



Number 4 - May 2009

Pre-Budget focus given to Social Services funding

On the morning of Wednesday 20 May the Minister of Social Development, Paula Bennett, made a pre-Budget announcement regarding the funding of social services.

While most media coverage was given to the details of the Community Response Fund we believe that the issue that NZCCSS members will find most compelling is what has happened to the Pathway to Partnership (P2P) full funding track.

In her speech Paula Bennett said, "I want to confirm that the Government will be maintaining the P2P funding for community and voluntary sector organisations – but we will be reshaping the model". This appears to be good news, and is more than many of us expected from the new Government given the recession.

The Community Response Fund is seen as "short-term, crisis funding ... not a permanent top-up". It is intended to provide for issues arising from the recession and gives time to the Government to work with the sector to "reshape" the P2P funding model.

NZCCSS will seek to be involved with this reshaping. Our aim will be to work to ensure that the full level of funding committed to the social services sector is made available to assist service providers support poor and vulnerable New Zealanders.

At a briefing given by Richard Wood, Deputy Chief Executive Family and Community Services at the Ministry of Social Development, it was explained that the Community Response Fund was the government's response to the impact of the global financial crisis.

In particular this acknowledged the massive drop in investment income that was affecting philanthropic grants and charitable trust funds, as well as the increase in demand arising out of unemployment and other stresses on families and communities.

The following details were announced regarding the Community Response Fund: Firstly, the Fund provides \$40 million for the first year and is expected to roll over into the second year; Secondly, organisations



Hon. Paula Bennett, Minister for Social Development and Employment, fronts up to news media after the launch of the Community Response Fund held in Auckland on 20 May 2009.

that are currently providing critical social services will be able to apply based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Funding normally received from philanthropic sources has not been received
- Income from larger organisations' own investment trusts which is normally spent on critical services is not available
- Significant increases in service demand as a result of the recession

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SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING (continued from page 1)

- The funding will be distributed in 3 tranches with the first tranche to be distributed around late July early August 2009
- The next tranches will be distributed 4 monthly thereafter
- Funding will be distributed to 12 regions dependent on population and need
- Each of these regions will have a distribution panel made up of CYF (Child Youth and Family), FACS (Family and Community Services), TPK (Te Puni Kokiri), where appropriate MPIA (Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs) and potentially local non-government representatives.

Richard Wood advised that he was unable to discuss any further detail as the implementation plan was with Cabinet for sign-off, and that this was not expected to occur before mid-June. There will be a number of regional fora to provide details on the fund and the application process.

Funding will be provided on the basis of a two page letter of grant and it is intended to keep the accountability requirements as low as possible.

The *NZ Herald* reported a number of other details, including funding would be distributed in blocks of \$50,000 with a maximum of \$100,000 per organisation in each funding period or “four-monthly tranche”. Six agencies with national contracts will not have to go through the regional panels. While awaiting on Cabinet approval Richard Wood was unable to comment on these details.

BACKGROUND TO ANNOUNCEMENT:

WORKING CONSTRUCTIVELY WITH GOVERNMENT

Late in March 2009, NZCCSS was pleasantly surprised to receive a letter from the Minister of Social Development, Paula Bennett, inviting us to participate at an “unprecedented level” in the Budget development process for the 2009/10 Budget. We were invited as part of a selection of ‘umbrella groups’ that represented a wide range of community and voluntary interests. The organisations involved were NZCCSS, Philanthropy New Zealand, Volunteering New Zealand, New Zealand Federation of Voluntary Welfare Organisations, NZ Council of Social Services and Te Kahui Atawhai O Te Motu.

At the first meeting Minister Paula Bennett invited the group to engage with her in developing a Budget bid that she could take to Cabinet that could be used to support the community and voluntary sector. At this meeting ground-rules were set that covered what aspects of our discussions would have Budget confidentiality and the rights of the members to publicly disagree with any aspects of the Budget once it was released. It was also made clear that we would give advice but that the Government would make the

final decisions. Over the subsequent meetings there was discussion on the need to “do things differently” and to demonstrate the “value for money” that was derived from the delivery of social services. Further discussion ranged from pressure points and issues arising as a result of the economic crisis to the value of collaboration and working together to provide a better response to community needs. The ability for people to volunteer when they became more “time rich” as a result of the economic downturn was a strong theme.

