



Health and Disability NGO email update for 6 April 2011

As the first snow flurries hit the country and daylight savings comes to an end, winter is definitely on its way! Now is the time to be prepared and minimise your chances of contracting the seasonal flu by getting immunised. This year's subsidised seasonal influenza immunisation programme runs until 31 July 2011, and the vaccine is available from your doctor now.

The following groups **are eligible for free seasonal influenza vaccination**, due to a high risk of developing complications if they were to get pandemic influenza.

People who meet any of the following criteria:

- are [pregnant](#)
- are aged 65 years or over
- have cardiovascular disease (ischaemic heart disease, congestive heart failure, rheumatic heart disease, congenital heart disease and cerebrovascular disease)
- have chronic respiratory disease (asthma if on regular preventive therapy; other chronic respiratory disease with impaired lung function)
- have diabetes
- have chronic renal disease
- have any cancer, excluding basal and squamous skin cancers if not invasive
- have other conditions (autoimmune disease, immune suppression, HIV, transplant recipients, neuromuscular and central nervous system disease, haemoglobinopathies, children on long term aspirin).

Additionally the following groups, while **not eligible for free influenza vaccination**, may potentially be at increased risk of complications if they were to get pandemic influenza, and should discuss vaccination with their GP or health provider:

- young children (particularly Māori and Pacific)
- morbidly obese persons.

For further information go to the Ministry of Health website: [Influenza 2011](#).

Health leaders are particularly encouraging Cantabrians to get vaccinated against the flu to stay strong through this winter period. Damage from the September 4 and February 22 earthquakes has changed a lot of Cantabrian's living conditions which could make them more vulnerable to catching the flu. To further protect their community against avoidable illnesses, the Canterbury District Health Board has announced free flu vaccinations will be available this flu season for all **Canterbury residents aged under 18 years**. For further information about this, go to the [Canterbury DHB](#) website.

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&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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FOR YOUR ACTION

Conferences and Events

Careerforce Roadshows: Changes to funding for Industry Training Organisations, 7 – 14 April 2011

During April 2011, Careerforce are holding a series of Roadshows throughout New Zealand.

Recently the Tertiary Education Commission made changes to the way training through Industry Training Organisations is funded. These changes will have an impact on the way your organisation and your trainees will access training. The Roadshows will explain the changes and the implications and give you a chance to ask questions.

The Roadshows will be an approx 2.5 hour workshop to discuss training agreements, trainee activity and completion requirements, eligibility rule changes, reporting, the revised Foundation Skills and Core Competency qualifications and literacy assistance.

The Roadshows will run from 7 April 2011 to 14 April 2011 at the following locations with venues and times to be confirmed in your email invite :

7 April 2011	Christchurch
11 April 2011	Auckland
11 April 2011	Gisborne
11 April 2011	Nelson
12 April 2011	Hamilton
12 April 2011	Whangarei
12 April 2011	Hawkes Bay
12 April 2011	Blenheim
13 April 2011	Tauranga
13 April 2011	New Plymouth
13 April 2011	Wellington
13 April 2011	Invercargill
14 April 2011	Rotorua
14 April 2011	Palmerston North
14 April 2011	Hutt Valley
14 April 2011	Dunedin

For more information please contact Andrew Saunders, Field Team Manager on 0800 277 486 or andrew.saunders@careerforce.org.nz.

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.

Community sector workshop - Maximising Participation: What about sexuality? 25 & 31 May

Development Action will be running the following workshop during May 2011 which may be of interest to community sector organisations.

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.

Public Health Law and Public Health Ethics, University of Otago, distance based, July 2011

The distance based paper **PUBX 710 Public Health Law and Public Health Ethics** is offered by the University of Otago Department of Public Health (Wellington) paper and will begin on 10 July 2011. This paper will equip participants with an understanding of the framework, scope and content of public health law in New Zealand, and the impact of international law. The paper will also analyse concepts of public health ethics and apply them to particular public health topics.

Students will analyse the scope and content of core public health law in New Zealand; discuss ethical issues in international law, and its impact on public health law; and assess and comment constructively on existing public health law in New Zealand and proposals for new law. Areas of public health law that are covered include law relating to: communicable disease, screening, immunisation, environmental health, tobacco, illegal drugs, alcohol, food and radiation.

