last year the ANZASW board visited Te Papa museum to view the “Slice of Heaven” exhibition, a journey through New Zealand’s fight for social change and as I stood in front of the “anti-Springbok Tour” display I reflected that at that time I had not encountered a sense of “social awakening”. Beside me stood fellow board member Janine Joyce and she casually asked me if I had protested as well and I sheepishly informed her that no, I was in fact a supporter of rugby at that point. I then had the absolute honour and privilege to stand and be informed by Janine, a tiny, petite immensely intellectual woman that she and a friend had travelled the country and attended every protest. I think the words of
Barak Obama articulate it best as he stated “to put their hands on the arc of history and bend it once more towards the hope of a better day”. These events are examples of the power of the voice and action of the people, the voice of authenticity and common wisdom. It is the voice at the heart of community development that accompanies, what Teina Pohatu describes as hoa haere, to walk beside the other components of the “Social Work” profession as we “attempt to bend the arc of history”. The hope of a better day, the responsibility to hear the heart of our communities walks beside the already mentioned pursuit of social change and social justice. There is a thread that intertwines, weaves into the “Social Work” profession the tapestry of community transformation and “Social Work” education.

These elements of the profession are crucially important as we look beyond and plan the path for ANZASW post mandatory registration. Whether ANZASW agrees with mandatory registration is not the question: in my view that is a political decision and will be made in that forum. Whilst there are many important benefits from mandatory registration and we welcome those, the important question for this board is the manifestation, what “korowai” cloak of identity will adorn the shoulders of ANZASW post mandatory registration and how do we, the board, fulfil the responsibility to make decisions that honour the past, acknowledge the value of inclusion and human dignity that is our legacy, and at the same time set a realistic, judicious course for our future.

The point of social engagement is the place of rubber meets the road. It is the convergence of theory and professionalism, where concepts and practice models come off the page and work in collaboration with gut instinct, empathy and compassion. The point of engagement is layered with those who respectfully contribute to the “helping industries’. These layers respectfully consist of Social workers, youth workers, support workers, allied health workers, volunteers and so many others’ whose ultimate goal is to improve the human potential and dignity of another New Zealander. This is the ultimate environment of inclusion, where people such as Lloyd Martin and his Cannon’s Creek community have engaged in inclusive relationships and made immense difference because they worked from a concept of respect and not elitism, rankism and coercion. Coercion says, it’s my way or the highway, elitism said we are better than you and Robert Fuller describes rankism as the “mother of all isms” where nobodies serve those who think they are somebody. Environments of respect say let’s do it together and creates communities of restorative climates. It is this model of inclusivity, restoration and respect that I will promote as we move forward into a post mandatory environment.

Elle Wiesel warns, “Indifference can be tempting, more than that, seductive”. Indifference he describes as It is so much easier to look away from victims. It is so much easier to avoid such rude interruptions to our work, our dreams, and our hopes. It is, after all, awkward, troublesome, to be involved in another person’s pain and despair. Yet, for the person who is indifferent, his or her neighbours are of no consequence. And, therefore, their lives are meaningless. Their hidden or even visible anguish is of no interest. Indifference reduces the other to an abstraction. Therefore it behoves me to ask “is it right for ANZASW to stand by while others within our industry fight to be heard, to have their professionalism upheld and in the case of age care workers, to be paid above the minimum wage for the work that they do with our elderly, our treasures, and the receptacle of our historical knowledge”. Are we perhaps running the risk of being elitist and indifferent to those who are in need? Are we disregarding the opportunity to mentor and to give our support to organisations in need and are we being negligent in our obligations to social justice and social change?

I am inclined to believe that those who choose to commit to the cause of social justice and social change, and to the health and development of humanity, those who choose to be involved in growing and promoting community development, those who choose professional education to open the minds of students and those who are happy to provide a cup of tea, a chat and a smile will continue to flow unimpeded, it is our responsibility to embrace and welcome, to include rather than exclude, to be motivated by an ideology that isn’t threatened by change and chooses to embrace rather than exclude.

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena tatou katoa.

Tauha Te Kani,
President ANZASW
What I have been thinking ..............................................

There has been much going on in Aotearoa New Zealand and not all for the better.

