



What's New



31 August 2012

An update of information, events and resources from established New Zealand websites, relevant to the mental health & addiction sector

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What's New – 31 August 2012

1. Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand

APAC Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care

Register now to hear internationally renowned speakers at APAC, to be held in Auckland from **19 to 21 September**.

There are a wide range of workshops, with topics of interest to everyone passionate about improving health care. The following are just a sample from the agenda:

- Patient and Family-Centred Care: Partnerships for Improving the Patient Experience, Safety and Quality, with Beverley Johnson and Bruce Arrol
- The Changing Face of Health Care: The Asia Pacific Story, presented by Donald Berwick, Chien Earn Lee and Kevin Woods
- Creating Resilience in an Organisation: Preparing for an Unthinkable Disaster, presented by Roger Dennis from Innovation Matters
- Creating the Culture for Innovation, with Lynne Maher.

For further information including the full programme and registration

<http://www.ihi.org/offerings/Conferences/APACForum2012/Pages/default.aspx>

August 'Medication Safety Watch' out now

This issue contains information on the following topics:

- medicine nomenclature change increases risk of errors
- link between use of abbreviations and medication error
- New Zealand Formulary launched
- ACC medication safety case studies

Click the link below to go to a downloadable pdf of the *Medication Safety Watch*.

<http://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-programmes/medication-safety/publications-and-resources/publication/555/>

August edition of 'The Clean Hands Chronicle' out now

The August issue of *The Clean Hands Chronicle* highlights the achievements and challenges of the Hand Hygiene New Zealand (HHNZ) programme during year one, looks at the development of quality and safety markers for hand hygiene, examines the similarities and synergy between the Health Quality & Safety Commission's three infection prevention and control programmes, and congratulates and profiles this quarter's HHNZ award winners.

<http://www.hqsc.govt.nz/news-and-events/news/558/>

How can health care organisations become more health literate?

This report, published by the American Institute of Medicine, discusses the growing recognition that health literacy depends not only on individual skills and abilities but also on the demands and complexities of the health care system.

It defines a health literate health care organisation as 'an organisation that makes it easier for people to navigate, understand, and use information and services to take care of their health.'

The report is a summary of a workshop on the topic and provides a vision of how organisations should evolve to be more responsive to the needs of populations with limited health literacy, thereby improving care for all.

The full report can be accessed on the Institute of Medicine website.

<http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2012/How-Can-Health-Care-Organizations-Become-More-Health-Literate.aspx>

2. Ministry of Health

Food guidelines updated for children and young people

The Food and Nutrition Guidelines for Healthy Children and Young People (Aged 2–18 years) have been updated and strengthened to reflect changes in New Zealand society and eating patterns.

As well as enhancing existing information, the document includes considerations for Māori, Pacific and Asian population groups, and information on current meal patterns of New Zealand children and young people. Other topics include picky eating, caffeine and oral health.

The guidelines are designed to be a handbook for health practitioners who work with children and young people. They provide evidence-based recommendations about food, nutrition and physical activity for this age group.

<http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/food-and-nutrition-guidelines-healthy-children-and-young-people-aged-2-18-years-background-paper>

Suicide Facts: Deaths and intentional self-harm hospitalisations 2010

Published online: 15 August 2012

The publication focuses on deaths and hospitalisations in 2010 and also contains time-trend analyses of suicide deaths from 1948 and intentional self-harm hospitalisations from 1996.

<http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/suicide-facts-deaths-and-intentional-self-harm-hospitalisations-2010>

Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm: Consultation document

Published online: 10 August 2012

Summary

The Ministry of Health is seeking written submissions on its Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm 2013/14 to 2015/16 consultation document. The consultation document includes a draft three-year service plan, proposed problem gambling levy rates for the period, and a needs assessment.

The draft service plan is the integrated problem gambling strategy for the period. It describes the intervention services, public health services, research and evaluation that the Ministry intends to purchase to prevent and minimise gambling harm over the period.

The main gambling operators (non-casino gaming machine societies, the casinos, the New Zealand Lotteries Commission and the New Zealand Racing Board) reimburse the government for the costs in the service plan. The consultation document sets out proposed problem gambling levy rates to achieve this.

The needs assessment brings together a range of information to describe the impact of gambling harm in terms of population need. It underpins the proposals in the service plan.

The service plan will progress the high-level goals outlined in the Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm: Six-year strategic plan 2010/11—2015/16.

How to have your say

There are two ways you can make a submission.

