



## Health and Disability NGO email update for September 2011

Greetings,

The NGO Desk's latest update includes information about Ministry of Health and NGO activities, a wide range of up and coming conference and event information and other items 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](mailto:ngo@moh.govt.nz) and I will be happy to include relevant items.

Kind regards,

Joan Mirkin  
NGO Relationship Manager  
Ministry of Health

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

Christchurch earthquakes - The latest information can be found on the Ministry of Health website: [earthquake](#).

Influenza 2011 - The latest updates can be found on the Ministry of Health website: [influenza](#).

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## Contents:

### Ministry of Health Information

- Page 4 [Ministry of Health media releases](#)
- Page 4 [Ministry of Health structure and business units](#)
- Page 4 [Disability News](#)
- Page 4 [National Health Board News](#)
- Page 5 [Health Workforce New Zealand News](#)
- Page 5 [New Ministry Publications](#)
  - [Report into cervical screening programme](#)
  - [Whanau Ora: Transforming our futures](#)
  - [Tatou Kura Tangata: Health of Older Maori Chart Book 2011 - summary charts](#)
  - [Advance Care Planning: A guide for the NZ health care workforce](#)
  - [Mortality and Demographic Data 2008](#)
  - [Health Indicators for New Zealanders with Intellectual Disability](#)

### Other Government Agencies

- Page 5 [Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector](#)
- Page 6 [Ministry of Social Development](#)
- Page 6 [Office for Disability Issues](#)
- Page 6 [Families Commission](#)
- Page 6 [Human Rights Commission](#)

### Media Releases: Minister and Associate Ministers of Health

#### Minister Ryall

- Page 7 [Cabinet approves sleepovers agreement](#)
- Page 7 [Diabetes Get Checked programme review](#)
- Page 7 [Extra funding boosts Rheumatic fever prevention programme](#)
- Page 7 [Technology to improve patient safety in primary care](#)
- Page 7 [Comprehensive clinical assessments coming for rest homes](#)
- Page 8 [Napier hospital site sold- new mental health unit announced](#)
- Page 8 [People with disabilities to have more control](#)
- Page 8 [New members for National Health Committee](#)

#### Minister Coleman

- Page 8 [Natural Health Products legislation tabled](#)
- Page 8 [Opening of Otago University's Centre of Performance Measurement and Management and Centre for Health Systems](#)
- Page 8 [John Kirwin's journal fights depression](#)

#### Minister Dunne

- Page 9 [Next Government will overhaul Misues of Drugs Act](#)
- Page 9 [Opening Address to NZ Suicide Prevention Information National Conference](#)
- Page 9 [Address to NZ Drug Foundation Symposium on Addiction Treatment Issues](#)
- Page 9 [Suicide figures highlight importance of updated plan](#)

#### Minister Parata

- Page 9 [Getting public servants closer to the front line](#)

## **NGO Information**

- Page 9 [Community Sector Taskforce](#)
- Page 9 [New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services - Policy Watch](#)
- Page 10 [Not-For-Profit News](#)
- Page 10 [Volunteering NZ](#)
- Page 10 [Mental Health Foundation of NZ newsletter](#)
- Page 10 [IHC Hot Issues](#)

## **Requests for Submissions**

- Page 10 [Government Green Paper on Vulnerable Children](#)
- Page 10 [Rules for Incorporated Societies](#)

## **Funding, Fellowship, Award Opportunities**

- Page 10 [The Funding Information Service](#)
- Page 10 [Te Puni Kokiri funding](#)
- Page 11 [Expressions of interest to visit Japan](#)
- Page 11 [Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year Awards 2012](#)

## **Training, Education and Conferences**

- Page 11 [CommunityNet Aotearoa](#)
- Page 11 [Careerforce](#)
- Page 11 [Working together workshops](#)
- Page 11 [Partnering for Results](#)
- Page 11 [Believing in Better](#)
- Page 12 [Call for papers: NZ's first international conference on individualised funding and self directed services](#)
- Page 12 [Creating Transformative Change in Practice and Organisations Workshop](#)
- Page 12 [Easy Evaluation](#)
- Page 12 [Legal seminars for community groups](#)
- Page 12 [Te Pou Development Newsletter](#)
- Page 12 [Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conference](#)
- Page 12 [Managing Volunteers Online Course](#)
- Page 12 [Every Body In - inaugural conference on Disability Studies](#)
- Page 13 [Advocacy Training](#)
- Page 13 [Health of the Health Professional Conference](#)
- Page 13 [The Big Event Health and Disability Expo](#)
- Page 13 [Waikato Health and Disability Expo](#)

