

Chairpersons Report 2014

Welcome

I'd like to start by saying that I feel the GB Community Workers is a diverse organisation doing extraordinary work supporting members of our community. It is a pleasure to work with and for. I'd like to acknowledge the dedication and professionalism of the entire community workers team. Supporting and assisting community members who are often in moments of crisis and vulnerability is challenging work. It is also by its very nature, 'quiet' work, often unknown or acknowledged other than by those that are recipients of your care and support. The Board appreciates and admires the work you do.

Thank you too for the more public work of Holiday events which add to the vibrancy and sense of unique community identity associated with Golden Bay. These events and services bring people together and provide additional support for children and their families.

There is considerable energy and skill in keeping the wheels turning to fund, administer and manage the Community Workers in constantly challenging times of changing economic and policy requirements. Thank you to the team members that patiently and skilfully strengthen the organisation as it works through these constant challenges and assists the organisation to adapt and evolve. Somehow you enable the Community Workers to continue the work it does without losing its ability to undertake its central work in the community.

Another financial year has seen contract income either remain stagnant or to drop significantly, yet careful budgeting and management has seen this year end with a slight surplus. We were informed of the loss of 80% OSCAR funding over the next 3 years due to the Ministry of Social Development considering Golden Bay as not eligible for 'rural' or remote top up funding. This is because the formula applied is based on Statistics NZ 'meshblocks'. Canvassing of Paula Bennett as well as local MP's garnered little or in the case of Chris Auchinvole no response at all though Kevin Hague and Damien O'Conner both sent on Ministerial requests to Minister Bennett on our behalf. Creeping withdrawal of funding is a trend we can expect to continue and has no bearing on the eligibility of organisation for funding or the work that it does. It is a national trend and expectation for community organisations to find funding from within their communities (private and business funding) and from grants. The Community Workers work hard and effectively to meet all targets set and to access all available public funds it is eligible for. To this end, the ISO capability study for MSD was undertaken and completed this year after numerous meetings, consultation and reporting. It seemed epic to me for such a relatively small organisation but some useful possibilities have been garnered through the process. No doubt more change and challenge awaits but I have faith in the organisation and its team to manage this well.

The Board worked hard this year to quietly raise the profile in the community of the organisation and to raise funds. This included numerous raffles, the community Christmas tree and a stand at the A & P show. We worked at talking with local businesses for additional support in a year that the community was being tapped out by other large ongoing fundraising initiatives (hospital and High School). What is extraordinary about this community is its generosity and this is what we see every time we approach and make ourselves visible in the community. I think that the community workers can feel very proud of the work that they do in Golden Bay because everyone on the streets are effusive in their acknowledgment and appreciation of the work it does.

Thank you. Susie Bassett

MANAGERS REPORT AGM 2014

Tena ra koutou katoa. Nau mai haere mai ki tēnei hui-a-tau mo te Golden Bay Community Workers. Hello to everyone and welcome to this year's AGM for the Golden Bay Community Workers.

There are a few new faces around the table at the Board. Sadly we said goodbye to Simon Jones and Christine Crocker, however we welcome back Neil Wilson and new board members Jane Bellerby and Rhoda McDonald. They will join the current members Kim Johnston, Jan McLean and Susie Bassett. It is with great sadness that we hear that both Laura Manson and Leigh Gamby are leaving our board. Leigh has been a board member for 20 years and Laura a past chairperson. Staff changes saw Jacquie Stocker employed as a social worker, Kirstie Macleod as finance officer and Ruth Murray went on Maternity leave.

This year has been business as usual, only at a faster pace. There have been more requirements in terms of accountability to funders but again with no increase in funds. The staff and board have taken part in a capability study facilitated by mentor Anne Hilson. This has been valuable in helping with our development plan and this information will be used in our strategic plan. One of the issues highlighted by this study was an inadequate computer system. Through a very generous donation by Prometheus Investments we have been able to upgrade our Information & Communications Technology. Throughout the year the staff have been involved in training in Results Based Accountability, Safeguarding Children, Motivational Interviewing, Child Protection Studies, He Papa Tikanga, to name a few. While training is a necessary part of our ongoing professional development, it means we are left with fewer contact hours with clients.

We continue to broaden our networks both locally and on the other side of the hill. Golden Bay Community Workers work collaboratively with Women's Refuge and the Police. Monthly meetings are held making sure that we are working effectively in supporting those families that are or have experienced family violence. This group was invited to take part in training with the new Integrated Community Health team alongside of social workers from Nelson Marlborough DHB. A combination of this and Jacquie as Be Well Support Worker visiting the integrated health centre, we have seen an increase in referrals from doctors and other health professionals. We continue to work closely with iwi, the Well-Child Nurse (Helen Bracefield), the team at Te Whare Mahana, including their Community Outreach team, local schools, counsellors, early childcare, A&D counsellor, Civil Defence, Work & Income, GB Community Health Group and the Work Centre Trust.