1. Forward your comments, with the detachable submission form at the back of the Consultation Document, to:
Derek Thompson
Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm Submissions
Ministry of Health
PO Box 5013
Wellington.
2. Download the [submission form](#), add your comments and email to: gamblingharm@moh.govt.nz

Submissions are due by **5 pm, 7 September 2012**. Any submissions received after that time will not be included in the Analysis of Submissions.

The Ministry will hold a series of public meetings for interested parties to discuss the document and ask questions to inform their written submissions. The dates, times and locations of these meetings are available in the downloads section to the right.

<http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/preventing-and-minimising-gambling-harm-consultation-document>

3. National IT Health Board

NHITB learning from seminars on electronic sharing of health information

The National Health IT Board (NHITB) is more than halfway through a series of public and community seminars to discuss improvements to the way personal health information is shared electronically.

By the end of 2014 the Government's aim is for all New Zealanders and the health professionals caring for them to have electronic access to their health information.

The seminars underway are an opportunity to provide updates on progress and to gather feedback, and they follow on from the NHITB's 2010 Future of Health workshops.

Public seminars have been held in New Plymouth, Invercargill and Auckland, with another planned for Nelson on 30 August. Community seminars for Asian and Pacific peoples, as well as older people and students, have also been held, and **a forum for Maori will be held in the Bay of Plenty on the 6th of September**, 10am until 2pm, Thursday 6 September 2012, Education Centre, Bay of Plenty District Health Board Tauranga Campus. A number of DHB briefings have also been held to discuss the impact of the changes on health staff.

More information about the seminars, including FAQs, go to www.health.govt.nz/sharedhealthinfo or by emailing NHITB Senior Advisor Robyn Nicholl at robyn_nicholl@moh.govt.nz.

4. Mental Health Foundation

Mental Health Foundation wants alcohol purchase age to be 20 years

The Mental Health Foundation (MHF) has written to all members of parliament asking them to support a law amendment which would increase the minimum alcohol purchase age to 20 years.

“We believe increasing the minimum age for purchase will help reduce the amount of alcohol consumed by youth, improving their mental health and wellbeing,” MHF chief executive Judi Clements says in the letter.

“Consumption of alcohol is a significant problem for the wellbeing of New Zealand youth, and a contributing factor to rates of depression, suicide, vehicle accidents, physical and sexual assaults, injuries, educational problems, and risky sexual behaviour. Research shows youth drinking impairs cognitive development, and is a contributing factor in later adult drinking problems,” says Ms Clements .

“Changing the minimum age of purchase is only one of the many measures which, together, could work to address the problems of youth drinking, but it would, nonetheless, be a useful and effective step.”

The letter has been sent to all members of parliament ahead of the vote on Supplementary Order 280 to the Alcohol Reform Bill which is expected in the next few weeks.

For more information contact:

Helen Tatham

Senior Communications Officer

Mental Health Foundation

Phone: 09 300 7028

Mobile: 021 484 229

Email: helen@mentalhealth.org.nz

5. SPINZ (Suicide Prevention Information New Zealand)

Suicide Prevention Conference 2012: Ideas, Innovation & Implementation

The one-day suicide prevention conference will be held on **28 September** at the Ellerslie Events Centre in Auckland. Speakers include international and local researchers, practitioners and policy makers, addressing a range of topics including technology in mental health treatment, improving treatment for people who have self-harmed, responding to suicide clusters within communities and culturally-grounded approaches to suicide prevention.

<http://suicideprevention2012.weebly.com/>

August-November dates for ASIST training

Lifeline Aotearoa Suicide Prevention Education has announced a series of dates for ASIST workshops in the second half of 2012:

Hawke's Bay - Sep 12 & 13

Onehunga - Sep 20 & 21

Remuera - Oct 2 & 3

Onehunga - Oct 25 & 26

Otara - Nov 26 & 27

ASIST is a two-day, practical interactive workshop in suicide first aid that teaches participants how to respond to someone thinking of suicide, and aims to increase confidence and competence to intervene. Lifeline Aotearoa's suicide prevention training was profiled in the most recent issue of the SPINZ Newsletter.

<http://www.livingworks.org.nz/>

PROPS programme for young people facing bereavement

PROPS (Promoting Resilience and Opportunities through Peer Support) is a new peer support programme run by Youthline. It's for young Aucklanders (aged 16-20) who have been directly or indirectly affected by a sudden death, who want to connect with other young people, share experiences and learn how to better support themselves and their friends. The group will also aim to develop a media project that will inspire and support other young people.

The programme will be run at Youthline House (13 Maidstone Street, Ponsonby, Auckland) each Thursday from 4-6pm starting on 9 August.

For more information or to register your interest email services@youthline.co.nz or phone (09) 361 4168.