The beginning of the Welfare Reforms are due for implementation from 1 July 2012. For young people without work this is the beginning of having their benefit controlled by a service provider contracted by Dept Work and Income. The legislation effectively makes the service provider a unit of ‘the department’ and the provider’s staff become staff of ‘the department’. This removes the ability of service providers to advocate for wider social justice and human rights issues in relation to young people or to advocate on behalf of an individual young person they are supporting. Youth “reforms” also sees funding withdrawn from programmes like Work’n it Out that have been successful in placing 18-20 years olds in work. Taking funds from programmes with a record of success in placing young people in work makes no sense. While 16 and 17 year olds may be placed in programmes, what becomes of the 18-20 year olds for whom programmes have been disbanded? Will they return to requiring a benefit and facing the full force of the ‘reforms’?

For women on benefits and their 16 year old daughters there is funding available for accessing long acting reversible contraceptives (LARC). This was not written into the legislation changes but is included in policy. This approach leaves women potentially exposed to extreme pressure to accept LARC as a condition of remaining on benefits. The question that springs to mind is why just women on benefits? There are no doubts that many women on low incomes would appreciate subsidised access to contraception. The notion that Work and Income staff can and should discuss with women on benefits “whether and when to have children” is ill-considered. This is a question that most women would discuss with their GP, Family Planning and family members. It is questionable whether Work & Income staff have the skill and qualification to engage in such discussions in an appropriate manner.

We are told that Government “was considering a range of options to deal with the issue of known child abusers or killers having further children - including allowing the Court to direct someone convicted of serious child abuse or neglect or murder not to have more children”. Child Youth and Family already has significant powers in this area. What may be lacking is adequate resourcing to enable Child Youth and Family social workers to work with at risk families with an early intervention approach. The policy suggests that a group in society are incapable of change and should be “written off”. It is accepted that for members who have dealt with the very worst of child abuse this may seem to be an ‘elegant solution’. The question remains however does Aotearoa New Zealand want policies in place that could have far reaching effects beyond the original intention? Such a policy has the potential to have serious implications for social justice, tangata whenua being proportionately affected more than other segments of society. Experience suggests that if Government is “considering” an issue it is likely to become policy.

The Government is to be congratulated on abandoning the proposal to increase class sizes. The challenge now is to see schools resourced in a manner that achieves excellent outcomes for children and young people. The New Zealand education system must be resourced in a manner that ensures all children and young people are able to achieve their potential and thereby limit the need for state support following secondary school graduation. Achieving results similar to Finland would be a wonderful outcome: “Ninety-three percent of Finns graduate from academic or vocational high schools, and 66 percent go on to higher education, the highest rate in the European Union”1.

Closer to home there is a steady march towards mandatory registration of social workers. As has been said many times before ANZASW has a significant number of members who will not be eligible for registration unless they enrol in a SWRB approved social work programme which would entitle them to Provisional Registration for up to 8 years.

As ANZASW considers the future of membership in a mandatory registration environment it is worth reflecting on the words of Mary Nash in 2007:

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1 Lyn Nell Hancock [http://www.smithsonianmag.com/people-places/Why-Are-Finlands-Schools-Successful.html#ixzz1qMsIh75E](http://www.smithsonianmag.com/people-places/Why-Are-Finlands-Schools-Successful.html#ixzz1qMsIh75E)
When the NZASW decided on its criteria for membership [in 1964/1965], it opted for an egalitarian and inclusive approach which admitted people into the Association not only if they had a professional qualification but also if they were working in an agency that the Association recognised as employing social workers.

This was quite different from the Australian system in which a professional qualification was essential before membership.

This was a pragmatic measure, because the Association could never have sustained itself with only the small numbers of qualified social workers in the country. It also showed acceptance of the capabilities of practitioners with qualifications other than degrees or postgraduate courses.

With this significant decision the social justice vision was embedded in social work and members have been confronted with the tension between social and community work, social control and social action ever since².