# MINISTRY OF HEALTH INFORMATION

## Ministry of Health media releases

For the latest media releases from the Ministry of Health go to [www.moh.govt.nz/media](http://www.moh.govt.nz/media). Of particular interest this month is the appointment of a new Director of Mental Health, Dr John Crawshaw who starts in November. The Director not only fulfils several key statutory functions, he is also the Government's principal advisor on Mental Health.

## The Ministry's structure and business units

For more information about the Ministry's structure and business units go to [Ministry business units](#).

## Disability News

News on disability issues can be found in the Ministry's [disability news newsletters](#). The August newsletter covers:

- the first ever world report on disability which suggests that more than a billion people in the world today experience disability. The report gives a picture of the lives of people with disabilities, their needs and unmet needs, and the barriers they face to participating fully in their societies
- invitations to provider forums in November
- the opening of the new National Youth Forensic Service at Porirua Hospital in July. This is a 6 bed facility for young people (10-17 years) with intellectual disabilities who have committed serious offences and are subject to secure compulsory care orders under the IDCC&R Act 2003.

## National Health Board News

See [NHB news](#) for the August newsletter. It includes information on:

- the disability support services vision - NHB chair, Dr Murray Horn outlines the move from traditional models of service delivery to one where disabled people have more choice and control over the support services they receive
- NHB reports on Southern DHB issues – National Director, Chai Chuah outlines the reports on Dunedin Hospital and on health services for the Wakatipu basin
- support costs for the disability sector - Marion Guy, NHB Board member discusses combining disability support services across regions as a way of making sure the cost for such services is more sustainable
- an example of outcomes-based contracting between Whanganui DHB and Maori providers
- an update on DHB Annual Plans and the 2012/12 planning packages
- an update on improvement in the time that patients spend in emergency departments (one of the health targets)
- Cervical Screening Awareness month
- infection prevention and control as part of an emergency response
- early implementation of a home care initiative in Christchurch
- Health Workforce New Zealand (also see below)
- the National Health IT Board's new ebooklet "Towards Better Access to Information about our Health". The booklet also includes information about consumer experiences.

To join the NHB mailing list please email [enquiries@nationalhealthboard.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries@nationalhealthboard.govt.nz)

## Health Workforce New Zealand News

See [Health Workforce Stakeholder Bulletin](#) for the August update. It includes information on:

- the 24 August stakeholder forum where decision-makers from the health sector came together to discuss the strategic, cultural and policy changes needed in professional education, training, recruitment and deployment to ensure a sustainable NZ health workforce (two members of the NGO Working Group attended the forum)
- workforce service reviews
- a new shared learning area on their website for workforce innovations
- primary care practice assistants
- regional training hubs
- development of a strategy on skills and simulation based education

## New Ministry publications (since the last email update)

*Report of the Parliamentary Review Committee regarding the NZ Cervical Screening Programme* which concludes that the programme has “realized success by improved participation rates and of disease related to cancer of the cervix”. For more information go to [Committee report](#).

*Whanau Ora: Transforming our futures* which looks at some of the work being carried out in communities and includes examples of how Whanau Ora, even in these early days, is helping to transform lives. For more information go to [transforming our futures](#).

*Tatou Kura Tangata: Health of Older Maori Chart Book 2011 – summary posters*. These posters present key indicators from the chart book relating to health status, demographics and socioeconomic factors to give a snapshot of the health of older Maori. For more information go to [posters](#).

*Advance Care Planning: A guide for the NZ health care workforce* was prepared as a response to an increasing sector focus on the need for clear and accurate information and guidance regarding Advance Care Planning in the NZ context. The guide can be found [here](#).

