

New Zealand Council Of Christian Social Services

Annual Report 2009/10

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As we near the end of 2010 in Aotearoa, we are all aware that our nation faces huge challenges. Rising youth unemployment, particularly for Māori and Pacific young people, will have a long lasting impact. Ongoing child poverty levels will see more children growing up in homes filled with stress and tension, and a focus on short term survival with little thought or hope for the future. Family violence figures are unabated, and the 'tsunami' of baby boomers is soon to hit the ranks of the retired with low ratios of workers to support them. These are big challenges for a small population.

As the NZ Council of Christian Social Services, we continue to identify and share information on how to effectively work with vulnerable families and individuals in our communities. We bring together our members to discuss their work and to strategise on how to work collaboratively for the common good. Through our combined missions, Council's members work alongside families to build their strength, resilience, independence and interdependence with the wider community.

We also raise the difficult questions in our society and with our politicians. As our government struggles with recessionary realities, we appreciate the limitations on funding agencies to assist those who are struggling. In endorsing new initiatives such as Whānau Ora, I believe we must all be open to the idea that there may be new and more effective ways of doing things for the future, and any initiative that would better impact the poor social outcomes for Māori must be given the opportunity to do so.

As an organization of long and steady reputation, with our work based on the motivation we have as followers of Jesus and His call to justice and the poor, we have found ourselves regularly consulted and invited into some of the conversations that grapple with these challenges. Our Wellington based staff, under the guidance of our Executive Officer Trevor McGlinchey, have done particularly well over this last year in developing key relationships. We have had regular meetings with political parties that have been organized along with the Church leaders. This is part of a strengthening of the relationship between the Council and church leaders, ever since we worked together before the last election. It was a particular highlight to meet with the Māori Party recently, along with the tangata whenua representatives of the churches.

This year we have responded to the changes in Auckland by forming a new grouping to advocate for the needs in our communities within the new Council structure. We will continue to work on how we might best provide a voice on behalf of the very large grouping of Christian Social Services in Auckland that fall under the umbrella of the 6 denominations we represent.

We thank everyone for their support, and value your prayers for the work we seek to do and those we serve in Jesus name.

Nāku noa,

Nā Ruby Duncan President NZCCSS

REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Strategic Plan

A major achievement for Council was the development and adoption of the 2010/15 Strategic Plan. The main Strategic Directions and the rationale for including them in the Strategic Plan are set out below.

Strategic Direction	Rationale for this direction		
Addressing the causes of inequality and exclusion in our society and challenging unjust structures	Council has identified inequality and exclusion/ marginalisation as being some of the key drivers of social injustice and lack of compassion in New Zealand's society. In line with our mission, we are planning on focussing our public education programmes and policy promotional activities on these issues.		
Achieving realistic and positive change for the people Council member organisations serve	Changes in societal and political values that make a positive difference to the lives of poor and vulnerable New Zealanders can take a long time to occur. Council, as a grouping of Christian, "mission focussed" social service agencies, takes the view that we must work towards quickly achieving the best results for the people our member organisations serve. This means that while we strive for a more compassionate and socially just society we will also work towards achieving the best outcomes for poor and vulnerable New Zealanders within whatever environment we find we must work within.		
Ensuring Council responses to social justice issues are appropriate for tangata whenua communities	Council is committed to Te Tiriti ō Waitangi. Tangata whenua continue to be over represented in almost every negative index of social wellbeing. Our member agencies work closely with Māori clients and communities and these factors – along with our commitment to Te Tiriti ō Waitangi – mean that Council's work must be relevant and appropriate to our Tiriti partners. Council is committed to furthering its relationship with tangata whenua.		

Engaging with our members in order to know of issues for the people they serve, to understand the impacts of policy development on service provision and to harness their combined efforts towards achieving positive change

As an organisation, made up of members who are committed by their Christian missions to provide a hand up to those in need, Council must be aware of and respond to the on the ground issues that are being experienced by its members clients. This 'practice-based' approach ensures that the advice, direction and good practice examples the Council provides to its members, government and other agencies is grounded in the day to day realities of poor and vulnerable New Zealanders.

Council members are committed to working cooperatively and collaboratively to make a real difference in the lives of their clients and their families. Council will be increasing its efforts to facilitate this joined up approach to working together for positive change and to sharing effective practices for social service delivery and support.

Responding effectively to emerging political and policy issues The political landscape is dynamic and issues that create significant impacts for poor and vulnerable New Zealanders arise regularly. Council must be prepared to ensure that its members' practical, flax roots experiences are considered when political and policy issues are being considered

Operational Report

Key Work

NZCCSS focussed on its core areas of activity during the report period. Some of the highlights for the year included:

In the Services to Older People area Council held a very successful biannual conference "Together We Can..." This conference melded the practical hands on approach and expertise of Council's elder care community with the spirituality and purposefulness reflected in each member agencies' mission. NZCCSS thanks the organising committee for their work in supporting the organisation of this successful event. NZCCSS published the extremely perceptive research study "Working Together We Can Respond to Dementia" in September 2009. This study was well received and provides a series of recommendations to address the increased demand for services for dementia sufferers and their families and whānau.