6. Health & Disability Commissioner

Service development plan

The Mental Health Commissioner will continue to support the MOH to complete the National Service Development Plan for Mental health and Addiction Services (SDP) due to be released in October 2012 which will set out the Governments Priorities for the next 3-5 years for investment in service development. Following completion of the SDP, the Mental Health Commissioner will monitor service delivery against the objectives in the plan.

7. Te Pou

Auckland outcomes training, 10-14 September 2012

Are you interested in becoming an outcomes trainer, or upskilling to include training in another of the HoNOS family of outcomes measures?

Te Pou is running foundational (Part A) and specific outcomes measure (Part B) training in Auckland from 10-14 September 2012.

This training programme is sponsored by Te Pou. Unless specified, there is no cost to attend the workshops or seminars in this programme. However, transport and accommodation expenses are not sponsored by Te Pou and are the responsibility of the participant.

<http://www.tepou.co.nz/training/outcomes/train-the-trainer>

Keeping the flame alive - inspirational stories

What do the mental health and disability sectors have in common with our New Zealand Olympic athletes? Plenty! Persistence, planning, commitment, coaching, and hours of practice – all these factors also apply to the innovative work that mental health and disability services are developing.

Te Pou has collected over 60 stories showcasing innovation, training and quality improvements across the mental health and disability sectors.

<http://www.tepou.co.nz/news/2012/08/16/keeping-the-flame-alive---inspirational-stories>

Talking more, helping more people - How to provide more hours of talking therapies without blowing the budget

In 2008 Waitemata DHB faced two challenges. First, a survey showed that more people wanted access to talking therapies than could be seen. Second, they lacked systems for assessing the delivery and effectiveness of talking therapy. Waitemata clinical psychologist Tina Earl and colleague Jo Rogan-Gibson identified a system that provided more hours of talking therapy, assessed progress and showed how more people are making positive changes more quickly.

Stepped Care matches service users with an intensity of therapy that suits the severity of their needs. People with higher needs receive more hours of more complex therapies. Waitemata DHB aimed to split their therapy resources evenly between Level 2 and Level 3.

Part of the solution was a pathway to guide people through Stepped Care, so gains occur as quickly as possible. Tina Earl says that more therapy does not always mean better gains. With the Stepped Care pathway, outcomes are reviewed every eight weeks. If things aren't improving, the person is moved to a different therapy and/or therapist, or the next level.

More information

Contact

Tina Earl, Professional Leader Psychological Therapies, Waitemata District Health Board

Phone: 09 422 2710

Email: tina.earl@waitematadhb.govt.nz

Fiona Clapham Howard, Project Lead, Te Pou

Phone: 03 339 3796

Email: fiona.howard@tepou.co.nz

<http://www.tepou.co.nz/story/2012/08/15/talking-more-helping-more-people>

RAISE HOPE: Hapaia te Tumanako 2012-2015

Southland DHB's launch of its 100 day mental health and addiction strategic plan for improving mental health and addiction outcomes. It was developed through a comprehensive planning process (the MHAPP Project) and through public consultation.

<http://www.southerndhb.govt.nz/files/20120220153848-1329705528-0.pdf>

8. Matua Raki

Sensory Modulation Symposium

September 10th 2012

Waitemata DHB are hosting in conjunction with Te Pou and AUT a national opportunity to share our practice stories and hear the experiences of other practitioners from a variety of practice settings.

To see more detail and register follow this link

<http://www.tepou.co.nz/event/2012/09/10/sensory-modulation-symposium--1341445873>

Substance Impaired Driving Treatment guidelines for the addiction sector

Matua Raki with support from the Ministry of Health has developed the *Substance Impaired Driving: Treatment guidelines for the addiction sector* to support the governments Drivers of Crime initiatives. The guidelines introduce the evidence base for providing treatment to first time and repeat substance impaired drivers. It is hoped that practitioners and services will use the guidelines to develop evidence based treatment programmes in their region.

You can download an electronic copy or contact administrator@matuaraki.org.nz for hardcopies.

<http://www.matuaraki.org.nz/images/stories/projects/Guidelines/substance%20impaired%20driving%20treatment%20guidelines.pdf>

Consumer and NCAT Fact Sheet

Consumers contribute to the addiction sector in more ways than one

The National Committee for Addiction Treatment in association with the Matua Raki Consumer Leadership Group has developed and published this factsheet to introduce the Addiction Sector, and others allied sectors, to existing and newly emerging consumer and peers roles within addiction treatment.