*Mortality and Demographic Data 2008* is a statistical publication that collates and analyses information on the underlying causes of all deaths in NZ. The commentary summarises key facts, mortality rates, trends and major causes of death by age group, ethnicity and sex. [More](#).

*Health Indicators for New Zealanders with Intellectual Disability* presents a selection of health status and health care utilisation indicators for New Zealanders with and without intellectual disability. The report shows that New Zealanders with intellectual disability had poorer health and seem to be more at risk of illness, disease and death than those without intellectual disability. The report looks at what the findings mean, how to use the information and what is already being done. [More](#).

## OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

### Office for the Community and Voluntary sector

[The Kia Tūtahi Standing Together Relationship Accord](#) is an important symbol of commitment between the communities of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Government of New Zealand to build strong relationships. The Prime Minister and the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector signed the Accord at a ceremony at Parliament on 1 August 2011. Forty representatives from the community and government agencies in Wellington attended the

ceremony. At the ceremony, 29 people from communities signed the Accord and 11 officials endorsed it. Now it's your opportunity to sign, either at [regional events](#) or [online](#). You can sign as an individual or (if mandated to do so) on behalf of an organisation. View the [Accord](#) here.

### **Ministry of Social Development**

*“Strategic Planning Framework to support individual recovery and community wellbeing, and build community resilience following the 2010 Canterbury and 2011 Christchurch earthquakes”* is designed to assist those responsible for planning the psychosocial response to the earthquakes in Canterbury and Christchurch City. It provides information, advice and guidance on the key factors which need to be considered when developing a psychosocial recovery plan. Read it [here](#)

### **Office for Disability Issues**

Read the latest news from the Office for Disability Issues and related disability matters at [ODI - what's happening](#).

### **Families Commission**

A new on-line resource for separated dads designed to help them stay in touch and have healthy relationships with their families and children for is now available at [diyfather](#).

### **Human Rights Commission**

Paul Gibson has been appointed as the first Commissioner with formal responsibility for disability rights. Click [here](#) for more.

The Commission has begun a major inquiry into equal employment opportunity issues in the aged care sector. The Inquiry will focus on eight specific areas, including the regulatory frameworks in the aged care sector and their impact on equal employment opportunities, recruitment and retention, training and qualifications, work conditions, low pay, parity and pay equity, the role of men as carers and migrant workers. Following engagement with the aged care sector, the Commission will consider whether it needs to recommend changes to legislation, policies and codes of practice and whether equal employment opportunities in the aged care sector would be improved by clear and agreed benchmarks. For more information go to [inquiry](#)

## **MINISTERS' MEDIA RELEASES**

### **Media Releases and speeches**

Hon Tony Ryall - [www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/tony+ryall?type=release](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/tony+ryall?type=release)

Hon Tariana Turia - [www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/tariana+turia](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/tariana+turia)

Hon Jonathan Coleman - [www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/jonathan+coleman](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/jonathan+coleman)

Hon Peter Dunne - [www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/peter+dunne](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/peter+dunne)

Hon Hekia Parata - [www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/hekia-parata](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/minister/hekia-parata)

A summary of key releases and speeches is below (for more information click on the links above):

## Hon Tony Ryall

### **Cabinet approves sleepovers agreement (12 September)**

The Government will contribute \$90 million towards phasing in the minimum wage for disability support workers on overnight sleepover shifts. The Government will also introduce legislation to Parliament to secure the agreement. Government will fund employers to pay 50% of the current minimum hourly wage to sleepover workers for sleepovers from 1 July 2011, and then 75% from 1 July 2012, then 100% from 1 July 2013. The Government will also contribute \$27.5 million for back pay which will be paid at 50% of the appropriate minimum wage for the period 1 July 2005 – 30 June 2011.

### **Diabetes Get Checked programme review (15 September)**

The Ministry of Health is to work with experts and Diabetes NZ to recommend new ways to support people with diabetes. Health Minister Tony Ryall has made the announcement following a review of the Diabetes Get Checked programme, which has concluded the programme is not making any appreciable improvement for people with diabetes.

