



HEALTH + DISABILITY NGO WORKING GROUP

Health and Disability Sector NGO-Ministry of Health Forum

Annual Report from the NGO Working Group

1 July, 2009 to 30 June, 2010

1. Background

In December 2001, the Government signed a *Statement of Government Intentions for an Improved Community-Government Relationship*. The Ministry of Health (MoH) and Health/Disability Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) entered into a relationship in order to put the Government's vision into practice. The relationship is outlined in a document called the *Framework for relations between the Ministry of Health and Health/Disability Non-Government Organisations*.

The Health and Disability Sector NGO-Ministry of Health Forum was set up in 2002 to honour the Ministry and NGO's commitment to work together. This is the annual report of the NGO Working Group (NGO WG), which carries out the executive function of the Forum.

2. A Changing Health Environment

To function well, the NGO WG needs to be responsive to the changing health environment. This has been highlighted in this reporting period with rapid change, and new policy direction from Government, impacting on health and disability NGOs. The developments below have informed the work of the NGO WG over the reporting period.

In January 2009, Health Minister Tony Ryall announced the formation of a Ministerial Review Group (MRG) to advise on improving the quality and performance of the public health system. The report of the MRG, *Meeting the Challenge: Enhancing Sustainability and the Patient Consumer Experience within the Current Legislative Framework for HDS in New Zealand* was released in July 2009.

In June 2009, the Associate Minister of Health, Tariana Turia, set up a group charged with finding a better way for the government to address the needs of Maori. The specific job of the group was to develop a policy framework for a new method of government interaction with Maori service providers to meet the social service needs of whanau. The group produced the report, *Whanau Ora: Report of the Taskforce on Whanau-Centred Initiatives*, in April 2010.

Better, Sooner, More Convenient Primary Health Care is the Government's initiative to deliver a more personalised primary health care system that provides services closer to home. Primary health care has a part to play in helping reduce acute demand pressure on hospitals by better managing chronic conditions and proactively supporting high need populations.

From the above, it is possible to identify some of the key themes which may impact on the health sector, including health and disability NGOs. The themes are:

- Localised, integrated care models with a shift of services to primary care leading to new models of care.
- Strengthening primary/community health and social care responses.
- Shifting resources to the front line and reducing bureaucracy and back office costs.
- Increased demand for collaboration between local services, between local, regional and national services and within the health profession.
- Self management and individual responsibility.
- Early intervention, prevention, screening.

3. NGO Working Group Members and Meeting Attendance

In the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 the NGO WG held six meetings.

Member	Sector Represented	Meetings eligible	Meeting attended
Jackie Edmond (Chair)	Personal Health	6	5
Joanne Hayes (Past Vice Chair)	Maori Health	6	4
Carole Ingleby-Maraku	Maori Health	6	3
Donna Matahaere-Atariki (Vice Chair)	Maori Health	4	3
Rachael Le Mesurier(Part term)	Public Health	6	5
Jo Fitzpatrick (Past Chair)	Public Health	6	4
Sharlene Tapa-Mosen	Maori Health	2	1
Eleni Mason	Pacific Health	4	4
Barb Long	Personal Health	6	5
Chris Harris	Disability Support	6	5
Lorraine Bailey	Disability Support	2	2
Adri Isbister	Disability Support	4	4
Karen Covell	Mental Health	2	2
Rob Warriner	Mental Health	4	3
Kath Fox	Mental Health	6	5

4. Elections November 2009

Elections were run in November 2009 with appointments as follows:

Disability Support – Adri Isbister

Maori Health – Donna Matahaere- Atariki

Mental Health – Rob Warriner

Pacific Health – Eleni Mason

Public Health – Jo Fitzpatrick

Personal Health – Barb Long

5. Relationships with Ministry of Health

In March 2009 the MoH and the NGO WG negotiated a new 'Letter of Agreement' which outlines the core functions of the group.

The NGO desk of the MoH is responsible for the regular communications to the sector via the newsletter, ongoing maintenance of the website, liaison between the NGO WG and the Minister, the Ministry and the sector. In March 2010, Marie Day was appointed NGO Relationship Manager replacing Caroline Speight who had previously worked on the NGO desk. In December 2009, Kelvin Moffat, currently Director (Acting), National Services Purchasing, National Health Board took over from Harvey Steffens at the April 2010 meeting. Kelvin and Marie have made a tremendous contribution to the work of the NGO WG.

6. WG NGO Forum 2009

The MoH- NGO forums are an important part of the relationship. The Forums are an opportunity to discuss key issues for the NGO sector and to share these with the Ministry and other stakeholders. The forums are also the opportunity for the NGO sector to set an "agenda" of work for the NGO Working Group (elected annually following the Forum).

The topic for the 2009 Forum was "NGO Challenges for Challenging Times". The purpose of the Forum was to provide a platform to consider the changing NGO/health environment and the challenges and opportunities the new environment presents. 165 registrations were received from across the sector.