To add to the territory there are new qualifications emerging, Bachelor Degrees in Human Welfare / Social Services, many of which include a significant number of social work papers. These graduates will not be eligible to register but will be working in the sector. There is a clear role for ANZASW to be articulating to employers and stakeholders, including the public, the difference between a social worker and a Human / Social Service Graduate and the scope of practice for the respective workforces. The non-social work workforce made up of support workers and social service workers is not currently regulated, and is not likely to be in the foreseeable future. The potential is there for users of support work, social service work to be exposed to harm as a result of poor quality services. In an environment where there are increasing demands on families and workforces paralleled by the “reforms” of the current government there is an increasing need to know service providers are competent and capable.

As ANZASW grapples with the ‘membership question’ it is worth noting that the 1965 constitution protected the position of Full Members of the Association by determining that:

- An Associate member could not:
  - accept nomination for President, Chair of any Branch or Special Group
  - Vote on any motion to change the rules of the Association
- A majority of members of any committee of the Association or Branches or Special Group had to be Full members.

There will be vigorous and at times passionate debate as the membership question is worked through in preparation for mandatory registration of social workers.

And to end what I am thinking about -

“*The great thing in this world is not so much where you stand,*

*as in what direction you are moving.”*

---Oliver Wendell Holmes

**Kaipurongo**
*Tena koutou nga Takawaenga o Aotearoa. Kei te mihi aroha kia koutou katoa.*

This kaipurongo marks a time of celebrations; June represents new beginnings and growth with Matariki. Leading up to June the caucus have connected via teleconference with good attendance. The Tangata Whenua Governance Board members have welcomed members who do not have a roopu or a roopu that is in recess. They contribute to the teleconferences and take responsibility to disseminate out to other members within their rohe. It feels like there is a sense of renewed energy by the membership which is something that we encourage to continue. I hope you all take opportunities to celebrate Matariki in your communities and whanau.

Another upcoming celebration is Te Ahi Kaa, I hope that roopu and members have plans underway to come together to celebrate, korero and “be”. It is a time to share stories and create new ones. These stories may be worth sharing with the wider membership to enrich our “kete of knowledge”.

As a member of ANZASW you are a part of a whanau, if you feel isolated just contact National Office or members that you know to stay connected. We want to support you, to reinforce your sense of belonging and keep you up to date on information as it happens.

*Noho Ora Mai*

*Bella Wikaira*

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**A Call to all Branches & Roopu AND Special Interest Groups**

**We Want Your News!**

Let the editor ([fionas@anzasw.org.nz](mailto:fionas@anzasw.org.nz)) know what your branch, roopu or special interest group has been up to - this will be shared with ANZASW members in the next NoticeBoard!

Closing dates for 2012 editorial are:

30 July 2012 - 1 October 2012 - 18 November 2012

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**Qualifications Update**

For those who have not completed the Qualifications Form please click on the link provided and simply complete the form and email to [cinnamonk@anzasw.org.nz](mailto:cinnamonk@anzasw.org.nz), alternatively you can print it out and send it to us by post. [Qualifications Form](#)

We require this information so we know who is eligible for registration and who is not and who might be eligible for Section 13 workshops.
ANZASW in 2012

Non Payment or Incorrect Payment of Membership Fees
In mid May 2012 there was approximately $400,000.00 owed on outstanding member accounts. Some of this is historic overdue accounts for the period up to 31 March 2012 and some relates to unpaid accounts for the 1 April 2012 – 30 June 2013 year. The amount represents almost 40% of the 2011/2012 annual budgeted revenue for member subscriptions, including recertification fees.

In the 2010/2011 financial year membership fees totalling $47,511.12 were written off as a result of members resigning or being terminated and not paying fees owed. The constitution is clear in stating “any member who resigns shall not claim repayment of any unexpired portion of membership subscriptions, or other sums paid by that person to the Association” (8.1.a). The fact remains this group of members has received services from ANZASW but has opted not to meet their financial obligations.

ANZASW has a fee structure that provides a low income discount for members earning $39,999.00 or less, Category B Membership. There is clear evidence, received by way of complaints from colleagues, that some members claim Category B membership while their income is over $40,000.00 thus the Category A membership fee applies.

What does this mean?
Unpaid or underpaid membership accounts are a financial burden on ANZASW. Members that are fully financial are currently subsidising overdue member accounts and member accounts paid at the incorrect rate.