### **Extra funding boosts 'Say Ahh' Rheumatic fever prevention programme (7 September 2011).**

School children at six Flaxmere schools will continue to have their throats swabbed whenever they get a sore throat as part of an extra \$12 million of government funding to combat rheumatic fever. The Hawkes Bay 'Say Ahh' programme is the first of eight newly funded services around the country which detect and prevent rheumatic fever. Health Minister Tony Ryall said that since the throat swab programme was launched last October there had been no notified cases of rheumatic fever from students who attended the participating Flaxmere schools.

### **Technology to improve patient safety in primary care (2 September 2011).**

Health Minister Tony Ryall is today launching a new electronic health record which will give doctors instant access to the medical history of new patients. Speaking to doctors at the Royal New Zealand College of GPs joint conference with General Practice New Zealand, Mr Ryall says, "The new GP2GP system will allow patients' GP records to be transferred electronically rather than faxed or posted in paper copy.

"We've all heard the stories about people changing doctors, and there is a delay in the transfer of their medical information or even worse, it gets lost. "This technology will put an end to that cumbersome manual transfer, and more importantly, it reduces the risk of patient's getting the wrong treatment or medication," says Mr Ryall.

### **Comprehensive clinical assessments coming for rest homes (29 August 2011).**

The Government has announced an \$11 million partnership with the country's rest homes to further improve rest home care. Health Minister Tony Ryall said new technology will be rolled out across rest homes to support regular, uniform, comprehensive clinical assessments of all residents. From the moment they first move into a rest home, every resident will be assessed across 22 key aspects of their health. And this comprehensive assessment will be repeated at least every six months.

The \$11 million public investment covers the international evaluation system produced by InterRAI, education and training and some hardware. Providers will contribute significant resources to freeing nurses for training and managing change to the new system. Because of the extensive training requirement, the programme will be rolled out in partnership with aged residential care facilities over the next three to four years. It is expected to be available to 90% of residents within three years.

**Napier hospital site sold – new mental health unit announced (25 August 2011).** Health Minister Tony Ryall says the old Napier Hospital site, on the market since 2006, has finally been sold. The proceeds will help Hawke's Bay District Health Board build a new mental health unit for the people of Hawke's Bay.

**'People with disabilities to have more control (23 August 2011).** Health Minister Tony Ryall has today launched a new initiative in Tauranga designed to improve the lives of people with disabilities. "Local Area Coordination" is being set up to help disabled people have more control over what support they get. Instead of telling disabled people what support they'll get, and from whom, our new approach offers people choice through an individual budget,' Mr Ryall says. "The disabled person gets to choose how their budget is spent. The initiative is part of the Government's new way of supporting disabled people. This approach gives people with disabilities more choice and control over the support they receive and the lives they lead".

'We're considering expanding the Individual Budget scheme to a wider range of services for disabled people. More will be able to choose how a budget allocated to them would be spent on things like respite care, community and carer support and home help rather than being allocated a set number of hours for those services.' The Government has allocated an extra \$130-million dollars over four years to Disability Support services in this year's Budget, with an extra \$32.5 million this financial year.

**New members for National Health Committee (11 August 2011).** Health Minister Tony Ryall has announced five new members of the National Health Committee. The committee advises the Minister of Health on health and disability issues, and is involved in the assessment of new diagnostic and treatment services. New members are: Craig Climo, the Chief Executive Officer of Waikato DHB; Ross Laidlaw, a retired lawyer and businessman from Wanaka; Sharon Mariu, a businesswoman and member of the Waikato DHB; Dr Mark O'Carroll, a respiratory physician from Auckland; and Alex Price, the Chief Executive of Fertility Associates. They join Auckland paediatric surgeon Mrs Anne Kolbe, who was appointed as Chair in April.

## **Jonathan Coleman**

**Natural Health Products legislation tabled (7 September 2011).** Legislation to ensure consumers can have confidence in the quality of natural health products is being tabled in Parliament today, says Associate Health Minister Jonathan Coleman. The Natural Health Products Bill is one of the shared policy initiatives agreed to by the National and Green Parties under a Memorandum of Understanding.