NZCCSS emphasised the need to fund existing services to meet increasing demand arising from the recession. In response to these discussions, the NGO group drew up a proposal for a Recession Response Programme that had three main aspects;

- A “community response” component that allowed communities to make a greater use of volunteer support, and to develop ways to promote working together.
- An “increasing need” component that recognised that, as a result of the recession, existing social services were going to face an increased demand and additional funds were required so that these needs were met.
- An “emergency response” component that allowed for emerging new needs, occurring due to the effects of the recession, to be addressed.

Ms Bennett was supportive of the general thrust and ideas proposed in this paper. With the announcement of the Community Response Fund we can see many of these ideas were used in the development of the Government’s response to funding social services during the recession.

On 20 May NZCCSS distributed a media release headed “Praise for Government Social Services Support”, which, in a statement by NZCCSS Vice President Ruby Duncan (who attended the Fund’s launch in Auckland) thanked the Minister for acknowledging the sector’s input over this time.

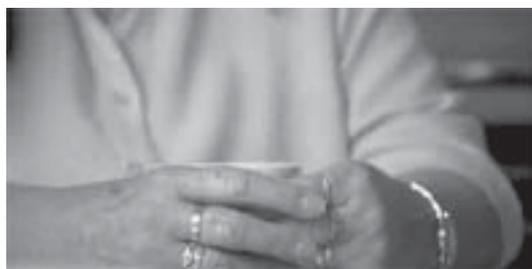
In the release NZCCSS President Shaun Robinson stated that NZCCSS is particularly pleased with the Minister’s commitment to engaging with the sector to develop a long term funding plan. “This plan will need to recognise long-term needs”, said Robinson. “These are not just driven by the recession but have been building over many years. We need to ensure that the sector has a solid sustainable funding path and we are very willing to work with the Minister to help develop a long term funding model”.

SEE ALSO: RECESSION DATA
MONITORING PROJECT - PAGES 4-5

**The next issue of Kete Kupu will feature:
A REPORT ON BUDGET 2009**

Support for Ageing in Place: Overcoming Isolation

by Paul Barber, NZCCS Policy Advisor



Our ageing population is creating a dynamic market for a whole range of new products and services specifically focused on the needs and wants of our seniors. For those with sufficient income to pay privately there is growing choice in the way that additional support needs can be met and a growing range of services being offered.

Home based support services

Publicly funded home based support is not means or asset tested (unlike aged residential care) and access to these services is through referral from a District Health Board needs assessment and coordination agency (NASC).

There is a marked culture change happening in the way such services are delivered, with changes to packages of care better fitted to the needs of the client, greater emphasis on restorative models of care and significant efforts to improve the training and employment conditions of the care workers.

Social isolation and befriending Services

Services to overcome social isolation among older people are also a growth area. As pointed out recently by visiting Australian academic Michael Fine, accompanying the growth in the number of people aged over 65 there is the trend for more of them to be living alone.

For those with little or no resources to pay, NZCCSS members provide a huge range of social support services funded mostly out of their own resources. Some befriending or accredited visiting services (e.g. from Aged Concern) receive funding through the Ministry of Social Development.

New ideas of ways to offer support continue to emerge and the Salvation Army recently launched a new volunteer based befriending service - the **Senior Services Friendship Programme**.

This service matches accredited volunteers with older people seeking some help and companionship. As well as regular visits the volunteers will be able to assist with arranging transport, help organize repairs and maintenance or even act as advocates for clients with government agencies. Integral to the service is access to chaplains who can also offer spiritual guidance or pastoral care.

Paying privately for companionship and non-medical support is another option for older people and their families to consider. For those able to pay privately, franchises such as the expanding **Home Instead Senior Care** can provide non-medical senior support services. These services may include assistance with light housekeeping, errands, trips to the doctor, reminders to take the right medication at the right time, meal preparation and shopping.

The result is companionship allowing seniors to feel safe and independent while they age in the home they've lived in for years.

Regulation and Standards

There are no compulsory standards in the community care sector. A voluntary standard exists for home based support services and the great majority of home support providers have chosen to be voluntarily compliant with this standard. NZCCSS and the NZ Home Health Association support moves to make this standard compulsory.



Given the rapid growth and change in the sector, there are real needs to be met and opportunities for new services to emerge.

