



Health and Disability NGO email update for 18 March 2011

On this sad day of remembrance, our thoughts are with you Christchurch. To those of you dealing with the aftermath of the earthquake, please see the Christchurch Earthquake section of this newsletter for useful information, and the contact details of organisations that can help you during this difficult time.

The NGO Desk's latest update includes a wide range of up and coming conference and event information, along with submissions and discussion documents of interest to the health and disability sector.

This update provides an opportunity to share information with others in the sector and around the Ministry of Health. If you have any comments or information you would like as part of future updates, please email me at ngo@moh.govt.nz and I will be happy to include relevant items.

Kind regards,

Marie Day
NGO Relationship Manager
Ministry of Health

For information about the NGO Working Group download the brochure [Understanding what we do & how you can get involved](#) or check out our website at www.ngo.health.govt.nz.

The 2010 Health and Disability Sector NGO-Ministry of Health Forum "Connections, Strengths and New Directions" was held on 4 November 2010 in Wellington. Slides from the speaker presentations, along with notes from the workshops can be viewed on our website on the [NGO-MoH Forum](#) page.

Make sure you check out our [Resources and Links](#) page which provides a range of documents likely to be of interest to NGOs. These documents are produced by the NGO Working Group, the NGO Health and Disability sector, the Ministry of Health, other New Zealand government agencies and international sources.

Previous issues of the NGO email update are available on the NGO Working Group website - http://www.ngo.health.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexcm/ngo-news-updates?Open&m_id=2.1.

Influenza A (H1N1) Swine Flu/Mate Poaka Rewharewha - The latest updates can be found on the Ministry of Health website: <http://www.moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1>.

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Ministry of Health Information

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CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE

Canterburyearthquake.org.nz - website for local Christchurch information

Canterburyearthquake.org.nz is managed by Environment Canterbury. It was set up to collate a range of sources relating to the September 2010 Canterbury Earthquake and has been reactivated in response to the 22nd February 2011 Earthquake. Please refer to this website for local Christchurch information including:

- Missing person enquiry line - **0800 RED CROSS** (0800 733 276)
- Water
- Road closures and travel
- Welfare centres
- Pharmacies open

Canterbury Recovery – Department of Labour Information and Advice

The Department of Labour has a wide range of information on their websites to assist foreign nationals, employers and employees in response to the Christchurch earthquake. Their websites are www.immigration.govt.nz and www.dol.govt.nz. The home page of both sites takes you directly to earthquake-related information.

The Christchurch Immigration and Department of Labour branch offices are closed until further notice. Anyone with an immigration query of any nature should call their Contact Centre on 0508 55 88 55. Workplace health and safety, and employment relations queries should be made to 0800 20 90 20.

Employment and Health and Safety Information

Information on employment related matters is available on the Department of Labour website www.dol.govt.nz. This includes overarching health and safety and employment advice, latest earthquake news and guidance on a wide range of workplace-related issues. These include:

Employment Relations

Urgent requests for mediation for employment relations issues (such as payment of wages when parties are unable to provide or attend work) will be explored on a case by case basis, to explore whether mediation can be done via telephone. Information on employment relation matters can be viewed via the following links:

- [Staff Concerns That Work Situation Is Unsafe](#)
- [Cannot work and no income left](#)
- [Staff Off Work For Family Reasons](#)
- [Workplace Open But Staff Not Reporting For Work](#)
- [Making Changes To Employment Agreements](#)
- [Altering The Way Staff Work](#)
- [Redundancy Payments If Workplace Closed Permanently](#)
- [Requiring Employees To Take Annual Leave If Workplace Closed](#)
- [Employees Taking Annual Leave](#)
- [Employees Taking Sick Leave](#)

Health and Safety

Again primarily information is being provided regarding H&S matters, including asbestos, hazardous substances, and sewerage contamination, with certain matters escalated to H&S representatives for response. Accidents and serious harm notifications are also being referred to appropriate persons in the Department to determine response.

Hazardous Substances and New Organisms services have been prioritised and our inspectors are active in working with their Regional Council colleagues to ensure the safe management of hazardous substances. Several Labour Group staff members are on call to provide assistance or advice to the emergency services. Information on Health and Safety matters can be viewed via the following links:

- [Restoration of Electrical Supply](#)
- [Resuming work](#)
- [Safety and wellbeing check list for returning to work](#)
- [Asbestos management](#)
- [Staying safe as a volunteer](#)
- [Advice for Working with sewage-contaminated silt](#)
- [Fatigue](#)
- [Confined spaces](#)
- [Hazardous substances](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)
- [Working in adverse weather conditions](#)

Immigration Information

Immigration information on the following topics can be located at www.immigration.govt.nz:

- Accreditation renewal for employers
- Interim visas for people who have temporary or residence visa applications lodged at the closed Christchurch office
- Ongoing visa application processing for foreign workers
- Passport recovery
- Students
- Overseas victims' families
- Refugees.

Government support package

The Government has announced financial support for employers, to help them and their employees through the initial stages of earthquake recovery. Information can be found at <http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/newsroom/media-releases/2011/millions-for-christchurch-quake-employment-support.html> or by ringing 0800 779 997 to enquire about the employment support.

Note that support for employees covers anyone working lawfully in New Zealand – i.e. if you have foreign nationals working lawfully for you, they are entitled to assistance.