<http://www.matuaraki.org.nz/images/stories/projects/Consumer/mr-consumer-factsheet-web%201.pdf>

Co-existing problem (CEP) service checklist

The Co-existing Problems Service Checklist is now available online to help mental health and addiction services to self assess CEP responsiveness and capability and plan for future service development:

<http://www.matuaraki.org.nz/images/stories/projects/CEP/cep%20service%20checklist.doc>

9. Werry Centre

7 Helpful Habits of Effective CAMHS & the Choice & Partnership Approach (CAPA)

Friday 21 September 2012, 9am – 4.30pm, Kiwi360, 35 Young Road, TE PUKE

The workshop will introduce The Choice & Partnership Approach (CAPA) which when combined with tools that enhance service effectiveness can contribute to reducing inefficiencies and optimising current strengths while preserving a focus on the service user.

http://www.werrycentre.org.nz/site_resources/library/Training_and_Events/2012_CAPA/Flyer_Basics_CAPA_Workshop_Tauranga.pdf

Skate into Skills...Cognitive Behaviour Therapy Skills for Therapists who work with Kiwi Kids and Teens

Friday 5 October 2012, 9am – 4pm, Te Puke (Venue to be confirmed)

CBT is an evidence based therapeutic approach focusing on thoughts, emotions and behaviours to address mental health issues. Traditionally CBT training has been adult focused. Here is an opportunity to learn CBT skills for working with children and adolescents in the New Zealand context.

Closing date for registrations: **Wednesday 26th September 2012**

http://www.werrycentre.org.nz/site_resources/library/Training_and_Events/CBT-Training.pdf

Midlands CAMHS Regional Forum Rotorua

Friday 26 October 2012, 9am – 4pm, Venue to be confirmed

A full programme will be available shortly. Cost : Free

Registration is essential. Please send your completed registration form by **Wednesday 17th October 2012**

http://www.werrycentre.org.nz/site_resources/library/Training_and_Events/Midlands-Forum-Rotorua.pdf

Navigating Pasifika Wellness: Integrating Knowledge and Skills into Practice

Wednesday 14 November 2012, 8.30am – 4pm

University of Auckland Tamaki Campus, Building 730 – Room 220, 261 Morrin Road, St Johns, Auckland

For more info and registration, please see the flyer.

http://www.werrycentre.org.nz/site_resources/library/Training_and_Events/2012_11_14_Pacific_CAMHS_Fone.pdf

10. New Zealand Guidelines Group

Bowel Cancer: Information for people at risk of bowel cancer

This plain English brochure updates *Bowel Cancer: Information for People at Increased Risk of Bowel Cancer (2004)*. The content in this update is based on *Guidance on Surveillance for People at Increased Risk of Colorectal Cancer (2012)*.

http://www.nzgg.org.nz/library_resources/94_bowel_cancer_consumer_resource

11. Skylight

New resources:

[A Teacher's Handbook of Death](#)

This handbook aims to provide teachers with methods to facilitate open discussions of death in the classroom and to find suitable ways of talking with children about what happens when someone they know dies.

[I Just Want To Be ... Me!](#)

Today's children struggle with a range of issues, from depression and anxiety to poor body image and low self-esteem. In fact, research suggests that at any given time around 10 per cent of students will be suffering from a mental health issue that directly impacts on their education and health. Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) (the subject of Dr Russ Harris's bestselling *The Happiness Trap*) has been proven to be effective in teaching young people effective, flexible strategies for dealing with the stressors in their life and these principles are now brought to life in this graphic novel. By following the main character, Holly, through her encounters with monsters (symbolising her inner doubts and unpleasant thoughts), children will learn how to similarly deal with their own issues and develop a more resilient mental attitude and achieve better emotional balance.

[The Scar](#)

A little boy responds to his mother's death in a deeply moving story leavened by glimmers of humour and winning illustrations. When the boy in this story wakes up to find that his mother has died, he is overwhelmed with sadness, anger and fear that he will forget her. He shuts all the windows to keep in his mother's familiar smell and scratches open the cut on his knee to help him recall her comforting voice. He doesn't know how to speak to his dad any more, and when Grandma visits and throws open the windows; it's more than the boy can take - until she shows him another way to hold on to the feeling of his mum's love.

[As the First Anniversary Approaches and Beyond \(Book 3 of The Many Colours of Grief Series\)](#)

Third in The Many Colours of Grief Series, this easy to read and follow booklet is for people who are coming towards the end of their first year of bereavement. It takes a look at different ways a first anniversary can be marked, what others say helped them as they moved through this time and into the future, options for ongoing support and ideas for self care.