The paper will run in the second semester of 2011. The paper is distance based, with two block courses at the Wellington campus, each of two days. The paper begins on 10 July (a Sunday).

No examination: internal assessment.

Who will be interested in this paper?

This paper will be valuable for health workers, public health practitioners, policy staff in government agencies (central and local) and non-government organisation, as well as those lawyers keen on extending their skills in the health sector.

Access to a computer will be required to enable access to Blackboard (through the web). Blackboard participation will not be 'real-time'.

For more information: contact Louise Delany who will be coordinating the paper, Louise.Delany@otago.ac.nz

Health of the Health Professional Conference – Auckland, 3-5 November 2011

This major international event, being held in Auckland from 3-5 November 2011, focuses on bringing together employers, staff and unions across the health and caring professions to raise awareness and advance the state of knowledge about issues that affect the health of health workers. The conference is being jointly hosted by the Goodfellow Unit at The University of Auckland, and the Australasian Doctors' Health Network.

Participation is invited from doctors, specialists, nurses, medical students, allied health professionals, researchers, health sector employers, unions and government officials. The 3 day conference programme includes professional streams with plenty of opportunities for networking and shared insights. More information is available at [www. www.hohp.org.nz](http://www.hohp.org.nz).

Keynote speakers include: Prof Neill Piland - *The Economic Impact of Ill Health in the Healthcare Workforce*; Dr Lester Levy - *Dysfunctional workplaces*; Prof Erica Franks – *Why should we be healthy?*

Conference themes include: Building resilience, coping strategies, re-energising using holistic approaches; caring for your colleagues; practical advice on career transitions and flexible ways of working.

Call for abstracts now open - For more information about abstract submission please refer to the Conference website - <http://www.hohp.org.nz/call-for-abstracts>

Key dates:

1st May 2011 – online registrations open
31st May 2011 – abstract submissions close
1st September 2011 – early bird registrations close.

Sands national biennial conference, November 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 for abstracts *31st March 2011*, email Catherine Bronnimann at contact@sandswanganui.com.

The Big Event™ Health & Disability Expo, 2 & 3 December 2011

The Big Event™ World of Possibilities, Disabilities, Healthy Aging and Independent Living Expo is coming to Auckland this year, and will be held on 2 and 3 December 2011 at ASB Expo Centre, Greenlane.

The Expo will provide an opportunity for you to enhance your knowledge and to explore the latest and greatest products, services, technology and resources that include: Assistive and Adaptive Devices

- Durable Medical Equipment
- Computer Software
- Instructional Materials
- Mobility Products
- Adaptive Learning Tools
- Disability Law Resources
- Recreation/Travel Resources
- Adapted Bikes/Adapted Exercise Equipment
- Personal Care Products
- Communication Devices
- Products for the Visually Impaired and/or Deaf or Hard of Hearing Individuals
- Local Agencies and Support Groups
- Product Demonstrations
- Strolling Entertainers/Raffles and Giveaways
- Personal Care Ambassadors
- Free Parking
- Free Entry.

This will be an incredible educational experience, a great networking opportunity and most of all FUN, FUN and more FUN.

For information how you or your group or business can be involved, email us at adpnexpo@gmail.com

Sponsorship opportunities exist but are filling fast. Limited commercial space is available.

Bookings for Exhibitors open on April 1st, 2011. Email requesting a layout plan and rate sheet.

All community enterprise exhibitors will be required to attend a 2 hour ADPN Forum covering how to make your exhibition at an Expo of this type work for your organisation.

Requests for Submissions and Feedback

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.

University survey of people with mild to total hearing loss and their tourism experiences & needs

Do you or someone you know have a hearing loss, whether minor or total? Then Auckland University of Technology (AUT) would like to learn about your tourism experiences and what you as a person with hearing impairment want in the way of tourism, travel and hospitality products and services. AUT will use the feedback you provide to inform the tourism industry about the needs of people who are hard-of-hearing. Whatever country you live in, please help by taking a survey that can be found at: <http://www.tourismandhearingsurvey.co.nz/>

Your input will be gratefully appreciated and will help to improve access not only in tourism, but in other walks of life. This is the first such survey of its kind. Your input is anonymous and your answers cannot be traced back to you. Please pass on the link to the survey if you know of anyone else with a hearing loss who may be interested in completing the survey.