View information on health and safety and employment relations issues that employers and employees may be considering in the wake of the Christchurch earthquake at www.dol.govt.nz or phone 0800 20 90 20 (Let them know you are from Canterbury).

Christchurch Earthquake - Information and useful links

The [Ministry of Health](#) website has links to the following information:

- Situation updates
- Latest updates from the Canterbury District Health Board
- Advice on how to protect your health
- Advice on how to cope with stress and anxiety
- Telephone services
- Emergency management
- Updates for schools and early childhood centres (www.minedu.govt.nz)

Blood donors in Christchurch - information from the New Zealand Blood Service

For blood donors in Christchurch and the outlying areas visited by the New Zealand Blood Service's Christchurch Mobile collection team, please be advised that there may be some changes over the coming months. Due to the earthquake many of the venues they usually attend may now no longer be available, or some collections may need to be cancelled for staffing reasons.

Please check the New Zealand Blood Service website regularly to see "[Where to Donate – Canterbury, Nelson Mobiles](#)". Any donors who have made appointments in advance will be notified if there are any changes". The Donor Centre will be closed on Friday March 18th for the day of remembrance for those lives lost in the earthquake.

For more information on the blood donation situation in Christchurch the New Zealand Blood Service will inform people via their website (www.nzblood.co.nz) or via Facebook.

Christchurch Earthquake Appeal – add link to your website

As you will be aware Prime Minister John Key has launched the [Christchurch Earthquake Appeal](#), a global fundraiser for the recovery effort in the city and the Canterbury region. In order to promote the appeal as widely as possible, the Department of Internal Affairs would be grateful if you could post a link to the appeal on your agency's home page.

[The tiles that agencies can use for the appeal are located on the PSI at this link.](#)

When these tiles are clicked on the user should be taken to the URL <http://www.christchurchearthquakeappeal.govt.nz>. An example can be found at www.dia.govt.nz.

If you require assistance please contact Lynda Kamstra at lynda.kamstra@dia.govt.nz, phone: 04 474 8061.

Christchurch NGO and Community Organisation Updater website

The New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS) set up a website (www.ngoupdater.org.nz) as a service to NGOs in Christchurch to share information about their current location, operational status, assistance needs or offers of assistance to other organisations. More than 30 Christchurch agencies have already entered information.

Coping after an earthquake – advice from the Mental Health Foundation

For every individual, grief has its own rhythm and flow, and when the time is right to seek out information and guidance, the links provided by the may offer some support, advice and understanding and may help some people get through. You can view these links at: <http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/page/895-news+coping-in-a-disaster>

Disability Support Services – Environmental Support Services update, 2 March 2011

The purpose of the [Environmental Support Services update](#) is to let people know about services available for disabled people from the Canterbury region who need new or replacement equipment, or other services and support because of a sensory impairment or communication difficulty. This update includes information about:

- Support for people who need equipment and modifications
- Support for people who have communication difficulties
- Support for people who are Deaf or who have a Hearing Impairment
- Support for people who are blind, DeafBlind or who have a severe visual impairment.

Please note: the correct link for the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind (RNZFB) updates is <http://www.rnzfb.org.nz/about/news-and-information/latest-news>.

Donating to quake recovery – advice from the Charities Commission

If you are asked to donate to help a disaster recovery, there are some simple steps you can take to make sure your donation gets to the people who need it. Most collectors are honest and genuine and will be pleased to answer your questions. If you are in any doubt about the validity of the collector, don't give.

The Charities Commission advice for donors: It's best to give to large, well-known charities – the Charities Commission suggest that you give your donations to the larger, well-established and well-known charities, who are accustomed to dealing with crisis recoveries, and equipped to deal with them. Well established aid agencies have better networks, infrastructure, expertise and systems in place to respond quickly to disasters.

Registered charities can be found on the [Charities Register](#) or you can donate to one of the collections launched to help relief and welfare.

The [Charities Commission](#) website can provide you with further information on:

- Where can we make donations to support those affected by the quake?
- What should we do if we are being asked to donate to the quake relief?
- What help and advice is available for those affected by the disaster?
- What donation scams should we be aware of?

Epilepsy New Zealand services in Christchurch

Epilepsy New Zealand advises that epilepsy services in the Canterbury/West Coast region have been interrupted due to the latest earthquake.

Should you have any concerns about your epilepsy and/or medication, please contact your local GP.

If you need to speak with an Epilepsy New Zealand Field Officer, please telephone 0800 20 21 22, or alternatively you can contact Epilepsy New Zealand via their website www.epilepsy.org.nz

Our thoughts are with everyone affected by or involved in the Christchurch earthquake.

Skylight - services for those facing tough times of change, loss, trauma and grief

As a registered New Zealand not for profit Trust, Skylight offers services to those facing tough times of change, loss, trauma and grief - whatever the cause, and whatever their age. Skylight especially wants to acknowledge the trauma, loss and distress caused by the huge earthquake and aftershocks in Canterbury.

The services information and services Skylight offer include:

- [LIVE: Earthquake Recovery Support](#)
- [Earthquake Crisis Phone Counselling](#)
- [Help with Post Traumatic Stress](#)
- [Factors That Can Help Build Up Resilience](#)

This site (www.skylight.org.nz) offers information, downloads, support resources and options, extensive links and hope and encouragement for those facing tough life situations - and for those caring for them.

FOR YOUR ACTION

Conferences and Events

Ride Out of the Blue, Bluff to Cape Reinga, March 2011

On Saturday 5 March 2011, riders and their support crews will begin their Ride Out of the Blue from Bluff to Cape Reinga.