**Opening of Otago University's Centre of Performance Measurement and Management and Centre for Health Systems (1 September 2011).** In his opening address, the Minister talks about the Health Quality and Safety Commission, increases in government investment in health care announced in budget 2011, clinical leadership, the establishment of integrated family health centres, and growing the health workforce, information technology, regionalisation, health targets and DHB performance. Click [here](#) for his full speech.

**John Kirwan's journal fights depression (18 August 2011).** Figures released today show that almost 18,000 New Zealanders experiencing depression have registered to use The Journal – a user friendly online tool aimed at managing mild to moderate depression. The Journal is fronted by former All Black John Kirwan who acts as an online personal coach to help people through a six-week programme. It teaches techniques people can easily use in everyday life to help their own depression from social and physical activities to eating and sleeping well.

## Hon Peter Dunne

**Next Government will overhaul Misuse of Drugs Act (8 September 2011).** The near 40-year-old Misuse of Drugs Act will be overhauled and replaced and legislation developed to create a new regime for currently unregulated psychoactive substances, Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne said today in delivering the Government's official response to the Law Commission's report on the Act.

**Opening Address to New Zealand Suicide Prevention Information National Conference (7 September 2011).** You can read the Minister's opening address which focused on the conference theme "How do we talk about suicide" [here](#).

**Address to NZ Drug Foundation Symposium on Addiction Treatment Issues (30 August 2011).** You can read the Minister's speech [here](#). The speech canvasses the many dilemmas in addiction prevention and treatment and the benefits of a joint agency approach focusing on all three pillars of the National Drug Policy – limiting the availability, reducing demand, and problem limitation, including treatment.

**Suicide figures highlight importance of updated plan (26 August 2011).** Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne today said he was disappointed the suicide rate had not fallen and this again highlighted the need to be continually looking for better ways to address the issue. He said updating the Suicide Prevention Action Plan was a good chance to "take a step back and look at whether there are more things we could be doing, different things we should be doing and what we can do better".

## Hon Hekia Parata

**Getting public servants closer to the front line (2 September, 2011).** The Associate Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, Hekia Parata, today welcomed the release of Employer Supported Volunteering: A Guide for the New Zealand Public Service. "Employer supported volunteering has a number of benefits for society, for the agency, for the employee and for the community," Ms Parata says.

"For example it provides better connections between Government and the communities they serve and brings professional skills and knowledge into community organisations. It can help inform the development of Government policies and programmes, while increasing public servants' skill levels and understanding." She says volunteering also contributes to the economy and to an inclusive, well-functioning society.

The guide provides advice about the ten steps to setting up and running a successful employer supported volunteering programme and can be found [here](#).

## NGO INFORMATION

### Links to sources of NGO information:

**Community Sector Taskforce:** For jobs available in the NGO sector and updates on what's happening in Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector go to [Te Harakeke](#)

**New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS):** [Policy Watch](#) is a current awareness "e-letter" compiled fortnightly. It provides a tool for keeping track of emerging issues, policy developments and other relevant news snippets and links. In the latest version read about:

- the [NZ Children's Social Health Monitor](#) which has been updated
- the 9<sup>th</sup> Vulnerability Report released by NZCCSS which monitors the level of economic and social hardship experienced by New Zealanders based on information from government agencies and a range of community-based organizations.

**Not-For-Profit News:** For news, insight, and opportunities on all things non-profit check out the latest [Not-For-Profit News](#).

**Volunteering NZ:** For the latest news from Volunteering NZ, check out their website [here](#).

**Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand:** A free weekly newsletter to people interested in new resources and research in the mental health and community development fields. Click [here](#) to subscribe. Or [here](#) to view the latest bulletins.

**IHC:** For the latest news from IHC check out [Hot issues](#)

## REQUESTS FOR SUBMISSIONS

### **Government Green Paper on Vulnerable Children (submissions close 28 February 2012)**

A Government Green Paper has been produced on vulnerable children who have childhoods that make it unlikely they will thrive, belong, and achieve. The Green Paper has some ideas about what the Government could do to improve outcomes for vulnerable children. It aims to open up discussions about the issues and it is a chance for you to have your say. Submissions are due by 28 February 2012. Once all of the submissions have been received and analysed, a White Paper will be released outlining the Vulnerable Children's Action Plan which will be published in 2012. See [action plan](#).