[When Someone You Know has an Addiction](#)

This colourful children's booklet for 8-12 year olds provides honest information and better understanding for children who live with, or know well, someone with an addiction. This is done in a very non-threatening, matter of fact way that engages children and positively teaches them key strategies to cope with this situation, including ways to ask for help and support.

<http://www.skylight.org.nz/Shop/>

12. Kina Trust

Kina Trust 'Living Well' booklet is now available on line please click the following link

<http://www.ebooks.geongroup.com/kina/livingwell/index.aspx>

13. Health Promotion Agency (HPA)

From 1 July 2012, The HPA is a New Zealand Crown entity formed by the merger of the Alcohol Advisory Council (ALAC), the Health Sponsorship Council (HSC) and some health promotion programmes previously delivered by the Ministry of Health.

<http://www.healthpromotion.org.nz/>

Guidelines for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design for Licensed Premises

The guidelines suggest simple strategies for both on and off-licensed premises as well as club-licensed premises which if implemented could reduce the potential for crime and violence occurring on those premises. They present examples of well designed and poorly designed bar and off-licence store layouts as well as checklists for each type of premises to assist those wishing to carry out their own CPTED audit.

<http://www.alac.org.nz/sites/default/files/useruploads/LatestResources/CPTED%20Guidelines%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

New Zealand Mental Health & Addiction Nurse Educators Forum

Thu, 27/09/2012 - Fri, 28/09/2012

Chateau on the Park, 189 Deans Avenue, Riccarton, Christchurch, New Zealand

The second bi-annual New Zealand Mental Health & Addictions Nurse Educators Forum 2012 - "Movers and Shakers" is to take place on 27-28 September 2012 at Chateau on the Park in Christchurch.

For more information and a registration form please contact Cathy King, Nurse Educator, Christchurch District Health Board:

phone +64 3 337 7969 ext. 33868

email cathy.king@cdhb.govt.nz

<http://www.alac.org.nz/events/new-zealand-mental-health-addiction-nurse-educators-forum>

World Safety 2012 Conference : 11th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion

Mon, 1st - Thu, 4th October 2012, Wellington New Zealand

The key theme of Safety 2012 is Connecting pathways for a vibrant and safer future. This theme reflects the intellectual and philosophic approach towards injury prevention of the host country New Zealand's injury prevention sector. It's also consistent with the aspirations of the WHO Western-Pacific Region Framework for Action on Injury and Violence Prevention 2008-2013.

Organisers: ACC, Safe Communities Foundation, University of Otago Injury Prevention Research Unit; with WHO

<http://www.alac.org.nz/events/world-safety-2012-conference-11th-world-conference-injury-prevention-and-safety-promotion>

Cutting Edge Conference 2012 – 20/20 both the vision and the thinking for planning our services by 2020

Thursday 6th – Saturday 8th September

Cutting Edge is the national addiction treatment conference, covering alcohol, other drugs, problem gambling and smoking cessation. The 2012 conference will be the 17th and for as many years with the sponsorship of the Alcohol Advisory Council and support from the Ministry of Health. Hosted by DAPAANZ (Addiction Practitioners' Association), this year the conference returns to Wellington, at the Michael Fowler Centre, Wakefield Street.

Late registration applies **4 August**

<http://www.cuttingedge.org.nz/>

14. Working For Youth

Working4Youth is an online resource providing notices, current events, projects, research & publications and networking for those working with and for young people in the Bay of Plenty, including Rotorua and Taupo.

<http://www.working4youth.co.nz>

Youth Service launched

Te Waiariki Pūrea Trust are pleased to announce the new Youth Service package for Taupo, Turangi, Rotorua and Murupara.

There are two separate packages to be delivered by Youth Service:

- NEET for youth aged 16 and 17 year olds who are at risk of becoming not in Education, Employment or Training. Youth will be identified via information shared between MOE and MSD. It is a voluntary service , which will provide mentoring, advice and ongoing support for youth to engage them in meaningful activities such as education, training or work-based training.
- YP/YPP for youth aged between 16-18 year olds receiving financial assistance from Work and Income. Youth payment and Young Parent Payment are done via online referrals. It offers a wrap around service to engage youth into education, training or work-based learning, including training in Life Skills such as Budgeting and Parenting Courses.

For more information please contact:

Marleina Te Kawa – Rotorua
Youth Service Co-ordinator
marleina@twptnz.org
027 218 1882

OR

John Merito - Rotorua
Trust Manager
johnm@twptnz.org
07 348 5051

Public Health Association Conference: Equity from the start - valuing our children

September 3rd- 5th, 2012, Victoria University, Wellington

The conference will feature a variety of presentations, workshops and panel discussions around equity for children and other important public health themes. A variety of innovative gateway events will also be held on 3 September prior to the opening of the conference.