Organisations from the other side of the hill that we work collaboratively with include Child, Youth & Family, Community Probations, Te Awhina Marae (A&D counsellor and Quit Smoking coach), Te Amo Health, Stopping Violence Services, Relationships Aotearoa, Te Piki Oranga and Te Rito.

This previous year has seen us make 36 counselling referrals. The counselling referrals can work in a number of ways. Our clients may only require a couple of sessions - to clients requiring ongoing and intensive counselling. We are able to fund these clients while they access other forms of financial support such as disability allowance or PMHI funding from the G.P. or funding from ACC.

We also worked with 96 clients under the category of community work. Community work is where we work with individuals or families who do not meet the criteria for CYF funded social work.

A few more points of interest for the year.

- We made 5 notifications to CYF, assisted the GP's with 2, Work and Income 3, Kindergarten 1 and a community member 1.
- We identified the following as trends in this community:
- Family violence: 34.4% of social work clients name this as a primary problem.
- Poverty – not able to meet basics of rent power and food. There are an increasing number of people living in poverty.
- Increasing number of clients with problem drinking.
- The lack of service availability such as a paediatrician and psychologist in the Bay.
- Lack of funding for teacher aides.
- A need for housing that is affordable, secure and healthy.

We continue to work with the community at the heart of it all. The Community Workers are blessed with some incredibly talented workers, each of whom bring unique and individual skills to this organisation.

No reira e ki ana te whakatauki “Ehara taku toa | te toa takitahi engari he toa takitini”. Therefore I say “Our achievements are not ours alone but those of a community”.

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena tatou katoa.

Glynn Rogers

Golden Bay Recreation



Golden Bay Community Workers

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Recreation Report July 2013 to June 2014

Santa Parade

There were about 800 spectators lining both sides of Commercial St from the new BNZ building to GB Pharmacy. We blew up over 100 balloons to give away and free face painting was available. We had 45 floats with about 160 people on them. Takaka Citizen's Band and the Motueka Highland Pipe Band played, then offered separate performances.

Carols On The Green

Due to wet weather the Carols were held in the Village Theatre with 120 in attendance and a further 15 in the choir. Dot Marshall played the keyboards. Initially we thought that the keyboards were cutting in and out till Hannah Marshall spied her mum tapping in time to the music on the volume control!

Jazz On The Green

The Christchurch trio King Tubbs played to an appreciative crowd of 140. The singer was former local girl Justine Snelgrove. The band was engaged for a performance at The Brigand in the evening which was attended by about 160.

Unfortunately due to TDC budget constraints there probably won't be a Jazz On The Green this summer. Thanks to Glynn and Paddy Rogers for the second year of setting up the gazebo and getting the power on.

Movies On The Green

About 50 people turned up on each night for the original James Bond classic Dr No and Darby O'Gill and The Little People.

Tata Titanic Cardboard Boat Race

We have discovered that "rescheduled" events just don't attract the same numbers so the 2015 event will take place later in January, avoiding the winds that seem to plague the early part of January. We had twelve boats with a crew numbers reaching 34 and about 450 spectators. As usual we are very grateful for the generous prizes offered by local businesses.

Kevin Winter was presented with a glass sailing boat for his "Sixteen and a half years judging". Kevin has been a judge at every event, except for the one year he couldn't attend the rescheduled event. But he DID turn on the day it was cancelled.

Once again this event went off without a hitch due to the capable and well-rehearsed work of Helen Bracefield, Warwick Briggs and Kirstie McLeod.

Oamaru Stone Sculpture Workshops

There were two workshops, one in September and one in January. They each had 6 participants who found working amongst Jocelyne Bacci's Oamaru stone and Italian marble creations very inspirational.

Mardi Gras

A smaller turnout of about 600 than the usual 900 - 1000 which was attributed to other events being held that weekend.

Funded by

The Tasman District Council



Present or performing were the usual suspects: Tess the Clown, Levity Beet, Sugra The Juggler and Helen & Warwick. Randal Sparrow was sadly missed as part of the crew.

The fourth Mardi Bra competition was warmly received with a picture in the Nelson of Constable Bruce Telford hamming it up with one of the male entrants. There were 16 entries in this GB Weekly sponsored event.