Mental Health Foundation website update – complete short survey and provide feedback

It's time to give the [Mental Health Foundation](#) website a Spring clean - well, an Autumn one – and they're looking to you for your opinions about what you like, and what you may not like so much, on the website. They also want to hear about any new ideas that you think would improve what they offer you online. To do this, please fill in their **quick online survey**. In doing so you are eligible to go into a draw to win \$100 worth of MTA petrol vouchers.

New Zealand Winston Churchill Memorial Trust – Fellowship applications due by 31 July 2011

Community and Voluntary Sector Minister Tariana Turia is inviting New Zealanders wishing to undertake research overseas to apply for a fellowship from the New Zealand Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

“Churchill Fellowships enable New Zealanders to benefit their communities by undertaking research overseas and bringing that international knowledge back home,” says Mrs Turia. “I am particularly keen to see more Maori and Pasifika people apply.”

Fellows are granted up to 80 per cent of their travel costs and can spend between three weeks and three months overseas. The average grant is between \$5000 and \$7000.

Fellows approved during the 2010/11 financial year are conducting research in the fields of education, social welfare, health, conservation, technology and the arts, including:

- **Mason Tolerton**, who will research the ‘Raven Aboriginal Youth Employment Programme’ in Canada and its relevance to Māori youth in New Zealand.
- **Rodney Bell**, who will investigate a range of youth programmes in the United Kingdom and the United States, aimed at reducing the numbers of young people becoming victims or offenders of crime.
- **Rachel Teulon**, who will travel to the United Kingdom to research paediatric palliative care for children with life limiting illnesses in order to identify ways to improve outcomes for them and their families.

Applications close on 31 July 2011. Successful applicants will be announced in December 2011. To obtain an application form, or to learn more about the Trust, visit the Department of Internal Affairs’ website via the following link: [New Zealand Winston Churchill Memorial Trust](#) or phone 0800 824 824.

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:

- Singapore wants to lead in developing accessible environments
- Use of IT increasing amongst older age groups, including in travel.

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 #104 - March 2011](#).

Community Sector Taskforce – latest weekly updates

For updates on what's happening in Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector.

[Te Harakeke - Week ending 25 March 2011](#).

[Te Harakeke - Week ending 1 April 2011](#).

IHC New Zealand – Hot Issues March 2011

The latest [IHC Hot Issues](#) newsletter from IHC New Zealand includes articles about:

- Reducing long-term benefit dependency – what this means for people with intellectual disabilities who need life-long support
- What the Welfare Working Group wants
- Key themes for reducing long-term welfare dependency
- What the Welfare Working Group offers disabled people
- Replacement for the Invalid's Benefit for people with intellectual disabilities
- Work expectations for people who are sick or disabled
- Support for disabled people with permanent exemptions from work obligations
- People caring for disabled children and adults
- Young disabled people to be included in education, training and work
- Health and disability services to support the new welfare system
- Promoting responsive workplaces
- Broadening the debate.

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 25 March 2011- Changing with the seasons.](#)

[Mental Health Foundation - 4 April 2011](#)

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

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

- Need community inspiration?
- How to spend \$1 million in Canterbury
- Wealthy protected from paying for Canterbury
- Poor unprotected from vagaries of welfare reform
- Welfare reform may be discriminatory
- But is 'It's Not OK' not ok.

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](#).

Volunteering New Zealand (VNZ) – March 2011 Update

Volunteering New Zealand's update newsletter will keep you informed of the events and issues concerning volunteering. Click here to view their latest update: [VNZ March 2011](#).

MINISTRY OF HEALTH INFORMATION

Ministry of Health media releases

www.moh.govt.nz/media.