<http://conference.pha.org.nz>

Te Punanga Haumarū Fund now open

Applications are now open for the first round of the new Te Punanga Haumarū Fund.

This fund supports whānau and community-driven action that encourages positive social behaviour in children and reduces bullying.

The maximum grant available is \$100,000 (GST excl) per annum, with projects funded for a maximum of twelve months. More information and the criteria and application form are available at www.familyservices.govt.nz/te-punanga-haumaru

Applications must be received no later than **Friday 28 September 2012** to be considered for the first round. Dates for the second round of funding will be announced via the Family and Community Services website link above.

If you would like more information please contact FACS_applications@msd.govt.nz

Law Commission Makes Recommendations on Cyber Bullying and Schools

In May 2012, in response to rising concerns about the impact of cyber-bullying on young people, Government asked the Law Commission to fast-track the part of their New Media project dealing with harmful digital communications.

The Law Commission has released its final recommendations, which are in the Ministerial Briefing Paper, 'Harmful Digital Communications: The adequacy of the current sanctions and remedies'.

For more information and a copy of the draft Communications (New Media) Bill, see the Law Commission Website:
<http://www.lawcom.govt.nz/project/review-regulatory-gaps-and-new-media/publication/ministerial-briefing/2012/ministerial-briefing-harmful-digital-communications-adequacy-current-sanctions-and-remedies>

Young People Call For Change In Public Attitude Towards Youth Offenders

JustSpeak, a community of young people who seek to encourage a new generation of debate around criminal justice issues with the aim of achieving a more just Aotearoa, has held its first forum to discuss the current issues in the way the criminal justice system deals with youth offenders. A major theme from the evening was the need for a shift in public attitude in the way young offenders are treated.

<http://www.working4youth.co.nz/view-notice.php?id=724&>

15. Office of the Children's Commissioner

This website provides information about the Office of the Children's Commissioner's work and about children's and young people's rights.

Young People's Reference Group

The Children's Commissioner is looking for young people who are interested in speaking about issues that impact on children and young people to be part of his Young People's Reference Group. Aged between 12-16 years or Year 9 to 11.

They don't need to be academic; they need to be young and passionate about making New Zealand/Aotearoa a better place for children and young people.

Find out more about the group and get information about how to apply
http://www.occ.org.nz/yprg/how_to_apply

Please feel free to display the [flyer](#) so young people can hear about this opportunity.
http://www.occ.org.nz/data/assets/pdf_file/0020/7373/CC_YPRGflyer2012.pdf

Applications to apply for the Children's Commissioner's Young People's Reference Group will close at **5pm on Sunday October 14, 2012.**

Children – Autumn Newsletter

Read the latest edition of the Children's Commissioner's publication 'Children'.

This edition looks at collaboration for children from many different perspectives.

<http://www.occ.org.nz/>

Publications

The Office of the Children's Commissioner produces and distributes a number of publications. These can be downloaded electronically free of charge. Alternatively, you can request copies of our publications through our online order form, by printing off an order form and posting or faxing it to us, or through our Publications Phone Order Line.

Please note that there are costs involved with requesting some publications. Where they apply, prices are noted on the order form. For large orders, the Office of the Children's Commissioner operates a cost-recovery policy on high postage, courier, or shipping costs. Prices are subject to change. If this policy applies to you, we will contact you regarding your order.

<http://www.occ.org.nz/publications> or email publications@occ.org.nz, or call 0800 224 453 extension 2.

16. Families Commission

The Families Commission is New Zealand's centre of excellence for knowledge about families and whānau. They are an autonomous Crown entity established under the Families Commission Act (2003). They report to the Minister for Social Development.

<http://www.familiescommission.org.nz/>

Vulnerable Children - submissions now available

The Green Paper for Vulnerable Children was a discussion paper launched by the government to give people and communities a say on how New Zealand can better protect abused, neglected and disadvantaged children.

The Minister for Social Development, The Hon. Paula Bennett, released the submissions on the Green Paper for Vulnerable Children on 14 August 2012. Information includes the executive summary and full summary of submissions, around 600 full submissions from non-government and other organisations and the transcribed voices of around 2,000 children and young people.

What Will it Take

The White Paper for Vulnerable Children is due to be released on **12 October** and will address responsibility for children, information sharing, targeting services, monitoring, services and collaboration.

<http://www.familiescommission.org.nz/news/2012/vulnerable-children-submissions-now-available>

Protecting children – it's up to all of us

New resources from the It's not OK campaign focus on protecting children in our families and communities.