Collingwood Area School Dux and Tasman Youth Council member Phoebe Zeller capably operated the sound desk under Alan William's tuition. The band, "Tommy and the Midnight Sun" featured Golden Bay luminaries such as Cath Tucker, Joachim Maurer, Carl Woodward & Levity Beet.

We always appreciate the presence of HYPE (Help For Young People at Events) although they never experience any serious trouble here.

Way2Go

There have been fifteen separate physical activities under the Way2Go banner, such as Ashtanga yoga, various exercise to music classes, Zumba, ballet and belly dancing. A class that has attracted funding for another year after a successful trial is for women cancer survivors.

Placements for the year are over 11,000. Funding for the Way2Go programme has unfortunately been difficult to obtain past the end of this calendar year.

Bike Wise Events

The *Go By Bike Day* saw 50 cyclists stopping for a breakfast of juice and English muffins outside of The Quiet Revolution Cycle Shop. Kirstie McLeod and Glynn Rogers assisted.

The *Family Bike Ride Day* saw about 120 participants cycling from Central Takaka School to the East Takaka Domain. TDC Road Safety Co-ordinator Krista Hobday along with Mike Tasman-Jones and members of the Up-skill cycle group gave all the bicycles a safety check. Free face painting and chilled Takaka Springs Water was available along with food by the school fund raising group. Cyclists were challenged on a raised board-walk which included "the see-saw of death". Well, the kids respond enthusiastically once it's called that.

School Holiday Programmes

While we suffer decreased funding for OSCAR and Boredom Buster programmes we are fortunate in attracting high quality tutors and volunteers.

Activities such as cooking, bus trips, archery, riding mini mx bikes, art and crafts and trips to the movies and museums have attracted 232 registrations and a total of 549 placements.

TRASH Palace, Fresh Choice, Top Shop and Golden Bay Coachlines have significantly helped keep our programme going.

Tasman Youth Council

The current TYC have met with TDC Community Services committee and reported to a Golden Bay Community Board meeting.

This year's TYC have continued to work on trying to get bus shelters at Onekaka and Pohara. While this project had good media coverage it is still a work in progress as TYC members' time is limited due to exams and other commitments.

Other events held by TYC include a band night, movie night, attending the Youth Hui, Smoke Free Rockquest and participating in theatresports.

Food Bank

This year we distributed 170 parcels which assisted 316 people. Of this figure, 146 were children under 17 years.

Contributions to the Food Bank have been good, with many Church, individuals and community groups donating plus regular donations via the supermarket basket.

There have been some creative contributions – including a pig which lived in one of the worker's paddocks until 'time', Baron Hasselhoff's birthday promotion, Community Supported Agriculture's donation of a box of fresh vegetables each week and the GBHS's mufti day which saw an incredible amount of food donated.



Cobb Houses

Both houses have had significant maintenance and upgrading this year - mostly due to the enthusiasm of volunteer Ross Nichols and free paint from Dulux.

We now have signed a license with the Department of Conservation to manage the houses until July 2024.

Bookings remain healthy (184 paid nights) and have been increasing, especially as word of the improvements has spread. The Cobb Houses remain available free of charge to groups who are maintaining trap lines in the park.

Community Coffin

There were five hires of the coffin this year. Unfortunately, the Motueka Crematorium no longer accepts the coffin. The coffin is still available for burials.

Family Centred Service

We have used the family centred service funding in two ways: for direct work with families experiencing family violence and a course for boys called “Real Life (Playing the Game)”.

Last year we identified a need for group work with boys who were displaying angry and violent behaviour at home and school. Due to the high energy of the participants, the group was limited to four boys. All the boys enrolled are the children of clients either through Family Centred Service or CYF funded social work case management.

‘Real Life’ is a strengths based programme, delivered by Simon Dadley Moore, empowering young people aged 10 -12 years with a greater understanding of the ‘game of life’ and how their thoughts and choices affect the “game play”. Participants are supported to learn and practice new skills, new ways to play, that have the potential to create an “easier level of play”

Family Centred Service – direct service to families

We have found that many of the families we work with require two case workers as the adults often wish to discuss their issues without the other partner present and feel more comfortable discussing problems with a different case worker to that of their partners.

We have delivered 14 direct services to clients this year, with two carried over from the previous year.

Seven of the families had violence between the parents, while five experienced other forms of family violence. Anger problems, alcohol and/or drug abuse and stress all contributed to the families’ conflict.

We work with a wide range of agencies and services to provide a wraparound service for the families. Fourteen percent of the families reported that most of their needs were met, while 50% reported that all their goals were met.