Find out more about the new services mentioned in this article:

Friendship Programme

www.salvationarmy.org.nz/here-to-help/seniors/friendship-programme/

(Note: the images above are featured in videos available on this website page)

Home Instead

www.homeinstead.co.nz

NZCCSS would love to hear about more new services and innovative ideas from our member agencies, and to share those stories with our wider networks. Contact me by email: paul@nzccss.org.nz

BOOST FOR CARERS

According to media reports, it seems there will be additional funding in the 2009 Budget to support people who care for disabled or sick relatives at home. On 3 May, the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, Tariana Turia, said there will be \$1.3m in the first year. NZCCSS will report further on this in our Budget analysis in the next issue of *Kete Kupu*.

Project to Monitor Recession Data

by Anne Kelly, NZCCS Policy Advisor

NZCCSS is developing a project to gather data from a variety of sources to monitor the impact of the recession.

The aim of this project is to provide up-to-date snapshots of the potential social and economic impacts of the recession on vulnerable people.

These will be released on our website four times a year using the latest data available. We will use the updates in our advocacy discussions with officials and Members of Parliament.

Our intention is to put together an easy to read two page report focused on a number of key subject areas. In each subject area we will use a select number of data sources to track changes.

This data will be multi dimensional and will involve both government and non-governmental data – using information from our own members where possible.

The proposed subject areas are housing, poverty and children and families, including a focus on the impact of the recession on older people on fixed/low incomes.

To give you a taste of what the reports are likely to include I have provided a brief text outline.

Much of the data in the final version will be presented using graphs to capture trends over time, making it easier to understand at a glance. We hope these reports will help to place agency worker experiences into the national context.

HOUSING

Proposed regular sources of data include:

Housing New Zealand (HNZC) waiting lists; with a focus on changes in the Severe and Significant housing need categories.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS:

- Waiting lists overall have not gone up, yet there has been a 68% rise in the number of people classified as having a 'severe housing need' between 31 March 2008 and 31 March 2009.
- There has also been a more modest rise in the 'Significant housing need' category of 18%.

Tenancy Tribunal Applications and Eviction trends;

This data will focus on trends in the number of people who end up at the Tenancy Tribunal (Department of Building and Housing) due to being more than 21 days late in paying their rent. We will monitor the number of possession orders (evictions) issued by the Tribunal due to rent arrears.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS:

- The most common reason for applications from landlords to the tribunal are problems with tenants meeting their rent obligations, making up 77% of all applications in 2008.
- While the proportion of applications for rent arrears has stayed stable between 2007 and 2008 (roughly three quarters) the number of applications increased by nearly 10%.

We are awaiting data on trends in possession orders. At a later date, if we have the capacity, we would be keen to carry out a piece of research on what happens to the families who are evicted? Where do they go for help? What could have been offered earlier to avoid eviction?

Accommodation Supplement

We are awaiting data from the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) on trends.

Emergency Housing Needs

We will be accessing information from our members who provide emergency housing to find out whether they are experiencing increasing demand, and the nature of any changes. We are also able to include data from other agencies who may not be members who are willing to share it.

POVERTY

A second subject area being considered for data collection is Poverty.

Consumer Prices Index (CPI) & the Commodity Price Tracker

Released on a quarterly basis from Statistics NZ the CPI is an index made up of 11 components. We are interested in trends in the cost of food, transport and housing/ utilities. We will also explore data using the *Consumer* magazine Commodity Price Tracker. As many of you will be aware some of the basic commodities that we all dependent upon have increased significantly in the last couple of years placing a great deal of financial hardship people on low incomes.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS:

- From February 2008 to April 2009 electricity prices to residential customers have increased by around 13%
- Between October 2007 and January 2009 milk prices have increased 10%, cheese has increase 36%, butter 47% and bread 41%

Food Prices Index

This is released on a monthly basis from Statistics NZ and involves a more detailed breakdown of food prices in five categories. It shows the price of food has increased by 8.6% between March 2008 and March 2009.

Personal Debt and Non Asset Procedures

Sometimes known as NAPs, this measure was introduced in December 2007 and reflects the increasing number of people experiencing serious personal debt. NAPs are issued by the Ministry of Economic Development's Insolvency and Trustee Service. NAP numbers are on the increase.

NGO Food bank and budget services trends

The Salvation Army will be supplying quarterly reports from their national database. We will

also be talking with the Federation of Family Budgeting Services regarding the trends they are seeing in their budget advisory services.

The Salvation Army is reporting:

- A 44% increase in the number of people seeking food assistance from their community services comparing the first quarter of 2009 to the first quarter of 2008
- Demand for budgeting support has increased 18% over the same period
- Demand for counselling services has experienced a 52% increase
- An overall increase of 40% in the numbers of people seeking help

Hardship Assistance

Data has been requested from MSD via an Official Information Act (OIA) request on trends in the Accommodation Supplement (AS), Special Needs Grant (for food), Temporary Additional Support, Special Benefit (historic) and advances for electricity and gas.