Ministers Turia and Dunne and the Director General of Health, Stephen McKernan provided perspectives on the challenges and opportunities for NGOs in these "changing times". Sector delegates engaged in discussion on these presented perspectives.

Hugh Lawrence and Diana Suggate from the Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (OCVS) ran a workshop providing an opportunity for delegates to discuss the way forward in strengthening the community-government relationship. A paper has been prepared based on comments recorded at this workshop and this can be accessed on the NGO website.

Delegates also participated in workshops that focused on CORE (Crisis, Opportunity, Risk, Efficiencies) services at the frontline. The focus of these workshops was to identify the support needed to maximise the challenges and opportunities offered by changing times. It was envisioned that critical issues as well as solutions would emerge from this wider sector discussion.

Evaluations were received from 44 Forum attendees. All responses were very positive with an average rating of 8/10. Several suggestions for future forums were received and these included the following:

- Capacity building of NGOs
- Outcome Measurement
- Integrated Contracting
- Workforce Development
- Volunteer Management
- NGO Collaboration
- NGO sustainability

All participants valued the opportunity to network with the sector and Ministry of Health staff.

7. Summary of Activities

7.1 Key Representations and Meetings

Given the recent changes outlined at the beginning of this report, it has been important for the NGO WG to meet with the key players within the new health structure. In June 2010, The Chair and a number of WG representatives met with Murray Horn, who chaired the Ministerial Review Group, who produced the Meeting the Challenge (Horn Report) and Chai Chauh, National Director, National Health Board Business Unit, Ministry of Health. The NGO WG representatives discussed the issues including devolution and multiple audits. This was a very productive and positive meeting for the WG.

The following is the list of current representations:

- DHBNZ Future Workforce Group - Kath Fox
- Primary Care Information Management Reference Group - Helen MacKenzie
- National Services framework – Mental Health and Addictions - Carole Maraku

7.2 Workstreams

During the reporting period the NGO WG commissioned and published the following: *NGO Perspectives on the Re-organisation of the Planning and Funding Environment*. This paper is available on the group's website: <http://www.ngo.health.govt.nz/>

In February 2010 the NGO WG adopted four new work streams:

- Whanau Ora
- Shared Services
- The NGO Role

Members of the NGO WG formed project groups to oversee each work stream and to manage the work associated with them. It was decided that discussion papers would be commissioned for each area. Terms of Reference (TORs) were developed and consultants were appointed to complete the work. The papers are available at the Forum, and on the WG website, during November 2010.

7.3 NGO WG Meeting Invited Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topics
23 Sept 2009	Hugh Lawrence, Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (OCVS) in the Ministry of Social Development	Discussions around the relationship agreement between Government and the NGO sector in general.
4 Dec 2009	Geraldine Woods, Deputy Director General, Health and Disability National Services Directorate, National Health Board Business Unit, Ministry of Health	Provided an overview of the National Health Board Business Unit and talked through the role of health and disability NGOs.
4 Dec 2009 4 Feb 2010	Julian Inch, Chief Executive, District Health Board New Zealand (DHBNZ)	WG has an ongoing working relationship with DHBNZ.
8 Apr 2010	Chai Chuah, National Director, National Health Board Business Unit, Ministry of Health	Update on the National Health Board. Comment on progress in the sector.

7.4 Other Activities

- In September 2009 the Working Group submitted feedback to Health Minister Ryall on the Meeting the Challenge: the report of the Ministerial Review Group (the Horne Report).
- The WG updated their Terms of Reference (TOR) for the group towards the end of 2009. These will be circulated, for information, at the Forum in November 2010.

8. Conclusion

This has been a busy year for the Working Group who have endeavoured to ensure a productive and ongoing relationship between the Ministry and the Health and Disability NGOs. Thanks to members of the Working Group, who continue to give their time to the group on a voluntary basis, and to the Ministry staff for their ongoing work and commitment.

9. Financial Report

HEALTH & DISABILITY SECTOR NGO WORKING GROUP

SUMMARY OF NGO WORKING GROUP FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE PERIOD 01 JULY 2009 TO 30 JUNE 2010

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
<u>INCOME</u>		
MoH Grant	89,416.25	80,000
Interest Received	17.76	-
	<u>89,434.01</u>	<u>80,000</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Administration	-	5,000
Forum	7,782.22	12,000
Secretariat	22,747.50	20,000
Working Group Expenses	3,815.15	5,000
Working Group Travel	21,602.78	20,000
Projects	10,993.21	-
	<u>66,940.86</u>	<u>62,000</u>
<u>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>	<u>22,493.15</u>	<u>18,000</u>
Bank Call Account Balance	24,233.33	
Accruals subsequently paid	(1,740.18)	
	<u>22,493.15</u>	