Women's Programme 2013-2014

Ten women attended this programme over two 9 week courses. The programme information was also delivered on a one to one basis for three women. The flexibility to decide whether group or individual work is more appropriate enables the materials to be used in a way that meets individual needs and personal safety.

The groups have been run by Jacquie Stocker and Premal Gauntlett and it has been both challenging and rewarding for all involved. It is wonderful to be able to do intensive preventative work that has such long term positive impact on people's lives.

Some of the outcomes are:

- Woman strengthening her self-esteem and boundaries to manage a new relationship effectively and organise her world in time for the birth of her child.
- Woman given strategies to use a Protection Order effectively in the best interest of her child.
- Women empowered and supported to get herself and young child out of an abusive environment and relocate to be closer to whanau.
- Woman empowered to renegotiate a difficult relationship so that the father can return to the home and accept his responsibilities in a positive way.
- A mother able to assert clear boundaries with teenage daughters to change the violent dynamic, and help them move into more mature and independent lives.

Budget Advice

There was a significant increase in referrals to budget advice. This year 48 people attended budget advice – 18 more than we are contracted to deliver.

The majority of the referrals are from Work & Income or self referrals – with the remainder referred from various local agencies. At the time of working with these clients, 30 were in receipt of a benefit as their only source of income. Three were employed, 8 were part time + benefit, the remainder casuals or on ACC.

A growing issue is that of addiction with more than 14 clients identifying that they had a drinking problem. Unfortunately, these patterns of drinking are often long standing and people are dependent, so it is not a matter of the client simply choosing alcohol over the family's welfare, but requires extensive drug & alcohol and other specialist counselling to address.

However, many clients that do not drink or smoke cannot meet their living expenses on their low incomes or benefits. The rising cost of basics in New Zealand has outstripped incomes. It only takes an unexpected bill, and sometimes not a particularly large one, for people to get into financial trouble quickly. Even the most meticulous budgeters can't avoid debt when the margins are so tight and it is a very disheartening situation for people.

Other significant issues for budget clients included:

- Struggling with medical costs.
- Four clients who lost their income due to redundancy or health reasons and then unable to meet their mortgage repayments and facing the likely prospect of losing their homes.
- Clients unable to pay power bills and facing disconnection.
- The high cost of rental accommodation – our clients are paying close to 50% of their net income on housing costs. Housing is considered unaffordable for a household when the percentage is 30 – 35% of gross income.

Overall, 97% of budget clients reported that our service met their needs and would use the service again.

Strengthening Families 2013-2014

Ruth was the Coordinator for the first half of this contractual year and Premal filled her role while she was on maternity leave. This transition worked well with clear communication to all agencies, facilitators and the Local Management Group so the focus remained on meeting the needs of families. There were also new people filling some of the key referrer positions in Golden Bay and so this was the year for them to get familiar with the Golden Bay Strengthening Families process.

Eighteen children and eighteen adults benefited from the Strengthening Families process, twelve referrals were received and in total agencies attended 115 meetings. There are seven experienced facilitators and two people still developing the necessary skills. The issues addressed were varied, but parenting and behaviour at school plus housing and financial hardship were named as the top most concerning.

Loretta Horton from Golden Kids and Rebecca Olney from Kindergarten joined our Local Management Group; this hopefully will help with early intervention referrals. Te Rito funding was applied for successfully through Strengthening Families so that there is a pre formed group of agencies in the community that can highlight areas where this funding can be used to promote the non-violence message. Funding for training facilitators was kindly made available by Family and Community Services, so Simon Dadley-Moore delivered three trainings for Golden Bay facilitators on managing conflict in groups which everyone found most useful.

Toolbox Parenting

This year we have run three Toolbox Parenting Programmes, two were for 0-6 years and one 6-12 years. All three courses have been facilitated by Nancy-Jean Bell and Sheryl Nalder. Two of the courses ran in Takaka and the third in Collingwood, at Collingwood Playcentre.

Both 0-6 courses have been well attended, with 6 participants on the Collingwood course and 7 on the Takaka course. The 6-12 course had fewer participants, but it was felt that it was important to run the course and the participants reported that it was really worthwhile for them. Feedback from the courses has been positive, with many participants grateful to be given an alternative way to manage their children's' behaviour.

We are looking into the possibility of running a new parenting programme which has been put together by Parents Inc (Toolbox). It is called Building Awesome Whanau and covers the years from 0-12 years which may better suit our community.

Sadly, Sheryl has decided to step down as a facilitator at the end of this year. We really appreciate and thank both Sheryl and Nancy-Jean for their commitment to running these groups.