Research shows that violence in the home affects children whether they see it, hear it or just know about it. Child abuse is often linked to partner abuse.

These new posters, postcards and stickers feature three high profile New Zealanders:

- All Black Liam Messam, with his son Jai
- sports broadcaster Jenny May Coffin
- comedian Ben Hurley.

You can order these resources from the It's not OK website

<http://www.areyouok.org.nz>

Aumangea Resilient Communities Conference

Mon 24 Sep, 2012 - Tue 25 Sep, 2012, Convention Centre, Palmerston North

Chief Commissioner Carl Davidson will be a keynote speaker at the Aumangea Resilient Communities conference in September. His presentation will be on 'Keys to Successful Family Outcomes', an exploration of what works, and what it will take to transition to a successful model of parenting and building resilient families. He will be speaking alongside Tau Huirama, CEO of Jigsaw.

The event, will identify initiatives and actions that make a real difference within our communities, with leaders from across Māori and Pākehā worlds passionate about improving the outcomes for all. Professor Sir Mason Durie and other inspirational leaders will join together to discuss the challenges facing our families today.

grow.co.nz/events/resilient-communities-conference/

Public Health Association Conference 2012 Equity from the start – valuing our children

Mon 3 Sep, 2012 - Wed 5 Sep, 2012, Pipitea Campus, Victoria University, Wellington.

The conference will feature a wide variety of presentations, workshops and panel discussions around equity for children and other important public health themes. A variety of innovative gateway events will also be held on 3 September prior to the opening of the conference.

Find out more about speakers, conference streams, sponsorship opportunities and submitting abstracts at <http://conference.pha.org.nz>.

Families Commission brings facts to light

New Zealand families today: a brief demographic profile was presented in Wellington by the Commission's Chief Research Analyst, Dr Jeremy Robertson.

This brief demographic profile presents a broad overview of the make-up of the New Zealand family in 2011 and identifies trends over the past few decades.

The aim is to make available to the general public the latest information on New Zealand families, and in doing so, make them better informed of the diversity of family life. Historical studies of the family show that there has never been a period that might serve as the 'norm', as the nature of family relationships has changed throughout history.

<http://www.familiescommission.org.nz/publications/briefs-and-statistics/new-zealand-families-today>

Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting in New Zealand

Approximately two-thirds of births to teenagers in New Zealand are to 18 and 19 year olds, and teenage fertility rates are significantly higher in areas of high socioeconomic deprivation. Overall, Māori teenage women have significantly higher rates of parenthood.

In response to a Ministerial request, the Families Commission researched the factors that would prevent subsequent births to teenage parents.

We analysed the implications and motivations of first and subsequent pregnancies and considered ways to strengthen support for preventing repeat teenage pregnancies.

<http://www.familiescommission.org.nz/publications/briefs-and-statistics/teenage-pregnancy-and-parenting-in-new-zealand>

Most Significant Change: Families Panels

What's the difference that's making a difference, and for whom?

This report outlines the key elements of implementing the Most Significant Change (MSC) technique, a qualitative participatory monitoring and evaluation tool. It was envisaged that this technique would provide some pointers as to the impact and the sort of change occurring with the critical voices within the Families Panels themselves – panel members and panel facilitators from the community coordinating organisations.

Author: Pattillo

<http://www.familiescommission.org.nz/publications/surveys-and-panels/most-significant-change-families-panels>

17. Ministry of Social Development

Household Incomes in New Zealand: Trends in Indicators of Inequality and Hardship 1982 to 2011

The report uses data from Statistics New Zealand's 2010–2011 Household Economic Survey (HES) to update the previous report in the series which had information to 2010.

The interviews for the 2010–2011 survey were carried out in the year to 30 June 2011, and asked about incomes in the previous twelve months.

The 2010–2011 survey is the first HES to fully capture the impact on incomes of the global financial crisis and related economic slowdown.

In addition to the Full Report and the Summary, there is also a Short Summary which gives a quick overview.

The next update is planned for mid 2013 using data from the 2011–2012 HES.

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/monitoring/household-incomes/index.html>

Supporting vulnerable children

The Ministries of Social Development, Education, and Health are working together, alongside the Police and the Social Sector Forum, on three results that will support vulnerable children.

These results are:

Result 2: Early childhood education: In 2016, 98 per cent of children starting school will have participated in quality early childhood education.

Result 3: Immunisation: Increase infant immunisation rates so that 95 per cent of eight month olds are fully immunised by December 2014 and this is maintained until 30 June 2017.
Rheumatic fever: Reduce the incidence of rheumatic fever by two thirds to 1.4 cases per 100,000 people by June 2017.