Main Benefit

Trends in main benefits are detailed in Benefit Fact Sheets that are available on the MSD website on a quarterly basis.

March 2009 figures show:

- The numbers of working aged people receiving a main benefit increased by 33,000 or 13% in the 12 months ending March 2009 (to 289,000 people)
- The number of DPB recipients increased during this period by 6%, Invalid's Benefit recipients by 3%, Sickness Benefit recipients by 12% and the number of Unemployment Benefit recipients has nearly doubled – increasing 95% during this period.
- Approximately one-fifth of benefit recipients or 578,000 people were caring for a child aged under 6.

Employment and Unemployment

Information on those most impacted by unemployment is available on a quarterly basis from

the Department of Labour website and from Statistics NZ. The data is derived from the Statistics NZ Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS).

According to the HLFS for March 2009 quarter:

- Unemployment rose to a six year high of 5%
- The unemployment rate is expected to rise to 7% by early 2010
- The unemployment rate for Maori increased to 9.2% for the year to March 09 (up 1% on the previous year). This is more than double the annual average unemployment rate for all persons of 4.5%
- The unemployment rate for Pacific peoples is 8.8% and 17.2% for youth (aged 15-19 years)

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

A third subject area will focus on trends in data related to children and families. CYF have agreed to supply statistics on trends in notifications, investigations and numbers of children in care.

Work and Income has agreed to supply statistics regarding the number of benefit dependent children whose parents are reliant on a main benefit or are receiving different forms of hardship assistance.

Working for Families evaluations and monitoring reports have been requested from MSD via an OIA request. Of specific interest is the In Work Tax Credit. Data may also be collected from the National Collective of Women's Refuges and NZ Police regarding trends in family violence. Sources of data on trends in child health, specifically trends in diseases related to poverty and overcrowding are being explored. Where possible data from members is being sought.

It is anticipated that the first quarterly report will be finalised by the end of June for the quarter ending March 2009. A second report for the quarter ending June

2009 should be available by the end of August. All reports will be made available on our website.

If you work in a helping agency that is under pressure and would like to contribute to this project, either as a one off agency profile/story, or by supplying data on a regular basis please contact Anne Kelly, anne.kelly@nzccss.org.nz or telephone (04) 473 2627



URGENCY NEEDED ON ELECTION PROMISE

In an election speech last year

John Key said: "National will raise the earnings threshold and allow beneficiaries to earn up to \$100 a week before their benefit begins to be abated." Questioned on the policy by the *NZ Herald*, Minister Paula Bennett would not discuss specifics and insists that she is "personally committed to seeing the policy put through in this term" but she had already told Wellington People's Centre advocate Graham Howell that it was not in the proposals currently before Cabinet. In the words of People's Centre spokesperson Kay Brereton: "It's disappointing that the current government doesn't recognize that raising the abatement level to reward work is more vital than ever in today's economy".

NZCCSS Survey of Members

Many of you will have received a friendly phone call from NZCCSS' new team member Helene.

She is doing the telephone survey to help us at NZCCSS update our database and ensure that we have accurate current information about our membership.

The work will continue over the next couple of months and the results of this work will be reported on *Kete Kupu* later this year.

LEGISLATION & SUBMISSIONS

Child Youth & Family (Youth Court Jurisdictions and Orders) Amendment Bill

On April 29 NZCCSS presented its oral submission to the Social Services Select on this Bill. As part of the submission Leslyne Jackson, Gisborne Area Manager for Presbyterian Support East Coast provided input from the perspective of a frontline service manager. NZCCSS' position is:

- Opposition to widening the jurisdiction of Youth Courts to include 12 and 13 year olds
- Opposition to military style training/camps
- Support for widening sentencing options available to Youth Courts if this leads to better support services to address the causes of offending
- Conditional support for doubling the length of high end orders, that is, support for time generous interventions particularly in community settings (e.g. community based Supervision with Activity Orders).

Other organisations such as UNICEF and the NZ Law Society also expressed opposition to widening the jurisdiction of the Youth Court whereas the NZ Police Association supported the Bill.

NZCCSS expressed support for any moves that increase investment in programmes and activities to help address some of the underlying causes of offending. However a greater range of sentencing options does not guarantee better *access* for children, young people (and their families) to the supports they need when they need them. This is the critical issue and a lack of services for children with behaviour problems was identified by families in our recent *Grassroots Voices* project and by the "Fistful of Tears" report published by Presbyterian Support Upper South Island. Copies of both reports were tabled for members of the Select Committee to consider.