National Health Board (NHB) eNewsletter – March 2011

- [From the Chair](#)
- [From the Director's Desk](#)
- ['Fantastic' health sector response to quake](#)
- [Success Story: ADHB supports Canterbury cases](#)
- [Disability Support Services helping the vulnerable](#)
- [Managing chaos: The CDHB communications perspective](#)
- [NHCC coordinates health sector response](#)
- [Health Workforce: Health workers making a difference](#)
- [IT Health Board: InterRAI assists transfers.](#)

Ministry of Health new corporate website launched

The Ministry of Health has a new corporate website – www.health.govt.nz – that holds some content that was previously on the site www.moh.govt.nz. A link to the new website is 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. Once you have checked out the new website [take our survey](#) to tell us what you think or [go to our feedback page](#).

Uia Tonutia - Māori Disability Research Agenda, online publication, April 2011

The Māori Disability Research Agenda aims to support research on Māori living with disability and their whānau/family.

It has three objectives:

- Building quality evidence.
- Capability development.
- Transfer of knowledge.

Research priorities are identified to contribute to the achievement of whānau ora, more effective service delivery, and improved health and disability outcomes for Māori. [Read more...](#)

The New Zealand Health Survey – information for participants

The New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS) collects information on a wide range of topics covering health behaviours and risk factors, health conditions, health status and health service use. Data are collected face-to-face via trained interviewers in the participants' homes. Best-practice survey techniques are employed throughout the survey and numerous steps taken to ensure that the data collected are as high quality and robust as possible.

In the past, the NZHS was repeated at regular intervals to monitor people's health, measure access to health services and to help develop health policies, programmes and services that better meet the needs of New Zealanders. The NZHS was conducted in 1992/93, 1996/97, 2002/03 and 2006/07.

From April 2011, the NZHS and the various surveys that were part of the wider survey programme [eg, Adult and Child Nutrition Surveys, Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Use Surveys, Te Rau Hinengaro (the New Zealand Mental Health Survey) and the Oral Health Survey] have been integrated into a single survey, which will be in continuous operation.

The [New Zealand Health Survey objectives and topic areas paper](#) explains the rationale for moving to an integrated continuous survey. It also contains more information about the objectives and content of the NZHS.

Information for participants: [Been invited to take part? Learn more here.](#)

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

Dunne welcomes trans-Tasman pharmaceutical alliance, 31 March 2011

Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne has welcomed the signing of the strategic alliance by the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

"The alliance will strengthen the professions of both countries and provide opportunities for greater leadership within the four areas it intends to focus on – policy, workforce planning, events and products," Mr Dunne said.

"The signing of this alliance is a fantastic step for pharmacy in New Zealand and Australia and I expect that the knowledge gained through this will further develop the profession.

"I congratulate both parties on undertaking such a positive initiative". Mr Dunne said. The alliance was signed yesterday.

Dunne signals R18 ban on synthetic cannabinoid substances, 30 March 2011

Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne today delivered a strong warning to anyone selling synthetic cannabinoid substances that the Government is going to tighten up on their products, including making it illegal to sell them to those under 18.

He said a number of controls are to be placed around products containing synthetic substances producing similar effects to cannabis.

"The Expert Advisory Committee on Drugs (EACD) says it is unacceptable for products containing these substances to be widely available without controls placed on their packaging, marketing and sale, and I fully agree," Mr Dunne said.

The committee has recommended restricting all synthetic substances with cannabinomimetic effects under the Misuse of Drugs Amendment Act 2005. [Read more...](#)

Voluntary Bonding scheme adds mental health and aged care, 28 March 2011

Nurse graduates wanting to join the Government's voluntary bonding scheme will get priority if they choose to work in mental health or aged care. Health Minister Tony Ryall says "The two new hard to staff specialties will encourage more nurse graduates to work in the community, and will have priority over the existing hard to staff specialties; cardiothoracic, intensive care, theatre and surgical."

This year four new communities have been added to midwifery hard to staff areas – Hawkes Bay, Hutt Valley, Taranaki and Waitemata. Northland Wairarapa, Counties Manukau, Whanganui, Taupo, South Canterbury, West Coast and Southland remain hard to staff areas.

All nursing graduates wanting to join the scheme will now be required to complete appropriate entry to practice training which may include Nursing Entry to Practice, Nursing Entry to Specialist Practice – Mental Health and Addiction and Employer-run programmes.

All midwives joining the scheme will be required to complete the Midwifery First Year of Practice programme.