Organised by Alison Blyth, a half Kiwi, half Aussie mother, lawyer and self-described wanna-be cyclist, the 27-day challenge will see participants cover over 2,300km to celebrate life, raise awareness around depression, and raise money for the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand.

There are a number of ways you can show your support for this inspiring event:

- [Join](#) the Ride Out of the Blue for a day or more
- Support a rider and make a donation via the [fundraise online page](#)
- Help your community [host an event](#).

To find out more please visit the [Ride Out of the Blue official website](#). You can also [donate directly](#) to the Mental Health Foundation.

Read Alison's [Ride Out Of The Blue blog](#).

Neighbours Day Aotearoa, 26-27 March 2011 – Turning streets into neighbourhoods

Knowing our neighbours can transform whole communities into healthy, fun and vibrant places to live.

Whether you live in a house, flat or apartment building or on a farm, virtually everyone has someone to call a next door neighbour.

Wherever you are, put **March 26-27, 2011** in your calendar as a time to celebrate and get to know your neighbours. One step of neighbourliness can make a difference to the place you live in.

Neighbours Day Aotearoa is about building caring communities for all New Zealanders, starting with those we live nearest to. Find out more and register your interest at www.neighboursday.org.nz.

Good Engagement Seminar: Collaborative Governance, Wellington, 29 March 2011

The Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (OCVS) invites community organisations, government agencies and interested individuals to attend a free seminar on:

Collaborative Governance: Learnings from Overseas and New Zealand Experience

When complex, long term policy problems need tackling, traditional forms of decision-making often seem to freeze up. Collaborative governance has emerged as a promising approach. Stakeholders representing different interests and values come together in deliberative processes to seek a consensus on the way ahead.

This seminar will provide insights into – and an opportunity to discuss – the circumstances and process factors that can enable collaborative governance to deliver worthwhile results.

Tuesday 29 March 2011

**Ministry of Social Development Auditorium,
Level 3, Bowen State Building, Bowen St,
Wellington.**

Refreshments: 1.30pm

Presentation time: 1.45–4.15pm

Presented by: Guy Salmon, Alastair Bisley, Glen Lauder

- Guy has led comparative studies of environmental governance in New Zealand and Nordic countries highlighting the potential of collaborative governance.
- Alastair chaired the Land and Water Forum, which recently adapted this approach to address a major policy issue.
- Glen Lauder, who has facilitated many collaborative processes and was an adviser to the Land and Water Forum process, will facilitate discussion.

RSVP: Space is limited, so reserve a place by email: ocvs@dia.govt.nz or phone: 04 494 5710 by 24 March 2011.

Results Based Accountability 101 Workshop – 13 April (Auckland) and 19 April (Wellington)

Development Action will be running the monitoring and evaluation workshop Results Based Accountability 101 (RBA) in April 2011 which will be of interest to community sector organisations.

Trainer: Sharon Shae (Shea Pita and Associates)

Venue: Mercy Spirituality Centre (Auckland) and School of Public Health (Wellington)

Price: \$195 for not-for-profit organisations, \$395 for public sector (includes GST, lunch and tea).

International and domestic NGOs need to demonstrate how their work has resulted in positive social and economic change. However, issues like poverty and social exclusion are complex. It can be difficult to pinpoint where your work has contributed to change. RBA addresses that issue by providing a framework to show how your work has contributed to change.

Organisations receiving funding through MSD FACS will find this workshop particularly useful, as will FACS employees who need to brush up on RBA's key concepts.

What participants will learn and do:

- How to establish results and indicators of the well-being of children, families, adults and communities and how to use results to drive decision making and budgeting. This part of the workshop is most useful to those in community partnerships trying to get from talk to action on quality of life conditions for children, adults, families and the community as a whole.
- How to establish performance measures for programmes and agencies and how to use performance measures to improve performance. This part of the workshop is most useful for programme managers, agency heads and those in oversight roles trying to improve performance or establish a performance accountability system.
- How to address the linkage between programme accountability and cross-community accountability, and presents options for advancing both tracks of work back home.

To find out more, download an [information sheet](#) and [booking form](#) from the Development Action homepage (www.developmentaction.co.nz). Places are limited and interest is high for this workshop, so we encourage you to book early. Contact Lee Sentes (lee@developmentaction.co.nz) with any questions.

Victory Village Forum - Nelson, 27-29 April 2011

New Zealand's inaugural conference about family centred, community-led development, the Victory Village Forum is a national event about local development. The forum will be held in Nelson from **27 to 29 April 2011**, in conjunction with Victory Village, [NZ's Community of the Year 2010](#).

Mark Brown and Kindra Douglas from Victory School & Community Centre, along with the Families Commission and *Inspiring Communities*, invite you to join them in Nelson for an extended national conversation and dialogue, bringing together a group of innovative school and community leaders and practitioners, and representatives from local government, central government, support agencies, service providers, philanthropic organisations and NGOs.

Have you registered to attend the Victory Village Forum? 6 weeks to go!

Click here to view the programme and register www.confer.co.nz/VictoryForum

Experience Victory's approach - school based, family centred, community-led development. Deepen your understanding of new ways of working, and plan together for further success and tangible progress. Connect with cutting edge examples of community-led development with strong inter-agency relationships.