Sentencing and Parole Reform Bill

A further oral submission to the Law and Order Select Committee on the Sentencing and Parole Reform Bill (aka "Three Strikes" Bill) was presented on May 13.

NZCCSS is opposed to this Bill which seeks to change the sentencing and parole laws to enable third time serious offenders to be imprisoned for 25 years with no parole.

Our written submission outlined the reasons why we opposed the bill pointing out that getting tough on crime approaches do not work as a deterrent and the removal of parole for prisoners with long sentences makes rehabilitation more difficult, increasing the risks for both prisoners and prison staff.

Much of the oral submission from NZCCSS was presented by Hana Seddon who told the committee about her experiences in establishing the Salvation Army's Supported Accommodation Service in Wellington through a contract with the Department of Corrections. This service provides re-integrative support for high risk offenders upon their release from prison and illustrated the effectiveness of a rehabilitative focus in reducing offending as opposed to a focus on longer sentences.

Gambling Amendment Bill (No 2) - back before Parliament

Two years after NZCCSS presented its oral submission, the Gambling Amendment Bill (No 2) is back in Parliament for its second reading.

In our submission in 2007 NZCCSS called for stronger controls over gambling in this country as the Gambling Act has not gone far enough to minimize the damage caused by gambling. NZCCSS recommended that a full review of the Act take place to assess its impact in achieving it aims. Other recommendations were:

- Ensure profits from gambling are distributed in the communities where the funds were generated.
- Require greater transparency in the process of deciding how funding is distributed.

- Require enhanced consumer protection procedures e.g. host responsibility and support for self-exclusion orders.
- Give Local Authorities the ability to review all gaming consents in their areas (including those before 2001).

These submissions are located online in our Publications Library at: www.nzccss.org.nz/site/searchpub.php

UPCOMING EVENTS

International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality: Gender, Culture and Care. 30th August - 2nd September 2009, Auckland

See: www.selwyncare.org.nz/?t=139

This is the first time a Conference dedicated to issues related to Aging and Spirituality will be held in New Zealand. The Selwyn Centre for Aging and Spirituality (SCAS), part of the Selwyn Foundation, will be hosting this Conference as part of its key objective, to be New Zealand's voice for the spiritual needs of older people as they near their life's end. The focus of the 2009 Conference is on gender, culture, and models of care, that will, through the presenters and discussions, enhance the conference attendees' understanding of transformational spiritual care, that goes beyond the traditional medical model.

Also...

Housing Researchers Conference, Sydney, 5-7 August

www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/cf/apnhr/program/

Christian Budgeting Services Conference. "Living Above Recession", Auckland, 21-22 August

www.cbnz.org.nz

Anglicare Australian National Conference. "Global trends, local voices", Auckland, 20-23 September

www.anglicare.asn.au/conferencecurrent.htm

Age Concern & NZ Association of Gerontology Conference. "Living in An Ageing Society: Shaping Tomorrow Today" - Wellington, 7-9 October

www.confer.co.nz/ageing2009

SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE NEWS



Aged Residential Care (ARC) Contract Annual Review

The National Government's clear and public commitment to meeting its election promise for more funding for aged residential care has produced results. For the first time in several years the annual review of the ARC contract has been completed on time and well in advance of the 30th June end of year for the contracts. A Gazette Notice advising the changes to maximum contributions will be issued by June.

NZCCSS welcomes the additional \$18 million in funding applied to aged residential care through the revised pricing and hopes that our members and other providers involved in aged residential care will have some room to move in improving the wages and conditions of the lower paid nursing and care worker staff.



Maintenance and Repair Challenge of an Ageing Population - Research Report

New Zealand householders show a consistent pattern of repair and maintenance deferral and older people share this tendency. The results of this are problems with damp, condensation and mould as well as slips and falls in or around the house.

These are some of the initial conclusions in the "Good Homes for Good Lives: Empowering Housing Decisions as we age" report published in December 2008. The report is based on the results of a national survey undertaken as part of the multi-year research project on older people's house performance and repair and maintenance practices.

Social research agency CRESA is leading the research and its telephone survey contacted 1600 people aged 65 and over living in a private residential dwelling.

Many countries around the world have identified the problem of dilapidated housing stock with poor levels of performance as a national issue. Those on low incomes are most likely to under invest and there are huge (and costly) health and social impacts resulting from this.