Non-payment or incorrect payment of membership fees is both unethical and is a clear breach of membership obligations. In becoming a member of ANZASW members commit to:

- Being bound by the:
  - Constitution
  - Standing orders
  - Code of Ethics
- Pay all membership dues, or levies imposed
- Maintaining indemnity insurance cover via the ANZASW members’ policy (the premium is included in the membership fee).

This situation reflects very poorly on ANZASW as the professional body for social workers in Aotearoa New Zealand.

At the end of the day, in signing up for membership social workers are agreeing to meet their obligations, which include payment of fees. Following up non-payment of fees is time consuming and takes staff time away from the service delivery component of National Office work.

ANZASW is a business
Members have clearly signalled they want high quality, timely service delivery and access to CPD at no or low cost. It goes without saying that in order to provide these services ANZASW as an Incorporated Society must have a Governance Board, and requires staff and office services.

ANZASW is a business and as such requires the membership to fund the business in order to be able to operate effectively and efficiently including meeting legal and other obligations. Membership fees also fund services to members including:

- Recertification
- Indemnity insurance
- Legal Services
- Publications (Journal, Code of Ethics, Competency Handbook, NoticeBoard)
- Complaint management
- Continuing Professional Development – eg webinars
- Website
- Advocacy and submissions.
ANZASW is in the very fortunate position of being funded by membership fees, revenue generated through publishing including sales, advertising services and copyright commissions. Being member funded leaves ANZASW free to comment on legislation and policy issues without fear of external funding contracts being jeopardized. This independence is the key element that allows the voice of ANZASW members to be heard on issues affecting social workers, social justice and human rights issues.

The Way Forward
ANZASW is now withholding all service delivery for those members that have outstanding membership accounts, however please note those with payment plans in place will not be affected. Services to be withdrawn include:

- Access to the Legal Services Panel
- Access to Indemnity Insurance
- Publications – Aotearoa New Zealand Social Work, NoticeBoard, global e-mail notices
- Competency assessment
- Recertification
- Listing on the Supervisors Register
- Access to member only area of the website
- Advertising on the ANZASW website
- Re-issue of Competency Certificates

It may also become necessary to follow the lead of some professional bodies and require evidence of income before a low income discount can be claimed.

Until recently the constitutional requirement to terminate membership of those not meeting financial obligations has not been rigorously implemented. Thus financial members were subsidising all services provided to non-financial members.

Terminating Membership
If outstanding accounts are not paid, in full, or if a payment plan is not in place, three months after the due date membership is now being terminated in line with the constitutional requirements:

8.b If the Member’s subscription is not renewed within three months of the start of the financial year (unless being paid by instalments) or if the subscription remains unpaid at the end of the three-month period or where instalments cease for period of three (3) months, and the member does not obtain a dispensation from the Executive Officer on the grounds of personal extenuating circumstances, membership and its benefits shall cease and the member will be advised in writing.

Ultimately if membership fees remain unpaid membership will be terminated. However, the member is still liable for the payment of outstanding fees.

There are members concerned that this is the approach being taken by the Association, specifically it is believed that there has not been sufficient effort made to persuade members to pay. Members with outstanding accounts will have received at minimum:

- Three invoices – the original plus 2 reminders
- E-mails / letters
- Phone calls
Summary
If ANZASW is to remain sustainable and provide services for another 50 years it is essential that members meet their membership obligations. It is both unethical and a clear breach of membership obligations to fail to pay membership fees thus expecting financial members to subsidise services.

Board Members
Tauha Te Kani
Andrew Lynch
Bella Wikaira
James Makowharemahihi
Janine Joyce
John Dunlop
John White
Merrill Simmons-Hansen
Paula Grooby

National DHB Health Social Work Leaders’ Council Meeting
By Helene Stock

A common theme at the National DHB Health Social Work Leaders’ Council Meeting at Hastings Hospital on 26 – 27 April was that DHB social workers are spearheading the drive for professional excellence and innovative practice. Entitled ‘Transforming Social Work’, the meeting was organised by the Lower North Island group and hosted by Hawke’s Bay DHB. In his opening address CEO Kevin Snee said that transformational change could give more for less by driving up quality and driving out waste.

Speakers from the Social Work Registration Board, ANZASW and PSA talked about professional development, training for all levels, emerging qualifications and creative opportunities to link with PHOs.