Streams topics:

- Schools
- Local Government
- Young People/Rangatahi
- Early Childhood & Young Parents
- Environment
- Hapu/Whanau
- Health and Wellbeing
- Recreation/Culture/Arts

Workshop topics:

- Evaluation, reporting
- What we're learning about Community Led Development
- Economic Development & Enterprise
- Working between sectors
- Lived Experience
- Applied Research Examples
- Ways of Connecting: Tamaki Inclusive Engagement
- Funding Sustainability

'Raising the bar' National Volunteering Conference May 2011 – Early-bird registrations open

The 'Raising the bar' National Volunteering Conference will be held in Wellington on 23 and 24 May 2011. This two day conference, hosted by Volunteering NZ, will reflect a significant year for the volunteering world. 2011 will be marked internationally as the *International Year of the Volunteer Plus 10* to reflect on what has been achieved in the decade since 2001 and what needs to happen to raise the bar for volunteering into the future.

2011 will also see the largest single event volunteer programme take place in New Zealand for the Rugby World Cup. So episodic and event volunteering will be one focus for Conference 2011. Equally importantly it offers the opportunity to review progress and consider next steps in the advancement in the management of volunteer programmes.

Through keynote presentations, short papers, workshops, posters and networking, participants will explore and celebrate the diversity of episodic volunteering and find pathways to advance the profession of volunteer management in New Zealand. This is an invitation to contribute to the Conference.

There will be two main themes in the programme. Both aim to Raise the Bar.

- Episodic and Events Volunteering: The diversity, opportunities and challenges
- Developing the Leaders: The next steps to advance the Management of Volunteers
- Building Volunteering Infrastructure: Factors for quality volunteer programmes.

The **Episodic and Events Volunteering** stream aims to:

- Celebrate the diversity of episodic volunteering
- Share experiences of grasping the opportunities and challenges
- Raise the bar to maximise the impacts and legacies of episodic and event volunteering.

The **Developing the Leaders** stream aims to draw on the experience of people from all professions relative to volunteer leadership from within and outside New Zealand to:

- Affirm the leadership and ability already existing in the New Zealand
- Find the best pathways to advance the profession of managers of volunteers.

Early-bird registrations are now open and must be received on or before 31 March 2011. Visit the Volunteer NZ [registration page](#) for more details.

Agencies for Nutrition Action National Nutrition and Physical Activity Conference, 3 & 4 May 2011
The Agencies for Nutrition Action National Nutrition and Physical Activity Conference will be held on **3 and 4 May 2011 at Rendezvous Hotel in Auckland.**

The theme for the conference is: Rethinking our Future (*Titiro ki muri kia whakatika a mua: Look to the past to proceed into the future*).

Over the last decade the public health nutrition and physical activity sector has undergone major transformations. Yet promoting healthy eating and activity at the population level has remained a challenge. The need to demonstrate objectively, that public health approaches are evidence informed, successful and cost effective in reducing the burden of poor nutrition and sedentary behaviour, is greater than ever before.

Our conference will provide an opportunity to reflect our strengths and weaknesses over the last decade and propose how we plan to make a difference in the future.

Registrations are open now. Visit www.ana.org.nz/conference11/ for more information.

Development Action courses for community sector organisations, March to May 2011

Development Action will be running the following workshops from March to May 2011 which may be of interest to community sector organisations.

Taking stock of your monitoring and evaluation

March 21 (Auckland) and 22 (Wellington)

Trainer: Ann Braun (Independent Contractor)

Critically assess your current monitoring and evaluation practice. Find out how to put all that information to good use during planning, and to show that your work is contributing to positive change.

Capturing Outcomes: Results Based Accountability 101

April 13 (Auckland) and 19 (Wellington)

Trainer: Sharon Shae (Shae Pita and Associates)

Specifically designed to give people a basic level of training so that they can implement RBA as an outcomes-focused evaluation tool within their own organisation. RBA is the methodology of choice for key funders like Family and Community Services.

Maximising Participation: What about sexuality?

May 25 (Auckland) and 31 (Wellington)

Trainer: Simon Harger-Forde (NZAF)

Sexuality often goes into the "too hard basket" for both domestic and international development NGOs. However, any project or service designed to encourage participation needs to take sexuality into account if it is to reach everyone in a community. Find out how to improve community projects and service delivery outcomes.

Visit www.developmentaction.co.nz to make a booking or email Lee Sentes (lee@developmentaction.co.nz) to make a query.

Australasian Retreat for Advanced Volunteer Management, Wellington 25 – 27 May 2011

The Australasian Retreat for Advanced Volunteer Management is an annual educational and professional development opportunity for volunteer program managers who feel they are past the 'basics' of their profession and are seeking new challenges.

The 2011 Retreat will be held in New Zealand for the first time in partnership with [Volunteering New Zealand](#), and is dovetailing with the [New Zealand National Volunteering Conference](#).

The Retreat will be held from **25 to 27 May 2011 at the Mercure Hotel, The Terrace in Wellington**. The theme is "Raising the Bar Higher". The [2011 brochure](#) is now available detailing all relevant information for the Retreat.

Click on the following link to [apply for the 2011 retreat](#).

New Zealand Home Health Association Conference, 3 - 5 August 2011, Wellington

The New Zealand Home Health Association (NZHHA) will be holding their annual conference from 3 to 5 August 2011 in Wellington, with this year's theme being "Fronting Up"

NZHHA are planning a stimulating and challenging conference, focused on challenges ahead, current and future trends in home-based, disability and community care, local and international thinking, models and innovation.