The work of NZCCSS in the area of Inequality and Exclusion included the launching of the Manaaki Hapori – Enhancing Communities project. This project has had two main directions. One is to highlight the community facing/community development work of parishes and congregations involved in addressing issues of poverty and vulnerability within their communities. The other is to bring together communities of social service providers to share experiences and build networks. This project has continued into the current financial year and is projected to finish in 2011.

The Vulnerability Report which is published quarterly highlights the latest government and Christian agency information on such drivers of vulnerability as unemployment, access to hardship benefits and food parcels, housing and accommodation, domestic violence trends and child welfare issues. During the 2009/10 Financial Year the Vulnerability Report tracked a deepening crisis for many New Zealand communities and families due to the impacts of the recession.

The Secretariat has worked directly with MSD on a range of initiatives to help support organisations delivery services to children and families. This included assisting in the development of High Trust funding contracts. These contracts provide agencies with more flexibility in responding to the needs they identify in their communities. Council also provided direct advice in the development of the new Community Response Model of funding. This model will mean that more funding decisions are made in the communities that will receive the allocated services.

The NZCCSS web site

www.justiceandcompassion.org.nz has been redeveloped and is attracting increasing numbers. The publications Kete Kupu and Policy Watch continue to be well received with direct subscriptions exceeding 1,500 during the year, and with many other organisations also further forwarding these publications to their members and subscriptions lists.

The New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services further developed its stature as an effective and efficient organisation that makes a real difference in helping to create a more just and compassionate society in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Financial

Council set a 'balanced budget' for the 2009/10 Financial Year with planned expenses equalling expected income. The end of year loss of less than one and a half thousand dollars was a very credible result. The support of NZCCSS member agencies through their subscriptions and through their open handed generosity in the provision of expertise and practical knowledge was vital to the achievement of this result.

We continued to deliver against our contracts with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development.

Valuable assistance was also provided by philanthropic organisations including Trust Waikato, JR McKenzie Trust and Thomas George Macarthy Trust. A number of smaller donations were also received from individual diocese, religious orders and individuals. Without this type of support our role as advocates for poor and vulnerable new Zealanders would be significantly more difficult.

Governance

After a long association with us NZCCSS President Shaun Robinson finished his work with Presbyterian Support East Coast and thus also finished his tenure as Council member and President. His support both as a Denominational Representative and as President resulted in NZCCSS making strong progress under his guidance. Council thanks him for his unflagging support. Vice President, Ruby Duncan has been very ably acting in his stead since May 2010.

Anglican denominational representative Judith Petersen left in February 2010 and has been replaced by Michael Gorman. Council notes that Judith has been a very long serving and loyal member and thanks her for her strong contribution. Gerry Walker is the new Salvation Army Anglican denominational representative and Rod Watts from Presbyterian Support Northern is the new Presbyterian representative. Catholic representative Joan Hardiman has resigned and her replacement is yet to be appointed.

Staff

The Secretariat has five permanent staff members who work a total of 4.2 full time equivalent positions. The roles of these staff members are:

- Executive Officer
 Trevor McGlinchey
- Finance and Office Administrator Bo Liu
- Policy Advisors
 Paul Barber and Anne Kelly
- Researcher/ Project Worker
 Dr Betsan Martin

Annual Accounts

For a full statement of our audited accounts, please contact our office via emailing admin@nzccss.org.nz, or phoning (04) 473 2627.

Statement Of Financial Performance For The Year Ended 30 June 2010

INCOME	FY 2010	FY 2009
Subscriptions Contracts Grants	128,918 192,480 97,451	126,390 203,772 141,846
Interest Sale of Mailings & Donations Fees for Other Services	21,812 4,011 4,317	30,426 2,105 5,714
	448,989	510,253
EXPENDITURE		
Staff Costs Administration Meetings & Projects	320,517 60,003 74,153	327,477 61,303 79,067
	454,673	467,847
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) Conference Surplus/(Deficit)	(5,684) 4,190	0
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(1,494)	42,406

Statement Of Movements In Equity For The Year Ended 30 June 2009

ACCUMULATED FUNDS	FY 2010	FY 2009
Equity at start of the year Net surplus/(deficit) for the period	429,728 (1,494)	387,323 42,405
EQUITY AT END OF THE YEAR	428,234	429,728

Statement Of Financial Position As At 30 June 2010

TOTAL ACCUM. FUNDS	FY 2010	FY 2009
	428,234	429,728
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank & Cash Prepayments SOP Conference Accrued income Accounts Receivable GST Receivable Short Term Deposits	97,026 8,987 7,859 5,889 4,094 350,00	328,135 0 0 6,107 3,327 100,000
Accrued Interest TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,412 476,267	8,045 445,614
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Fixed Assets	10,921	16,841
TOTAL ASSETS	487,188	462,455
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable PAYE + KS Payable Income in Advance Accruals	6,682 10,771 27,355 14,146	6,497 6,074 0 20,156
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES TOTAL NET ASSETS	58,954 428,234	32,727 429,728