In their update on the Career and Salary Progression (CASP) framework, PSA representatives Richard Wagstaff and Sue McCulloch said key recommendations from its 2011 survey were to develop a national training package, provide support for training at all levels and capture current workloads so that objectives could be signed off more efficiently. Comments from the floor noted that the CASP process within DHBs is convoluted and time-consuming, with insufficient resources hindering social workers, particularly those in smaller DHBs, from pursuing objectives expected of them.

Presenting the results of her Masters degree study on a health social work core competencies framework, Michelle Derrett described how health social workers’ competencies have evolved from the 1912 definition of being ‘expert in the diagnosis and treatment of character in difficulties’ to understanding more complex issues such as the health context, bicultural practice, advocacy, professional development and professionalism. She suggested a yearlong national pilot of this competency framework, followed by review.

Mandatory registration could be here by 2015, with some amendments for new graduates or those new to the profession, Social Work Registration Board chief executive Sean McKinley said. He added that social workers have led the process of registration in DHBs and have responded positively to the Mandatory Registration Discussion Paper, currently going through the Parliamentary process.

Talking about opportunities evolving for healthcare professionals, such as the development of PHOs and progress in ‘seamless care’, CCDHB Director of Nursing Primary Health Care and Integrated Care Vicky Noble noted improved access, more focus on the patient, reduced waiting times and higher levels of immunisation. She added developments such as Whanau Ora - healthcare from a whanau perspective - and an electronic referral management system (ERMS) are also improving communication and reducing fragmentation in the health system.
Further presentations on initiatives aimed at enhancing social work practice in DHBs were the social work internship programme and the Turuki Workforce Development, which will provide work-ready graduates and strengthen and develop the Maori workforce capability and capacity.

The Christchurch team presented an impressive example of transformational health social work, describing its emergency response to the city’s earthquakes, the ongoing cycle of trauma experienced, particularly by the elderly, and the initiatives that have emanated from this.

Other speakers paid tribute to DHB social workers’ development and use of risk assessment tools for family violence, child protection and elder abuse. HBDHB paediatrician and Child Commissioner Russell Wills said screening should be done routinely as early diagnosis improves outcomes.

A highlight of the meeting was Massey lecturer Kieran O’Donoghue’s presentation Staying Passionate about Social Work, where he talked about the principles of social work, the nature of social work practice and what being a passionate social worker meant.

CCDHB social workers won the best poster award with their examples of recent initiatives - a Grief Fatigue self-assessment tool, a caregiver support assessment and guidelines for conducting a social work family/whanau meeting.

Next year’s national meeting for DHB health social workers will be organised by the Upper North Island group and held at Middlemore Hospital, Auckland.

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**Invitation to Participate in Research with Women Social Workers**

*What contribution does Women’s spiritual identity offer a specific social work context here in Aotearoa?*

Are you interested in participation in research with women social workers? Do you wonder how 'everything' appears to have been discussed and written down about social work, yet women's local knowledge appears possibly still not included?

This project involves listening to women’s views (such as yours) by sharing in an interview with me, and then inviting you to be part of a focus group. The interview notes will be returned to you, the individual and the group transcript will return to the group members.

For your own planning, the time commitment as a participant is likely to be around five hours total across two days and schedules will be designed to suit you. This research is designed to occur between July and December 2012.

If you are involved in social work within the Bay of Plenty region and you would like to explore this further, please contact myself so we can discuss this.

The research will be developed under the auspices of Te Whare Wananga Awanuiarangi -Whakatane.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing back if this opportunity is of interest.

Nga mihi nui

*Merrill*

Merrill Simmons Hansen

MANZASW; email: merwolh@slingshot.co.nz

'It is those broken, whom are perfectly placed to heal this world’. Rumi.
ANZASW are delighted to announce the upcoming launch of our dynamic online learning exchange.

The learning exchange will be a single point of access to online learning events, workshops & courses, discussion forums, webinars, downloads, resource materials, etc.

Included in the learning exchange is an ‘e-portfolio’ module. This has been included to support the planning and recording of professional development, the preparation of curriculum vitae and competency and recertification documentation. To provide a platform for collaboration of people with similar interests which can be done through online group discussion & forums.

Why has this happened?