Conference sessions will include:

- Re-ablement
- Integrated and shared care models
- Nursing clinical oversight
- Disability leadership
- Chronic condition management
- Quality assurance – measuring outcomes.

The programme will be of particular interest to providers of health and disability services including home-based support providers, primary health care providers, health and education sector staff in central government and District Health Boards, political representatives, academics and thinkers, service and product providers. The Hon Tony Ryall, Minister of Health, will open the conference and host a pre-dinner function in the Parliamentary legislative chamber.

Registrations open on 1 March 2011. For more information go to www.nzhha.org.nz/conference.

Sands national biennial conference, November 2011 – call for abstracts by 31 March 2011

Sands have been operating in Wanganui since the late '80's. Formerly Stillbirth and Newborn Death Support, they now known just as Sands and offer FREE support and practical help to all bereaved parents, family and whanau suffering the loss of a child, no matter the age, gestation or cause of death.

In the 25th year of Sands presence in New Zealand, and their eighth biennial conference, they are inviting parents, sands volunteers, health and caring professionals, community leaders, educators and anyone interested in pregnancy, baby loss or grief, to submit abstracts for their November 2011 conference.

The theme is 'Let's talk about it', encourages presenters to delve into areas that may be overlooked, and new perspective, as well as exploring areas that encourage dialogue among parents and professionals, creating a greater understanding of the impact on families around the tragic loss of a baby. Closing date *31st March 2011*, email Catherine Bronnimann at contact@sandswanganui.com.

New Zealand's Biggest Ever Health & Disability Expo, 2 & 3 December 2011

The Auckland Disability Providers Network (ADPN) have requested expressions of interest from any person or organisation wishing to be kept informed about the progress of the Health & Disability Expo being planned for 2011 in Auckland. Once planning is further down the track ADPN will be communicating only with people or organisations who have registered to receive updates. Registration is important because they do not want to be sending information to people who are not interested.

From time to time ADPN may also send surveys to people who have expressed interest in the Expo, asking their opinions. This is to ensure everyone's needs are met when they host **New Zealand's Biggest Ever Health & Disability Expo**. The event will be held 2nd and 3rd December 2011 – International Day of the Disabled, at ASB Events Centre, Greenlane, Auckland.

To register send an email to pam@adpn.org.nz, noting in the subject line "Expo interest", and provide the following details:

- Name
- Organisation Name
- Phone number
- Email address
- Type of business (service provider, product, information etc.)
- Any other information you feel is relevant.

Click on the following link to view the [ADPN Expo Bulletin No.1 ver3](#) for the latest update on the Expo.

Requests for Submissions and Feedback

Office for Disability Issues – Funding round opens for community projects, January 2011

The first funding round is now open for community projects in New Zealand to improve attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people.

The Making a Difference Fund is part of the Campaign to Improve Attitudes and Behaviour towards Disabled People. The fund will give priority to projects that are collaborative, have support from across the community and have a well-thought-out plan to effect local change.

The funding description and application are available on the Office for Disability Issues website at <http://www.odi.govt.nz/what-we-do/improving-attitudes-and-behaviours/index.html>

Hauora Māori Scholarships (HMS) 2011: Apply online from 28 Feb 2011 till noon on 8 April 2011

The purpose of the Hauora Māori Scholarships (HMS) is to provide financial assistance to students who are studying an NZQA accredited course in health and disability studies, in order to build Māori workforce capacity in the sector.

The scholarships are open to any person who:

- Is enrolled and attending a University, Polytechnic, Wananga or College of Education
- Is studying a health related, NZQA accredited course
- Can demonstrate a commitment to and/or competence in, Māori health and well-being studies
- Has whakapapa and/or cultural links with te ao Māori or Māori communities.

You are not eligible if you are:

- A Ministry of Health or District Health Board employee.

Applicants may:

- Apply only once each year, and under only one category
- Apply online from 28 February 2011 till 12 noon Friday 8 April 2011

Please note that the Ministry will not be responsible for any original certificates or transcripts. Only copies of certificates or transcripts will be accepted.

To check if you're eligible and further information for applicants, [please read the guidelines for applicants](#).

For further information go to: www.maorihealth.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexma/hauora-maori-scholarships.

National Services funded by the National Health Board, feedback due 8 April 2011

Your feedback is requested on new [service specifications for national services](#) to be funded and planned by the National Health Board from 1 July 2011. These draft service specifications describe the nationwide minimum level of service to be provided by District Health Boards (DHBs) and will be used to specify the service purchased by the National Health Board.

The new services specifications requiring feedback are:

- Clinical Genetics Services tier two
- Paediatric and Adult Metabolic Services tier two
- Paediatric and Perinatal Pathology Services tier two
- Paediatric and Congenital Cardiac Services tier two.

Instructions: Please peer review these service specifications to answer the following questions:

- Do they clearly define the minimum requirements for each of the services?
- Is the terminology used correct and easily understood?
- Are there any omissions?
- Is there any other comment you wish to make?

Send your feedback to nsfl@moh.govt.nz and reference the service specification and the sections that you are providing feedback on, include your name, role, contact details and organisation. Your feedback will be considered to use to complete the service specifications before they are submitted as final for approval, ready for use by DHBs for the 1st July 2011. **Feedback is due by 8 April 2011.**

National Library of New Zealand seeks volunteer testers to help develop their new website

Would you like to help develop a website that provides access to New Zealand's history and heritage in pictures and documents?