### **Rules for Incorporated Societies (Submissions close on 30 September 2011)**

The Law Commission is consulting on the legal structure and rules of incorporated societies. Currently much of the not-for-profit sector in New Zealand is governed by the century old Incorporated Societies Act 1908 – an Act which the Law Commission argues is in need of major reform. The Commission is seeking feedback on a range of issues and options for reform raised in the paper “Reforming the Incorporated Societies Act 1908” including:

- whether all societies should, as a condition of incorporation, be subject to certain minimum governance rules that they cannot vary;
- whether a new Act ought to provide a code that makes the obligations of committee members clearer;
- how the Act should provide for the resolution of disputes between members and their societies;
- what rules societies ought to be required to have in their constitution, and the nature of those rules.

The paper is available [here](#). To make a submission go to [Make a submission](#).

## FUNDING, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

### **The Funding Information Service**

The Funding Information Service is a not-for-profit organisation collecting and distributing information about funding by way of three separate searchable computer databases, FundView, BreakOut and CorporateCitizens. See [funding information](#).

### **Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry of Māori Development)**

Information on funding available from The Puni Kōkiri can be found [here](#).

### **Expressions of interest to visit Japan.**

The Director General for Policies on Cohesive Society, Cabinet Office, Japan, invites young leaders in non-government organizations (NGOs) aged between 23 and 40 years to participate in the 2011/2012 Young Core Leaders of Civil Society Groups' Development Programme. Expressions of interest are invited for 13 young leaders, with a minimum of three years work experience in the areas of older people, youth or disability, from New Zealand to visit Japan for ten days in February 2012.

For more information about this programme, and application forms, email: [judy.small002@msd.govt.nz](mailto:judy.small002@msd.govt.nz) or [japan5@eoj.org.nz](mailto:japan5@eoj.org.nz). Applications close at 5 pm on 30 September 2011.

### **Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year Awards 2012**

Nominations are open to find extraordinary New Zealanders. Nominations close on Friday 14 October. Nomination forms are available online at [NZ awards](#).

## **TRAINING, EDUCATION, RESOURCES AND CONFERENCES**

### **CommunityNet Aotearoa**

CommunityNet Aotearoa has a useful website outlining [training opportunities](#). It also has useful "[how to](#)" guides for setting up and running community organisations and projects.

### **Careerforce**

- The Minister of Tertiary Education, Hon Steven Joyce has announced the merger of Social Services ITO and Careerforce, transferring coverage of the social services industry to Careerforce. The merger follows intensive consultation and provides opportunities for unified and integrated qualifications and workplace learning across the sectors.
- Careerforce iPortal has been launched. It allows employers and assessors to see information on their trainees, enter their results, and communicate easily with Careerforce. For more information, and to register, email [info@careerforce.org.nz](mailto:info@careerforce.org.nz)
- To view the latest news from careerforce, go to [e-Chat](#)

### **Working together workshops (12 August – 27 October)**

Workshops being held around the country. The workshops are a partnership between Child, Youth and Family and Child Matters (formerly known as CPS), a well recognised child protection training organisation. For more information go to [workshops](#)

### **Partnering for Results (Auckland 2/3 November)**

Trish Hall of Thought Partners is running two workshops and mentoring sessions of interest to individuals or groups who are considering collaborative options. The Working Together More Fund is subsidising this workshop and mentoring sessions for community groups and NGOs who meet their criteria. [For more information](#).

### **Believing in Better (Dunedin, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20 November)**

This two-day introductory workshop explores options and thinking around how to attain better lives for people with disabilities. Topics discussed include: what is a good life; individualised funding; friendships, relationships and circles of support; how to use your NASC; and wills, trusts and estates. [More information](#).