- ANZASW has recognised that CPD is no longer an optional extra
- The context of professional practice continues to change eg all practice now occurs in multidisciplinary setting. Increasingly professions will be opening up their CPD to related professions and semi-professions as well as recognising the value of learning in interdisciplinary aspects
- To maintain relevance in practice: keeping Social Workers in touch with developments in pursuing their advanced study or CPD
- Competing demands: with the increasing challenge of managing workloads and the prioritisation of CPD, ANZASW has wanted to provide a structure of access and delivery in a way that maximises accessibility for the time poor professionals
- To provide a way to engage our members as lifelong learners
- To enable our members to take responsibility for the maintenance of their own professional competency
- To provide an alternative to face to face events
- In our survey of members, the request to provide CPD opportunities was affirmed.

ANZASW envisages that this will be an opportunity to position ourselves as a leader in the provision of CPD for its members and the wider social and community sector in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Members’ Contributions

My Social Work Experience in Greece 2011
By: Joy Duggan

I became involved with C.I.F Aotearoa/ New Zealand about 5 years ago, which is a scheme that enables social workers to travel to countries and be hosted by fellow social workers. The scheme encourages education and professional development for social workers and psychologists.
Until last year I have been involved with hosting and facilitating the program for the participants who come to New Zealand. Last year I was very pleased to be accepted for the C.I.F program in Greece starting at the beginning of May for 17 days.

I had wanted to go to Greece since meeting and talking with a Greek CIF participant who came to New Zealand four years ago. I was particularly interested to find out how the social services in Greece were managing within the current financial crisis as well as the concerning issue of illegal migration into Greece.

Five people were enrolled on the Greek program including myself with participants from India, Turkey, Kazakhstan and Estonia. Initially we all met at the youth hostel in Athens for the first three days. This was a great opportunity to get to know each other before we went to our host families.

Participants and myself (far right) with Greece CIF members, at Greek temple Poseidon

My host mother was a retired social work lecturer and could not have been more hospitable and was a life saver giving me directions about what buses and trains to get. Part of the scheme is that you make your own way to the different organizations. Not that easy at times, but by the end of the program it gave me a sense of ownership of Athens. Not once was I lost and that is an achievement for me!

The first week of the program involved an orientation and generic visits to social service agencies in Athens. The agencies ranged from government to voluntary groups. I was impressed at the commitment that the social workers of these organizations showed, in the current climate of increasing need, although funding was diminishing.

The second week the visits were focused on the participants particular interests. As I had been working in a public, general hospital in Auckland, New Zealand, I had a very interesting time visiting two public hospitals and a community social worker in Athens.

The program also had a day excursion to Tripoli to meet local CIF members and while there, we were given the opportunity to meet the city mayor and city councillors and talk about the restructuring happening in the council and the effect of this on the social services provided by the council.

While in Athens the program also included a tour around the Acropolis and we were taken out to local night spots by our hospitable hosts. My host mother went out of her way introducing me to her friends and showing me the sights of Athens.

Greece was a wonderful choice for my CIF experience and I came back with many new ideas and insights into social work practice from Greece which I can use for my practice in New Zealand. As an active member of CIF in New Zealand it has been invaluable to have had the opportunity to not only be a host but to have been a participant.

I encourage my fellow social workers to look up our web site, www.cif.org.nz, join CIF and consider doing a program themselves or becoming involved locally.

Joy Duggan, Aotearoa/ New Zealand

Back to Top
My Inspiration
By: Geoff Williams

What is it that inspires me to be a social worker?

Putting it simply, I have a strong desire to help those who are in need of my help. I believe there are a lot of people within our community who do not know who to turn to and when they do they may get a person who is not qualified enough to provide the necessary level of professional help. I have seen people who are victims of events such as family suicides, crimes and health issues etc who want some professional support from people who are more than willing and more than capable to provide it.

This is where I come in. I just want to provide these people support by way of listening, helping and being there for them. I have been in their shoes (my brother and a friend of ours committed suicide and I have also suffered many years of workplace bullying) so I know what it is like when confronted with these problems so I want to help them by assuring them that there is a way through this dark period of their lives.