The National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa is recruiting a group of people from all walks of life as potential user testers.

If you are in the pool you may be invited to spend up to an hour using the prototype website to look for items that interest you. While you do that the friendly usability specialist will watch what you're doing and listen to you explaining your approach. The National Library wants their site to support the ways that people find it easiest to use. The test results will be used to change and improve the way the site works.

To say thanks for helping with the test you'll get a \$40 book or petrol voucher.

If you're interested please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KQKYBBG> and let the National Library team know a bit more about you. This is so they can make sure they test with people from a range of ages, places and backgrounds. The National Library is interested in all forms of access - Te Reo, Sign, Screen Reader and magnifier. This information will not be used for any purpose other than selecting user testers for the National Library of New Zealand web applications.

Please feel free to pass this on to your own online and personal networks.

NGO INFORMATION

Access Tourism New Zealand – News & Updates March 2011

The Access Tourism New Zealand website is about tourism and travel for people with disabilities (PwDs), seniors, and ageing Baby Boomers. Articles cover topics such as Access Tourism developments internationally, the importance of the ageing market, the cruise industry, ICT, and why NZ and the world must develop reputable Access Tourism products.

The latest articles posted include:

- London government backs launch of new website which allows visitors with disabilities to plan accessible visits to London
- Training tour guides to serve people with Hearing Loss in Tasmania.

Go to www.accesstourismnz.org.nz for the latest news about Access Tourism in New Zealand, Asia-Pacific, and the world.

Careerforce eChat – March 2011

Items in this month's [eChat](#) issue include:

- Careerforce open for business
- Qualification development progress
- More flexible Core Competencies and Foundations on the way
- Nine support skills CD-ROM
- 2011 Good Assessment Workshops
- External Moderation for education providers
- Finding a mobile assessor
- Training grants available
- Careerforce first ITO to reach milestone.

CommunityNet Aotearoa – February 2011 community development monthly newsletter

For the latest community organisation news, job vacancies, events, training and resources check out this month's newsletter [PANUI Issue #103 - February 2011](#).

Community Sector Taskforce – latest weekly updates

For updates on what's happening in Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector. [Te Harakeke - Week ending 11 March 2011](#).

Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand - latest information bulletin

A free weekly newsletter by email to people interested in new resources and research in the mental health and community development fields. Click [here](#) to subscribe. Or to view the latest bulletins:

[Mental Health Foundation 11 March 2011 - Easy access to earthquake information](#)

[Mental Health Foundation 18 March 2011 - Hang on to hope](#)

New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS) – latest Policy Watch update

Items of interest in the [latest NZCCSS Policy Watch](#) newsletters include:

- Christchurch Earthquake - the strongest must carry the bulk of the burden
- Welfare numbers down by 10,000
- Welfare reform policies without aroha are lousy policies
- Older people benefit from new technology
- Petition against bilingual education cuts
- Family Violence Lenten resource.

People First – Total Solutions – E-News for the Not-For-Profit Sector, March 2011

This month, People First considers the topics of bullying and volunteers, dealing with policies and procedures, and emergency readiness. To read the latest newsletter, go to [People First - Total Solutions March 2011](#).

MINISTRY OF HEALTH INFORMATION

Ministry of Health media releases

www.moh.govt.nz/media.

Ministry of Health begins transition to new corporate website on 21 March 2011

On 21 March the Ministry of Health will have a new corporate website that will hold some content that was previously on the site www.moh.govt.nz. A link to the new website will be available on the current website. During 2011 the Ministry of Health will be moving the remainder of our web content to the new site. Thank you for your patience during this transition.

Health Improvement and Innovation Resource Centre – March 2011 Update: Productive Ward

This month the health Improvement and Innovation Resource Centre (HIIRC) update is focused on Productive Ward. The highlights in the March 2011 HIIRC include:

- **HIIRC-Your Source for Information on the Productive Ward Programme**
The Ward section of the HIIRC website contains the latest New Zealand and overseas news and information on the Productive Ward programme. The section also includes literature abstracts of New Zealand and international research, and is your place to share your successes and lessons learned from this important initiative. **Click [HERE](#) to see what you are missing!**
- **Implementation of Releasing Time to Care: Productive Ward in New Zealand**
Front line clinical care is all about the patients - but paperwork and processes mean ward staff sometimes end up spending less time with patients than they would like. The Ministry of Health's 'Releasing Time to Care: Productive Ward' programme is changing that. **Read about the programme [HERE](#).**
Click [HERE](#) to find out how it is being implemented in DHBs around New Zealand.
- **HIIRC Profile: Dr Elizabeth Morrow (UK)**
For the first time, the HIIRC Update profiles a researcher from overseas. Dr Elizabeth Morrow is a Research Fellow at the National Nursing Research Unit (NNRU), King's College London. The NNRU is a multidisciplinary national centre for nursing research in England under the directorship of Dr Jill Maben. It receives funding from the Department of Health's Policy Research Programme to undertake policy-focused research about nursing and other related disciplines. In 2010, Elizabeth was the lead researcher on a study for the NHS, to inform efforts to maintain momentum of the Productive Ward Programme in the UK.