**Call for papers: New Zealand's first international conference on Individualised Funding and Self Directed Services: The Opportunities, Challenges and Cautions (Hamilton 27-29 June 2012).**

This conference will explore what has been learnt about the implementation and contribution of Individualised Funding to the life opportunities of people with disabilities and their families both internationally and within New Zealand. Interested parties are invited to submit a brief proposal to be received not later than 16 December 2011. For more information go to:

**Creating Transformative Change in Practice and Organisations Workshop (Massey 31 October – 2 November).**

Te Aroha Noa Community Services and Massey University present 'Creating Transformative Change in Practice and Organisations'. A three day workshop which enables practitioners from diverse backgrounds and agencies to explore change processes when working with individuals, groups and families. It draws on strengths based and community development approaches. For more information click [here](#)

**Easy Evaluation (Auckland, 5-7 March)**

The SHORE and Whariki Research Centre is contracted by the Ministry of Health to provide evaluation training plus organisational and individual support for the public health workforce and community organisations with a public health focus (targeting communities, groups and environments rather than the delivery of personal health services). For more information go to [evaluation workshop](#).

**Legal Seminars for community groups (Wellington, September to October)**

The Wellington Community Law Centre [seminars](#) will run on four Monday evenings throughout September and October. The series is aimed primarily at board members and managers of NGOs, community organisations and charitable trusts, and includes the following seminars:

- Governance: Challenges in the Board Room
- Employment Law, Performance Management and Working with Volunteers
- Creating Constitutions and Good Structures
- Managing Risks: OHS and ACC; and Human Rights and Discrimination

**Development e-newsletter (Te Pou):**

To read the monthly e-newsletter and see what training and training grants are available go to [Disability Workforce Development](#).

**Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conference (Auckland 16/17 November)**

The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust New Zealand is hosting its second *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren National Conference*. The theme of the conference is *Growing Stronger Together*. The conference will be an opportunity to hear from experts in family law, mental and physical health professionals, welfare, parenting and education experts. For more information and for a registration form please visit the GRG website [www.grg.org.nz](http://www.grg.org.nz).

**Managing Volunteers Online Course**

Volunteering NZ has partnered with Xperts to provide the [Introduction to Managing Volunteers online course](#). It's proving popular, so if you're thinking of investing in some training for you or for your team, consider this in your training plans.

**Every Body In – an inaugural conference on Disability Studies – 27-30 November 2011, University of Otago, Dunedin**

An inaugural conference on Disability Studies is being planned. The theme is Every Body In. The aim of the conference is to provide a forum for people from diverse backgrounds and life

experiences to share their knowledge and research with others. [For more information on the conference](#)

### **Advocacy Training**

The Children's Commissioner offers a Child Rights Advocacy Training programme to communities throughout NZ. The programme is organised and facilitated by trained and experienced staff from the Office of the Children's Commissioner. The workshop discusses children's position in society and the need for advocacy. It promotes knowledge and interest in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCROC) and its use when advocating for a child. The overall intention is to share advocacy skills and to inform how they can be applied to your current work. The training is designed to be inclusive of the diverse range of people who undertake paid and unpaid work involving children and young people. For more information go to [advocacy training](#).

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

This conference is being jointly hosted by the Goodfellow Unit at The University of Auckland, and the Australasian Doctors' Health Network. 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. Early Bird registrations close on 1st September 2011. More information is available at [www.hohp.org.nz](http://www.hohp.org.nz).

### **The Big Event™ Health & Disability Expo, 9 & 10 March 2012 (Auckland)**

The Big Event™ World of Possibilities, Disabilities, Healthy Aging and Independent Living Expo will now be held on 9-10 March 2012 (delayed from 2 and 3 December 2011) at ASB Expo Centre, Greenlane. The Expo will provide an opportunity to enhance your knowledge and to explore the latest products, services, technology and resources. For information how you or your group or business can be involved, email [adpnexpo@gmail.com](mailto:adpnexpo@gmail.com).

### **Waikato Health and Disability Expo – 16-17 September 2011, Hamilton**

From its beginnings as a grassroots community initiative in 2003, The Waikato Health & Disability Expo has grown to become a successful annual event improving access to information and services, and raising awareness of health and disability issues. The event enjoys the support of like-minded organisations working for a healthier community including the Hamilton City Council and the Ministry of Social Development. [More here](#)

## **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](http://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](mailto:ngo@moh.govt.nz) with **unsubscribe** as the subject.