



When One Person Can Make a Difference
Citizen Advocacy Auckland Inc. Since 1990

Newsletter - August 2009

Chairperson's message



Greetings to everyone! I do hope you all have escaped the worst of the winter colds and flu and that you are keeping warm and healthy. Something that keeps us all feeling warm inside is having someone in our lives who cares, listens and provides support when it is needed. This is where citizen advocacy relationships can enrich us so much. Protégées give much to advocates by being prepared to share some of their lives, insights and vulnerabilities with another person. Advocates give much by being prepared to stand alongside another and represent that person's interests as their own.

It was really heart-warming for me as chairperson to meet so many of our members at our mid winter

celebration on the evening of June 19 2009. More than 60 people attended and mingled. It was great to see people who have been with Citizen Advocacy since it began 19 years ago as well as meet new people who had joined the programme recently.

The next year is an exciting one. We are planning our 20 year celebration for later in 2010 and are really excited about putting together an event that everyone can participate in, be inspired by and enjoy. We will soon be in a position to say when exactly this will be so you can mark the event in your diary. If anyone knows of any sponsors we could approach to assist with this, the fundraising sub-committee chaired by me would love to hear. E-mail me on fran.hartnett@idea.org.nz or phone 09 529 8706.

I am pleased to report that we will be having

an internal review of our programme, conducted by two external people well versed in Citizen Advocacy principles this year. A number of you will be contacted to see if you would be willing to participate in this. It is important that we examine what we are doing and identify ways to improve.

I am also pleased to say we were successful in gaining a small amount of money from the Frozen Funds Charitable Trust to promote Citizen Advocacy. Advocates and protégées will be invited to help Ana Maria with this.

I want to acknowledge the support of the Board and Ana Maria, your commitment and hard work are greatly appreciated. Finally a big thank you to all of you. You really do make a difference!

Fran Hartnett, Chairperson

From the CA Coordinator

Since the last CA newsletter in March, time has passed so quickly. In May I attended my second New Zealand Federation Disability Information Center (NZFDIC) conference in Napier, which presented

interesting topics that energised my role as a coordinator. I had attended disability forums with Hon. Tariana Turia Minister for Disability issues. Many disability groups attended and presented their concerns about the global economic recession which affects the contracts renewals.

CA Citizen Advocacy Auckland Inc.

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Hon. Tariana Turia expressed her disappointment that many contracts were due to expire on 30 June 2009 and there was not indication they would be renewed. She said that she was appalled about it "my role is to make a difference in the sector". Also, she mentioned how she is working and networking with other Ministers to make a difference in the disability sector.

One of the problems for people living in group homes is transport. Not having the flexibility to go places that should be an individual choice. Shortage of competent staff also is an issue. A few protégés couldn't attend the gathering in June because of lack of transport. Because of slow improvement the institutional models still applies in many residential cares. Advocates represent the voice of many

people who are living under those circumstances. I thank you the advocates for making a difference in a protégés life.

I would like to thank all the advocates, protégés, board members and Fiona Spencer (CA website support person) for attending the gathering in June. This gathering gave the opportunity to meet, share and network with advocates and protégés from our programme. You all brought a unique and strong sense of belonging, which was experienced throughout the enjoyable atmosphere.

July was a difficult month for me and members of my family. I had two bad colds that have touched August as well. This newsletter is late as usual due to my illness. I hope you had better luck with colds than me!

In October I will be in touch

with advocates and protégés because we will need your support for our internal review that will be conducted by John Armstrong and Jenny Smith from Australia during the second week of November 2009. Please do not forget to share with us how are you doing with your advocacy, photos and experiences are always welcome. Your contribution for the newsletter or website is very much appreciated.

We received some funding from Frozen Funds to promote Citizen Advocacy in different areas in Auckland. I will need advocates and protégés support to give presentation in those areas. I will keep you posted about it.

Please keep free Sunday 28th November for the CA Christmas party. The venue will be confirmed in October.

Warm regards, Ana Maria

Matches Anniversaries ~ *Happy Anniversary!*

August

- Alison & Jean..... 9 years
- Linda & Beth..... 9 years
- Warren & Stuart..... 5 years
- Anthony & William..... 1 year

September

- David & Linda 19 years
- Faith & Robyne 4 years
- Neemia & Jocelyn..... 3 years
- Loren & Rosemary 3 years
- Robert & Rosemary 3 years
- Christie & Niharika 1 year
- Susan & Dianne..... 1 year



October

- John & Margaret5 years
- Gary & Lawrence4 years

November

- Marlena & Glynis.....3 years
- Simon & Heval.....1 year

Welcome new matches

- Bill & John,
- Shan Shan & Linda,
- Chris & Mary,
- Heather & Tania

Do you believe in social justices and want to make a difference in one person's live.