Click [HERE](#) to read more about Elizabeth and her current research.
Click [HERE](#) for a list of reports and further information about the Productive Ward programme in the UK.
- **Bay of Plenty embraces Releasing Time to Care: The Productive Ward Programme**
In September 2008, registered nurse Lisa Skeet-Smith, from the Bay of Plenty District Health Board joined a Ministry of Health-sponsored trip to the UK to complete a master trainer's course on a National Health System (NHS) initiative called Releasing Time to Care: The Productive Ward.

Click [HERE](#) to read more about the implementation of Bay of Plenty DHB's Productive Ward Programme.
- **Hawke's Bay DHB joins Releasing Time to Care: The Productive Ward Programme**
Hawke's Bay District Health Board is the latest DHB to join the 'Releasing Time to Care: Productive Ward' programme that is proving so successful elsewhere. The RTC programme was launched at the DHB in February, with the surgical orthopaedic ward and the respiratory, renal, medical ward chosen as the showcase wards for implementation.

Click [HERE](#) to read more about the implementation of Hawkes Bay DHB's Productive Ward Programme.

OTHER INFORMATION

Minister and Associate Ministers of Health media releases

Hon Tony Ryall - www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/tony+ryall?type=release

Hon Jonathan Coleman - www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/jonathan+coleman

Hon Peter Dunne - www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/peter+dunne

Hon Tariana Turia - www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/tariana+turia

Sharing the knowledge on speeding up Emergency Departments, 17 March 2011

A new Ministry of Health booklet on the Emergency Department (ED) health target will help inform hospital teams on ideas to achieve shorter waiting times for ED patients.

While visiting Waikato DHB's new ED this afternoon, Health Minister Tony Ryall said, "The booklet provides insights into the different ways that EDs around the country have improved their performance. It's part of "sharing the knowledge" about how to improve services for patients.

The health target is that 95 per cent of patients are admitted, discharged or transferred from ED within six hours.

"When the government came to office, it wasn't unusual for patients to languish for days on trolleys in EDs.

"The ED is the barometer of how a whole hospital is working. For the ED to work efficiently, different parts of a hospital have to function cohesively. For example, it means there's a bed available in a ward if a patient needs admitting, and that radiology demands are being managed so people aren't waiting too long for x-rays.

EDs will manage their issues in different ways, and this showcases some of the innovative approaches that have been successful. These include:

- A Rapid Round initiative at Auckland
- Hawke's Bay's CEO Daily Dashboard that identifies problem areas and a fix
- Working with health professionals outside the hospital system in Canterbury and South Canterbury
- Capital and Coast noting a particular group of patients were often the ones waiting longest in the ED
- A new minor injuries clinic at Hutt
- Counties-Manukau's successful all-of-staff approach.

"The target is all about getting better services and quality of care for patients, and emergency departments are seeing more patients, more quickly, Mr Ryall said.

A copy of the booklet is available online at <http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/targeting-emergencies>

Dunne: First step taken on new suicide reporting guidelines, 15 March 2011

Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne today convened a roundtable meeting of media, mental health professional and researchers as a first step in coming up with new guidelines for media reporting of suicides. The meeting, originally set for last month but delayed because of the Christchurch earthquake, resolved to form a Working Group to report back by the end of April with an initial draft of recommendations and potential revised guidelines.

"We will then peer review the work done and look to widen the consultation, particularly involving those impacted by suicide. We will want their views and feedback," Mr Dunne said.

The Prime Minister's chief science adviser, Sir Peter Gluckman and Chief Coroner, Judge Neil MacLean, who were unable to attend today, will be briefed and brought into the process, he said.

"It is my aim to have new guidelines in place later this year. This is an important opportunity to really improve the understanding and handling of suicide in our public forums, and we do not want to just swap one set of words for another," Mr Dunne said.

“What was notable was the extent to which both media and clinicians generally agreed on the outcomes we are looking to achieve, and how to get there,” he said.

Last year, Prime Minister John Key directed the Ministerial Committee on Suicide Prevention to consider whether the current controls around suicide reporting in the media were appropriate following comments by the Chief Coroner.

The Committee reported to the Prime Minister that the media guidelines had not been reviewed since first published in 1999 and that there would be benefit in undertaking a review.

The Ministerial Committee on Suicide Prevention report to the Prime Minister is at <http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/suicideprevention-committee#mcspreport>

Help lines

Depression helpline (0800 111 757)

Youthline (0800 376 633)

Lifeline (0800 543 354)

Samaritans (0800 726 666)

Websites

A website for young people dealing with depression is at www.thelowdown.co.nz, which includes advice and support from young New Zealand celebrities who have experienced depression.

A new depression self-management programme presented by John Kirwan is available at www.depression.org.nz.

Government response to tobacco enquiry tabled, 14 March 2011

The government’s full response to the recommendations of the Maori Affairs Committee Report, following an inquiry into the tobacco industry and the effects of tobacco use among Maori, was tabled in parliament today.

“This is a landmark moment in the history of New Zealand,” says Associate Health Minister Tariana Turia.

“It is about us asserting our own identity as a nation and defining for ourselves the role tobacco is allowed to play in the life of this country – this is not something we are just going to leave in the hands of the tobacco industry.”

The inquiry ran throughout 2010 with the Maori Affairs Select Committee receiving 260 submissions, 96 oral submissions and over 1700 letters throughout the process. This led to forty-two recommendations from the committee, which the government has responded to in full today.

“I congratulate the Maori Affairs Select Committee for the work it has done.