Hutt Valley Violent Intervention Programme
By: Maraea Cookson

Hutt Valley DHB Hospital Responsiveness To Family Violence as outlined in the MOH 6 step guidelines. Hutt Valley Violent Intervention Programme (VIP) successfully passed the external audit with the two streams (1) Partner Abuse Programmes and (2) Child Abuse and Neglect Programmes and there is excellent support from Management for this initiative.

This has been achieved by the policies that have been put in place since the new staff in June 2011, Lynn O’Toole and Annie Vekony. There is also a VIP Steering Group where we work multi-disciplinary and multi-agency seeking for collaboration and partnership for good outcomes. This is about identifying and being responsive when women and children present to the Emergency Dept where clinicians are being proactive with the Family Screening by MOH guidelines by asking the patient or the parent/carer of the child, questions of: are they going through abuse, what kind of abuse, are there weapons or drugs involved? The ED staff will then take the appropriate action.

There is a wall mounted holder by the staffing area of ED, with the information to the VIP Team to uplift and they complete their processes. This is providing an increase of identification and provision of quality services to families at risk, improving and integrating health care transitions for victims between secondary and primary sectors and community services in DHB regions. The quality improvement workforce development training is currently in a stage of applying for funding to have people trained through the Violence Intervention Programme. The providers to this programme are Shine.

I am part of the VIP and the VIP Steering Group; ED staff have allowed input from myself as the Māori Health Coordinator, and this is also with a close partnership with the two main VIP Team Members.
Salvation Army’s Earthquake Recovery Unit
By Sue Waight

For Sue Waight, Recovery Coordination Manager for the Social Work Department of the Salvation Army's Earthquake Recovery unit, financial hardship is a common experience for many people who contact her team of five social workers, commonly arising from entering unemployment or being burdened with new expenses.

Activated as a new initiative under the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) in response to the September 4 earthquake, the Sallies assumed full responsibility for Waight and her team in June 2011.

Initially set up by MSD to address earthquake effects, the team largely supported families with housing and insurance issues that were a direct consequence of the quakes. Over time their work has grown to incorporate a range of issues beyond the original scope of operation.

Waight stresses the service is available to anyone - not just members of Christchurch's faith community. The social workers work part-time at The Salvation Army Community Ministries Centres in Belfast, Hornby, Linwood, Aranui and Sydenham, providing easy access to the greatest number of people affected by the earthquakes. In addition, the team are out in the community making home visits as a result of referrals received from a number of external services. The Social Work team in turn refer on to other community supports as appropriate.

“We recognise that for some people the idea of going into somewhere like a Salvation Army Community Ministries Centre may be difficult if it has not been in their life experience before so my guys will predominantly see people in their own homes because that's where people are most comfortable,” she says.

Lost jobs and businesses for those who were self-employed has created a group Waight refers to as the 'new poor'. Many among them are perhaps for the first time in their lives having to seek welfare assistance, a “hugely difficult” step for those who are accustomed to living “in what may be seen as a nice house or area,” she says.

“For a start, they may not know what the support systems are and how to access them. It can be especially hard for them to come in to somewhere like our Community Ministries Centres and line up for a food parcel; for some it is just too hard and so they go without.”

And with more people out of work and others having to travel further to work if their workplace has shifted or if they've had to get another job, many families are also experiencing increased costs to their basic living expenses because of the earthquakes.

New or greater financial hardship has been worsened for many by the need to buy appliances to compensate for periods without electricity or from using extra electricity to keep warm in a draughty house during a bitter winter. And, adds Waight, there are also the associated medical bills from living in a home that no longer meets weather safety and healthy living requirements. The Salvation Army can sometimes assist with these greater costs on a case by case basis.

Self-care is an important factor in caring for others and dads need to ensure they have in place support systems they can activate when they’re feeling depleted, when they need a break, or when they need a hand up.

Stress, particularly ongoing stress over a prolonged period, can fuel frustration, depression, and anger, with tempers fraying more easily and more often. Small things that may not have elicited an uncontrolled response before September 4 and the stress of subsequent earthquakes might now spark an outburst, or worse, with stress levels across town up and rising.

Knowing how you’re being affected by earthquake stress and checking in with yourself when things start to feel rough or aggravating are useful ways to avoid conflict with partners, children, and colleagues, as well as the troubling feelings of regret that usually follow heated exchanges.