There has been no change to hard to staff specialties and areas for graduate doctors. This year, for the first time, the maximum intake will be adhered to. [Read more...](#)

Research on why parents don't fully immunise kids, 24 March 2011

Government-commissioned research into why parents and caregivers don't complete pre-school immunisations shows that, in most cases, these people aren't opposed to immunisation. Health Minister, Tony Ryall was discussing the research and launching a new immunisation booklet at the Newtown Medical Centre today.

"We have already achieved record levels of immunisation for two year olds, with just over 88 per cent completing the schedule." "The target by the middle of next year is 95 per cent, and we wanted to find out from parents and caregivers what we need to do to help achieve this."

Researchers found that in most cases, people aren't opposed to immunisation, but circumstances get in the way. For example, if the child is ill when a vaccination is due, the appointment may be skipped. Transport can be an issue particularly if the weather is not good, and some caregivers don't believe their children are at risk because they don't see the diseases in the community. [Read more...](#)

Restrictions on advertising to children extended, 24 March 2011

Health Minister Tony Ryall and Broadcasting Minister Jonathan Coleman have congratulated New Zealand broadcasters for voluntarily extending the restrictions on advertising to children.

Mr Ryall says, "The updated booklet, Getting it Right For Children, confirms restrictions on when ads for children can be screened, and includes restrictions on advertising children's foods."

Dr Coleman says, "The total restricted and advertising free zones per week across the three major free to air broadcasters, will double to 101 hours and 30 minutes a week since the classification system was introduced in 2008."

The Ministers say this is a good example of organisations voluntarily taking responsibility for the impacts they may have influencing young people. The organisation representing free-to-air TV broadcasters is ThinkTV. Chief Executive Rick Friesen says "Children are very important to all of us and free to air broadcasters consider it a welcome obligation to provide these low and no advertising zones for them."

A copy of the new booklet, Getting it right for children, is available from <http://www.thinktv.co.nz/thinktv/standards-and-regulations/children-an-tv/>

Items of Interest

Panacea Travel – new online website for people who have a mobility impairment

A new, not for profit, online New Zealand travel website www.panaceatravelability.com has been launched which caters to people who have a mobility impairment.

The website provides comprehensive travel information for people who have mobility restrictions. People can plan and book a complete holiday in New Zealand, including accommodation, activities to do and transport options, and know that these services meet their mobility requirements. Plus it caters for family and friends traveling as well.

Panacea Healthcare feel strongly that everyone should have the opportunity to experience the magic of New Zealand safely and conveniently, which is why they've created www.panaceatravelability.com - to help people get out and about, and experience our beautiful country!

With www.panaceatravelability.com you can:

- Create an itinerary and book your complete holiday— book accommodation, activities and transport, all from one website
- Enjoy the flexibility of traveling your way— you choose where to stay, what to see and how to get there
- Feel confident that the website contains reliable and useful travel information - the information is collated by one of NZ's leading tour operators who has undertaken site visits and regular surveys of the service providers. It is also contributed to by disabled travelers.

Panacea Healthcare has underwritten the cost of establishing and operating the website. Their intention is that once they have covered their costs, any earnings from the website will be returned through sponsorship into the disabled community.

Tips for protecting yourself during flu season – Influenza 2011

With Flu Season fast approaching here are some tips to protect yourself, and others:

[Get immunised](#) - Influenza immunisations are now available, including protection against H1N1 swine flu.

[Know if you are high risk](#) - Some people, including [pregnant women](#) are at higher risk of developing complications if they were to get influenza.

[Know the symptoms](#) - Stay at home until essentially well, that is not sneezing and coughing as this is how the virus spreads.

[Seek medical advice](#) - Promptly if you are concerned or if your condition worsens. Consult your GP or call Healthline on **0800 611 116**.

[Wash and dry your hands](#) - Reduce your chance of getting the flu, and stop its spread to others.

[Know how to care for yourself and others](#) - Including looking after children and babies. Rest,

rehydration and reducing fever are especially important.

Be prepared - Have a plan, get food and medical supplies, be prepared to care for yourself at home.

For further information go to the [Influenza 2011 Frequently asked questions](#) page on the Ministry of Health website.

Christchurch Earthquake Information

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".

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.

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.