The aim of the CRESA project is to research the most effective strategies for assisting people to maintain and improve the quality of their housing. It aims to provide a robust evidential and information base for policy and service development.

To find out more about the project and to obtain a copy of the report go to www.goodhomes.co.nz

Future Needs for Dementia Services: NZCCSS Dementia Project 2009

The growing need for flexible and innovative day and community programmes, and the profound importance of spirituality as part of a holistic understanding of dementia, are two central themes to emerge from NZCCSS Future Needs for Dementia Services project.

Over the past six months researcher Betsan Martin has been getting in touch with our member networks to explore the issue of dementia and services for older people.

The focus of the research has been to look ahead to future service needs by building on the work of those who already offer compassionate and innovative services.

Telling the stories

Telling the stories of those at the "frontline" of services is central to the project. Taking greater steps to include engagement with Maori services, NZCCSS has sought to interview some key informants about their services and perceptions of needs, reviewed key documents and visited some of the great variety of services for people with dementia that exist currently.

The framework for analysis for the project has been one of "family/whanau centred care & support that include both the person with dementia and their carers". NZCCSS members are involved across the whole continuum of care and support services ranging from the social support of community drop-in centres and day programmes through to higher levels of home based care as well as residential dementia services.

Pressure points and gaps

Some examples of the pressure points and gaps for services include:

- There are very good and innovative day support programmes but there is no doubt that many more of them and a greater variety will be needed as the numbers of those with dementia increases. Good evaluative research is needed to see what kinds of day programmes work best.
- Education about dementia to increase understanding of the disease for those working with older people and equally important increased understanding in the wider public.
- Aged residential care dementia services are not sufficient in some areas of the country and there appears to be insufficient investment in this area.
- Creative approaches to forms of supported living as alternatives to residential care are needed and there are some good overseas models that could be explored for New Zealand.

The report is planned for completion in early July and NZCCSS welcomes any comments and input from those interested in this issue.

Contact Betsan Martin at Betsan@nzccss.org.nz

REFLECTION

Theology of Enough and the Biblical Call for Equality

This recessionary time is an opportunity to “reconsider our values” said the Church Leaders in the “Together We Can...” statement in March.

Two recent theological reflections on the challenges of the recession contribute some further reflection on a new vision of “enough” and the Biblical vision of equality and justice. Firstly, Malcolm Irwin of the Salvation Army Social Policy & Parliamentary Unit has written some thoughts on a theology of enough. Writing in the Presbyterian *Candour* magazine, Dr. Andrew Bradstock, Professor of Theology and Public Issues at Otago University, has also shared his reflections on equality as a serious theological issue.

In response to the dominant imagery of recession, full of the language of scarcity, competition for resources and the message that more is better, and that only economic growth can save us, it becomes a radical concept to suggest that we already have enough. The ‘elephant in the room’ in the recession debates is the fact that we do not need “more” but instead need to pay attention to sharing, to reciprocity in our relationships, at personal, social and global levels.

Church communities are not bound by external forces in putting these ideas into practice. Hence the growing call for this to be seen as a time to practice such counter-cultural behaviour in our own lives, in the lives of our faith communities and to seek partners in the wider society in the call for greater equality and fairness.

The Bible is full of teaching that emphasises our fundamental equality before God and the resulting need to share the gifts of God fairly. The Old Testament Jubilee principle, for instance, is an economic and social concept requiring that every 50 years all land be returned to its original owners, a fundamental mechanism of redistributing wealth.

The early church followed the teachings of Jesus by collecting alms to support each other and sharing possessions in common, effectively eliminating poverty in their communities. Both forms of social organisation were direct challenges to the prevailing socio-economic structures of their times, just as they are today.

NZCCSS UPDATE

ONLINE POLICY WATCH

Please note that NZCCSS regular publishes updates on relevant policy development, legislation, research and related media coverage at our POLICY WATCH site - <http://christiansocialservices.blogspot.com>



POLICY WATCH

For information additional to this e-newsletter see <http://www.justiceandcompassion.org.nz/>

Kia ora tātou.

Welcome to our regular, online platform for POLICY WATCH. We approach to allow us to archive the contents of each POLICY WATCH and to present the information in a more accessible way for a tri

OUR DOORS ARE OPEN

NZCCSS welcomes visitors to our office and library space at 3 George Street, Thorndon, Wellington.



KETE KUPU - Word Basket

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