Contact CA Auckland
09-358 4141 or
ca.akld@ihug.co.nz

*If you
move
house*



*If your phone
number changes*



Please tell Ana Maria:
Ph: 358 4141 or
ca.akld@ihug.co.nz

Citizen Advocacy a Free Given Relationship that Make a Difference in People Lives

The Citizen Advocacy advocates come from different walks of life but with one common desire which is to make a positive difference in the life of a person with an intellectual disability. They keep in touch throughout, visiting each other, phone calls or texts and they attend social functions.

Over 31,000 adults with physical and intellectual disability are cared for in residential homes around the country. The Ministry of Social development Hon. Paula Bennett sets expectations for the community involvement with meaningful activities that include people in their local communities to

enhance their quality of life.

Citizen Advocacy advocates make a difference in a person lives who may be at risk of social exclusion, abuse of their personal and human rights, neglect, exploitation and have difficulties in forming reciprocal relationships. The advocates protect and defend the rights of a person with an intellectual disability (protégé) as if they were their own. In many cases the CA advocate is the only un-paid person in the protégés life. The CA advocates primary loyalty and focus is to their protégé to nurture and safeguard the protégés well-being.

Sharing our lives

We have been friends since October last year. We do lots of things together - we go out for coffees, we go shoe shopping, we like to watch movies together and we like to visit places like the museum.

Over the summer, when the weather is warmer and nicer, we want to go to the beach, the zoo, Kelly Tarltons and out to eat.

To help us both save money, we have agreed to do one fun thing a month! Since we have been friends, Christie has been eating a lot healthier, and also started a savings fund for a house and to travel later on. Christie's parents will be moving back to New Zealand later on this year and we will all get together and get to know each other.

We really enjoy our friendship and time together, and can't wait to do more exciting things!



Niharika & Christie

Do you want to get motivated? Set a goal!

Advocates Needed in:

Albany, Avondale, Buckland Beach, Glenfield, Glen Innes, Henderson, Mangare East, Mt. Roskill and Ranui.

Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it. *Dalai Lama 2009*

Important Dates for 2009

Advocates Training Workshops

For new and existing advocates

Saturday: 7 November 2009.

Time: 9:30am – 1:00pm

Venue: CA office – 44 Khyber Pass Rd. Grafton - Auckland

Christmas Party 2009

Sunday : 29 November

Venue: To be confirmed



If you are interested to attend, contact Ana-Maria 358 4141 or e-mail ca.akld@ihug.co.nz

Information & Networking

International Conference *Making Inclusive Education Happen*

28-30 September – Te Papa,
Cable Street, Wellington.

www.imaginebetter.co.nz

Grafting a Future

A weekend for families with a disabled family member who are seeking strategies for a better life.

Date: 17-18 October 2009

Contact: 09-262 5374

StandardsPlus@imaginebetter.co.nz
standardsplus@imagine.co.nz

Auckland Disability Law

Is a free community legal service in the Auckland region. It aims to help disabled people access legal services, and to increase awareness of disability law.

Phone: 092575140

Email: info@adl.org.nz

Mobile/Text: 027 457 5140
www.aucklanddisabilitylaw.org.nz

Modern Dance Class Mixed Abilities

in North Shore.

Contact Linda Parker

Contact: 09-817 3051 or
021 048 2894

Recreate Auckland

Provides holistic recreational opportunities that enhance the social, emotional and physical development of young people with disabilities while also providing support and respite for their parents and families.

Phone: 09-636 0351
Ext.224

www.recreate-auckland.org.nz
info@recreate-auckland.org.nz

New disability.rec

Sports programs, music lessons, lifestyle skills and a range of respite care to choose from in different destinations around New Zealand.

Contact: 09-5328310
disABILITYrec@xtra.co.nz

Free workshops

Fire Safety & Promotions
Contact Leo Capernaros
Community Liaison Officer
NZ Fire Service

leo.Capernaros@fire.org.nz

Phone: 09-3090 754

Mobile: 027 482 2232

Auckland Disability Resource Centre (DRC)

Equipment, products
showroom and sales
14 Erson Avenue,
Royal Oak, Auckland

www.disabilityresource.org.nz

Phone: 09-625 8069

SuperCare4u.com

Total mobility passenger
transport - door to
door service

Phone: 09-630 2060

www.SuperCare4u.com

E-mail:

info@supercare4u.com

Paradigm

building futures together
for 17-23 years old
supported to live
meaningful lives.

Contact: 09-636 0351
paradigm@pfrc.org.nz

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Auckland since 1990

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