“It's about learning to hear that inner voice (that says:) 'I'm starting to bubble here; I'm starting to get angry.' And learning; 'How do I manage this? I need to walk away, I need to acknowledge to people that I can't stay in this situation, I need to go for a walk around the block or find a way to clear things for myself before it gets to the point where I get really angry.'”

Back to Top
National Office Titbits

Shave to Save

Cinnamon Kouka (centre) shaves alongside Ritchie McCaw on the Shave to Save Day at Lincoln University.

In 2011 the Future Leader Scholars from Lincoln University set up a scheme called ‘Lend a Hand’ which helps raise funds for charities or organizations in need. Last year over $18,000 was fundraised for the Burwood Spinal Trust and the Van Asch School for the Deaf.

Every year a new charity is focused on. This year they have chosen the Leukaemia and Blood Cancer Foundation. The reason behind choosing this foundation is because one of their first year future leader scholars Isabelle Hobbs suggested it as a possible charity. Now with the passing of her father, Jock Hobbs who had leukaemia himself it makes the cause even more significant to our group. This campaign will see students and staff, take one for the team and brave the winter months without their curly locks. [http://www.shaveforacure.co.nz/view_group_event_profile/1175](http://www.shaveforacure.co.nz/view_group_event_profile/1175)

Before & After Image of CHCH

Back to Top
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**IDT FOUNDATION COURSE TRAINING 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Unit One</th>
<th>Unit Two</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auckland</td>
<td>5-6 July</td>
<td>9-10 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td>5-6 July</td>
<td>9-10 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>5-6 July</td>
<td>30-31 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Napier</td>
<td>9-10 August</td>
<td>6-7 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palmerston Nth</td>
<td>6-7 September</td>
<td>27-28 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christchurch</td>
<td>6-7 September</td>
<td>27-28 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auckland</td>
<td>1-2 November</td>
<td>5-5 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>1-2 November</td>
<td>26-27 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>15-16 November</td>
<td>19-20 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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A two-day Foundation Course
Wellington: 2-3 August 2012
The Angus Inn, Lower Hutt
Auckland: 6-7 September 2012
Tamaki Innovation Campus

This two day Foundation Course is designed to:
• Extend your knowledge regarding sexuality and intimacy.
• Ensure you have the most productive way of conceptualising sexual problems.
• Enhance your comfort and skills in dealing with issues of sexuality.

Who should attend:
Any health professional – nurses, doctors, psychologists, counsellors, psychotherapists and other allied health professionals with an interest in sexuality.

Throughout the two days you will:
• Explore the nature of sexuality and the dance of intimacy in relationships.
• Develop self awareness as a sexual being and gain confidence to discuss sexual matters.
• Develop confidence in providing information on human sexuality and sexual problems.
• Develop frameworks for conceptualising sexual problems.
• Be able to outline best practice guidelines for assessment.
• Review evidence-based treatments for sexual difficulties

The Foundation Course is a prerequisite for the advanced training. We can also arrange speakers who can give presentations on specialist topics to groups and organisations. Please contact Cecile if you are interested in these options.

Advanced Sexual Therapy Training
Three modules
at Tamaki Innovation Campus

Module 1: Mon–Wed 19–21 November 2012
Module 2: Mon–Wed 18–20 February 2013
Module 3: Mon–Wed 20–22 May 2013

The Goodfellow Unit in conjunction with Sex Therapy New Zealand (STNZ) is pleased to offer this professional development opportunity.

This program can be incorporated into a Master of Health Sciences degree for those eligible to enter a Masters programme. It involves 3 x 3-day modules over a period of 9 months (applicants must be available for all modules).

Course Aims:
• To prepare participants to effectively and comfortably deal with all issues of sexuality and intimacy.
• To comprehensively prepare participants to effectively treat all sexual dysfunctions.
• To provide participants with evidence based best practice in the field of sex therapy.

Pre-requisites for the advanced training include:
• Completion of Foundation Course
• Comprehensive training in psychology/psychotherapy/counselling
• Membership of a relevant professional association e.g. NZPS, NZCPS, NZA, NZAC, NZACC

Costs: Two-day foundation course $460.00 GST inclusive
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