ASD Support Group facilitator

The group continues to go from strength to strength with new people coming most months. We average 12 people per month, mainly parents, but sometimes grandparents too. This year we had a variety of speakers; Paula Meer the ASD co-ordinator from the DHB, Jill Hounsell from Autism New Zealand, Pat Andrew, a special needs teacher, and Paul Taylor, Paediatrician who has a special interest in ASD. We also arranged for Paul to run hypnotherapy sessions with 8 children with a view to reducing their anxiety. Paul will chair a public meeting, presenting the opening speech he gave at the National Autistic Society conference, in December. The goal of the group is to provide a forum for caregivers of children with ASD to gain support and information.

Be Well - breaking down the barriers to primary health care

Be Well continues to be busy with Emma as the Co-ordinator and Jacquie Stocker as the Social Worker. Our statistics show that 184 people made Be Well enquiries. Their needs varied from brief enquiries to significant intervention required to enable clients to access medical services.

Various trends have been identified that are creating barriers to people attending appointments at the Integrated Health Centre . Cost and current large medical bills have a negative impact on people attending appointments. Long waiting times with doctors running behind, sometimes up to an hour and a half also impacts on people's ability to attend, particularly if they have been transported by either the Wrinklies Bus or by a friend or relative. There have been changes in the medical centre staff recently which has caused a problem for some patients due to the lack of continuity.

Distance to the integrated health centre has made attending appointments particularly hard for those who do not drive or have a vehicle. Due to there not being any Educational and Clinical Psychologists or Paediatricians running clinics in Golden Bay, attending appointments with these professionals in Nelson is sometimes impossible for clients, either due to cost or to the logistics of getting there.

We continue to distribute resources appropriate to the vision of Be Well (to reduce barriers to accessing health care services in Golden Bay in order to improve health and wellbeing) and Jacquie visits the hospital weekly to catch up with staff and distribute information as necessary. This has really helped us to work closely with clients with a wraparound approach from both agencies.

Social Work 2013-2014

We have three qualified social workers employed part time, Glynn Rogers, Jacquie Stocker and Premal Gauntlett. Ruth Murray is also available as a registered social worker for relief work.

This contractual year the organisation helped 87 families and that is 253 individuals, 146 of which are children under 17 years of age. Fifty five of these were self-referrals which is an indicator that the community knows where to come and are comfortable to walk through the door and approach the organisation when necessary.

Some of the primary issues explored:

- Family Violence= 38
- Needing more parenting skills= 27
- Access issues between separated families= 23
- Child behaviour and family dysfunction =16 each
- Child Youth and Family involvement =13
- Concerns for care/safety of the child= 11

This service is varied and diverse in what services are required and the depth and length of time social workers need to stay involved. When a plan is achieved clients know they have a choice to make a new plan and continue the support or finish with our service and come back if they need further help.

We are very lucky and grateful to have the flexibility to meet individual needs, with a child focus, and supported in a very generous way by the community. Food Bank, volunteers, "Grandparents" and mentors, donations of bedding and furniture, the Community Chest and amazing fundraising efforts all help the social workers be able to meet the needs of our clients in a small community.

Youth Sewing Project 2014 Annual Report

Another year of creativity with gorgeously weird toys, revamped clothes and new garments being made.

It was a quiet start to this year as we lost some of our senior students and dropped to a group of 6 students with only me as the tutor. We lost our wonderful tutor Abbey Gilligan who moved onto the role as Golden Bay High Schools' councillor.

Our numbers have steadily grown and we now have 11 students so I am is pretty busy but still love working with our creative youth, several of whom have been coming for a number of years so we have some history in our relationships. It is wonderful to have known them from year 7 and still be a part of their lives as they get older. We have some interesting conversations and I hope they feel they can come to me with almost any questions.

One of our students Emily, a very creative competent young woman who has been coming to sewing classes with her dad since she was 8 years old, has just become dux of Golden Bay High School so our group feels pretty proud of her. Emily also won the Naked Possum Youth Fashion Award in 2012.

We have couple of year seven students who came to us earlier in the year who were struggling with school. Initially they were quite shy and reserved but it is wonderful to see them now, just as noisy as everyone else. I try and encourage a culture where the students help new members who come into the group and it has been very heartening to see these two year sevens quite confidently teaching new members how to thread up the sewing machines or showing them how to do various things.

We have been very lucky this year as we often have sewing resources donated to us by members of the community, so I have not had to buy many resources this year. It feels a bit like Christmas when we sort through the boxes of sewing goodies. We are also grateful for the funding support from Creative Communities and Nelson Bays Quilting Group.