



Newsletter

ISSUE 14

MARCH 2015

KEY DATES:

20th March-SPACE presentation

21st March-Race Relations Day celebration

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From the chairperson

Hi everyone.

We've had an amazing February, with great success in chairing the local network meetings. We have now chaired two Howick and Pakuranga Network meetings with the Ormiston/Flatbush meeting coming up on Thursday 26th March. Last week we had 31 organisations attend the Howick/Pakuranga meeting - this is a really good result. There was great interest in the presentation from Howick Local Board members, David Collings and Adele White about Council's Ten Year Budget.

Our idea of five 'Two minute' speakers, has really taken off and we now have a waiting list for the next meeting - amazing. We are getting great feedback and this is a great way to get to know other organisations.

Don't forget come and visit us at Botany Community Day on the 7th of March - we have a stall, at the Botany Town Centre, outside on

MECOSS Expo

Join us for our annual Expo, to be held at the Pakuranga Plaza on Saturday 18th April.

If you would like to get your organisation or community group 'out there' and engage with the community, then this is the perfect opportunity for you!

Keep an eye out for further emails about this as we will be contacting everyone shortly with further details.

the driveway. Do come and visit us, say 'Hi', and think about joining up with MECOSS.

Coming up is our Race Relations Day celebration on Saturday 21st March, to be held at Pakuranga Plaza.

We will be sending out information about this soon.

In April we will hold our annual MECOSS EXPO, at Pakuranga Plaza on Saturday 18th April (see more details in this newsletter).

Keep an eye out for our workshops coming up in March, they are all relevant to your community organisations.

Have a great month,

Dyann.



Dyann Calverley



MECOSS Events - March

SPACE Parenting programme



SPACE is a fantastic programme that provides early education for babies and parents as well as support for families and strengthening of communities.

While other organisations offer these services individually, SPACE is unique in that it is the only long term programme that delivers these services all together.

The strength of SPACE comes from: the value it places on parents as first educators of their children; the unique combination of education, support and networking for parents and babies; being customised to the needs of each group and it works collaboratively with other community organisations, such as Plunket. SPACE helps to strengthen families, alleviate isolation and increase interconnectedness.

Join us to hear more about the programme and how it can help your clients.

Our presenter

Carolyn Wellm is the Facilitator/Development Worker from the SPACE Programme.

Venue: Highland Park Community House, 47 Aviemore Drive, Highland Park

Date: Friday 20th March

Time: 10.30am-12pm

Cost: FREE

To register: please click [here](#).

Big change starts small

The theme for this year's Race Relations Day is 'big change starts small' - the seed for positive race relations starts in our communities, suburbs and daily lives.

To celebrate Race Relations Day and the positive changes we can make in our community, MECOSS is hosting a Race Relations Day celebration on Saturday 21st March.

It promises to be a very colourful event with lots of performances from the many cultural groups in our local community.

We would love you to join us to celebrate the diversity of New Zealand's culture, so pop on down and see us!

Venue: Pakuranga Plaza, Pakuranga Road, Pakuranga

Date: Saturday 21st March

Time: 10am - 12pm



Upcoming local events and training

Aucklanders with disabilities-have your say event

Auckland Council is holding a 'Have your say' event specifically for Aucklanders with disabilities to provide feedback on Council's ten year budget.

Date: Wednesday 11 March

Time: 3pm-5pm or 6pm-8pm

Venue: Fickling Centre, Three Kings

Click [here](#) to register.

Improving outcomes for vulnerable children

Child Matters are running seminars developed for professionals working with children and families to help you learn to: understand your role in supporting vulnerable children; know what to look out for; how to respond to vulnerable children; understand the Vulnerable Children's Act and Children's Action Plan; understand the process when CYF receive a report of concern.

Dates: 12th March - Otara

19th March - Mangere

Time: 9.30am - 2.30pm

To register please click [here](#).



Housing options for older people

Auckland's population is rapidly ageing and ensuring the sufficient supply of quality housing for elderly is essential.

This seminar will be the first step in bringing together recent information on Auckland's demographic structure and projections. The focus of discussion will be the housing options available for elderly and the responsibilities of public agencies and the community sector. What do you think on these issues?

The information and discussions that arise in the meeting will be collated and disseminated as input for policy and programmes.

Date: Friday 13th March

Time: 10am - 3pm

Venue: Western Springs Garden Hall, 956 Great North Road, Western Springs

Click [here](#) to register.

Communities in the future

Registration is now open for the 'Communities in the future' conference to be held in Wellington on May 14th.

This one day conference is targeted at charitable and not-for-profit organisations who are interested in innovation, change and finding solutions to further engage with the community and achieve outcomes through improved operational and organisational efficiency.

To find out more click [here](#).

Did you know?

Charities - new reporting standards

Many of you are aware that the changes to the Charities Act, will create statutory audit and review requirements for medium and large registered charities from April 2015.

You can find out further information about what this will mean for your organisation:

- [Download and listen](#) to the most recent broadcast of Collaborative Voices where Ros Rice from Community Networks Aotearoa speaks with Sarah Doherty from the Charities Services' Capability and Engagement Team.
- Visit the Charities Services' [website](#)
- Keep your eye out for a [Charities Services' workshop](#) near you

FREE stationery!

Auckland Council are holding an open day for community groups to get free stationery.

Date: Friday 13th March

Time: 11am - 4pm

Venue: 3 George Street, Mt Eden

Funding available

The [Working Together More Fund](#) helps groups wanting to collaborate for the purpose of achieving greater results for our communities. The Fund can provide seeding money and expertise to develop collaborative arrangements, but does not provide on-going operating costs. Applications for the three annual funding rounds close on 27 March, 10 July and 30 October 2015.

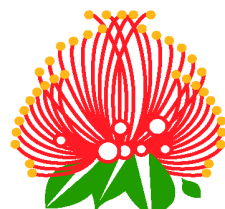
Pasifika for life!

[FLO: Pasifika for Life](#) is part of the [Waka Hourua](#) initiative to prevent suicide in Maori and Pasifika communities and it is New Zealand's first Pasifika suicide prevention programme. It incorporates a range of initiatives to lead, equip, engage and inform Pasifika communities to deal with the issue of suicide.

Vulnerability report

The New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services has released the [20th Vulnerability Report](#). The report highlights the desperate housing situations that for some New Zealanders has become the new normal.

Contact us



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