Today’s response signals a bold step forward as the government continues to accord priority to tobacco reduction and commits to the challenging goal of seeing Aotearoa become a nation that is essentially smokefree by 2025,” says Mrs Turia.

In its response the government has agreed to:

- The goal of supporting New Zealand to become a smoke-free nation by 2025
- Develop appropriate mid-term targets for reducing tobacco consumption and smoking rates towards achieving this goal.
- Consider legislative amendments concerning the promotion, packaging, and display of tobacco products through the Smoke-free Environments (Controls and Enforcement) Bill which is currently before the House.
- Review information disclosure regulations for tobacco products and consider implementing a more stringent regime regarding information about the additives in tobacco products.

- Investigate using existing regulatory powers to reduce the use of additives and nicotine levels, as a possible next step following the work on information disclosure.
- Investigate measures relating to the supply and availability of tobacco, once New Zealand has made more progress to reduce smoking rates.

“The government’s response looks to build on the existing programme of tobacco control initiatives already underway and the success that has been achieved.

“It’s about challenging ourselves to take the next step without losing the momentum that we’ve already created,” says Mrs Turia.

“I am absolutely committed to reducing tobacco related harms and the massive health inequalities that smoking brings,” says Mrs Turia.

“There is still so much to be done, but I’m more confident than ever that we can reach the goal of New Zealand being a nation free of tobacco.”

The Maori Affairs Select Committee’s report can be found at:

http://img.scoop.co.nz/media/pdfs/1011/DBSCH_SCR_4900_InquiryintothetobaccoindustryinAote.pdf

The full government response can be found at: [http://ourhouse.parliament.nz/en-](http://ourhouse.parliament.nz/en-NZ/PB/Presented/Papers/5/0/a/49DBHOH_PAP21175_1-Government-Final-Response-to-Report-of-the-M-ori.htm)

[NZ/PB/Presented/Papers/5/0/a/49DBHOH_PAP21175_1-Government-Final-Response-to-Report-of-the-M-ori.htm](http://ourhouse.parliament.nz/en-NZ/PB/Presented/Papers/5/0/a/49DBHOH_PAP21175_1-Government-Final-Response-to-Report-of-the-M-ori.htm)

Items of Interest

Changes to the laws on employment relations and holidays – Department of Labour

Changes to the Employment Relations Act 2000 and the Holidays Act 2003 were passed by Parliament in November 2010. The changes introduced a wide range of legislative amendments. It is important for employers and employees to be aware of the changes and how they affect them.

Most changes for both Acts will come into effect on **1 April 2011**. The changes coming into effect on other dates are:

- clarification of leave entitlements during a business close-down period has already come into force
- the requirement for employers to retain a signed copy of the employment agreement or the current signed terms and conditions of employment comes into effect on 1 July 2011.

This guide provides a summary of the major changes.

Changes to Employment Relations Act 2000 at a glance

The main changes to the law include:

- Changes to union access to workplaces
- Clarifying that employers may communicate with employees during collective bargaining
- Requiring employers to retain employment agreements
- Extending the trial period provision to all businesses
- Changes to the personal grievance provisions
- Measures to promote early problem resolution, mediation in disputes and changes in relation to the Employment Relations Authority and Employment Court
- Changes to Labour Inspectors' roles and powers
- Extending and increasing penalties.
- You can view the Employment Relations Amendment Act 2010 at www.legislation.govt.nz

Changes to the Holidays Act 2003 at a glance

The main changes to the law include:

- Changes to the calculation of payments for public holidays, alternative holidays, sick leave and bereavement leave
- Allowing employees to ask to cash up a maximum of one week of annual holidays
- Changes to transferring the observance of public holidays

- Changes to when employees can take alternative holidays
 - Requirements regarding requesting proof of sickness or injury
 - Clarification of entitlements during a closedown period
 - Other changes including penalties for non-compliance and definitions of payments and allowances.
- You can view the Holidays Amendment Act 2010 at www.legislation.govt.nz

Department of Labour advice

As well as this guide to the law changes, a number of information resources, such as printed and electronic fact sheets and FAQs and the online tools, are being updated to reflect the changes. To receive updates when new information is available subscribe at www.dol.govt.nz/subscribe.

Sex, Intimacy and Spinal Cord Injury Website

The www.sexsci.me website has been developed by the Auckland Spinal Rehabilitation Unit as a place for consumers, partners and health practitioners to discuss and learn from each other about sex, intimacy and spinal cord injury. The Auckland Spinal Rehabilitation Unit will also be presenting articles on the website written by specialists in their fields, on subjects of interest to the community. The target audience is Australasia.

The website was developed out of a recognised need that consumers and their partners do not always feel comfortable discussing this topic with health practitioners and also that frequently health practitioners do not have the answers.

The intention of the website is therefore a weaving of health practitioners, partners and consumers knowledge about this topic for the benefit of us all.

Please pass on this information to any individuals or groups who may have an interest in the subject. Or post a link on your organisation's website. The forums are very carefully monitored to ensure that only appropriate content is discussed, and all the requests for registration are screened.

Important notice:

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministry of Health.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter, the Ministry of Health is not responsible for any omissions, inaccuracies or changes that may have taken place after publication.

Some items in this newsletter have been taken from the Rural Bulletin www.ruralwomen.org.nz/ruralbulletin.htm.

If you do not wish to receive the MoH-NGO email update any longer, please reply to ngo@moh.govt.nz with unsubscribe as the subject.