Result 4: Assaults on children: By 2017, we aim to halt the rise in children experiencing physical abuse and reduce current numbers by five per cent.

Achieving in these three areas is crucial if we are to do better for vulnerable children in New Zealand.

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/better-public-services/supporting-vulnerable-children/index.html>

Information on monitored medical alarms paid through Disability Allowance

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) has undertaken an open, competitive selection process for determining which medical alarm suppliers will be accredited to supply monitored medical alarms paid through Disability Allowance.

The Ministry of Social Development has introduced a new accreditation process for suppliers of medical alarms to the over 53,000 clients who have the cost of their monitored medical alarm paid through Disability Allowance.

Nine medical alarm suppliers have been accredited. To view the list use the link below;

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/medical-alarms/medical-alarms-landing-page.html>

Welfare Reform Youth Service implementation 20 August 2012

Youth Service, the first part of the Government's Welfare Reform programme, has been implemented.

43 community-based Youth Service providers have been selected by The Ministry of Social Development to work with young people to deliver the Youth Service.

These providers will play a key role in the delivery of this first phase of the Government's Welfare Reform and the providers selected cover the majority of New Zealand. In two areas, Whanganui and Rangitikei, Work and Income will provide Youth Service in-house using specialist case managers. In Wellington City Work and Income will work jointly with a local provider. The in-house service will enable the Government to assess the effectiveness of contracting out this type of service.

To see the list of Youth Service Providers click on the link below

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/welfare-reform/index.html>

17. Ministry of Justice

Family Court Review

The Minister of Justice has announced a package of reforms to the Family Court to create a modern, accessible family justice system that is more focused on the needs of children and vulnerable people.

The reforms will focus the Courts on the needs of children, rather than on couples with relationship problems.

The proposals are the most significant changes to the family justice system since the establishment of the Family Court in 1981 and respond to concerns that the Family Court:

- is not able to focus enough on the most serious cases;
- has processes that are difficult to understand; and
- has seen its costs greatly increase in recent years.

The package follows consultation with court users, the Judiciary, non-government organisations and professionals who work on family matters. The summary of submissions and the summary of responses to the online questionnaire of court users are both available.

The Minister of Justice will introduce a Bill in late 2012.

<http://www.justice.govt.nz/policy/justice-system-improvements/family-court-review/family-court-review-1>

18. Human Rights Commission

Changes to local government risk poor outcomes for people and law

The Human Rights Commission says proposals in the Local Government Amendment Act 2002 run the risk of limiting the role and responsibility of local government to realise a range of democratic and other human rights.

The Commission has three significant concerns with the substance of the Bill:

These are:

1. The removal of reference to the four "wellbeings" (the social, economic, environmental and cultural health of people), in the purpose provisions. In relation to diversity and in other areas of work the Commission does with agencies such as the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs on youth

unemployment and its current work on the Canterbury earthquake recovery, it is evident that community wellbeing must be a logical outcome of local government service provision.

2. The removal of the mandatory poll provisions and its replacement with a burdensome process for public participation in reorganisation proposals.
3. The extension of Ministerial intervention and derogation of the autonomy of local elected representatives.

<http://www.hrc.co.nz/2012/changes-to-local-government-risk-poor-outcomes-for-people-and-law>

Commission mourns passing of Commissioner Jeremy Pope

Jeremy Pope, ONZM, a Human Rights Commissioner, lawyer and co-founder of Transparency International, an anti-corruption watchdog, has passed away

Mental illness and human rights

"A right is not what someone gives you; it's what no one can take from you."

Ramsey Clark

If you suspect you or someone you know has been treated differently because of mental illness, the Human Rights Commission can give advice on whether to make a complaint, get information, express a concern and have it recorded and/or find a solution.

<http://www.hrc.co.nz/enquiries-and-complaints-guide>

The Human Rights Commission and Like Minds Like Mine Programme work together to address human rights and mental health issues.

One of the ways they have done this is through the development and implementation of the Korowai Whaimana ('Empowering Cloak') Programme.

Korowai Whaimana is a workshop to help people with experience of mental illness understand and use their human rights.

<http://www.hrc.co.nz/disabled-people/mental-illness-and-human-rights/korowai-whaimana>

New Zealand Human Rights Commission's new Newsletter Publication Website.

They are in the process of migrating their regular subscription publications to the new format. You can still sign up to receive the newsletters by email, as well as browse through our online archives.

Manahau - Resilience & Celebration

With a focus on the Human Rights issues of disabled people

Whitiwhiti Kōrero

Keeping you informed about what's happening in the Human Rights Commission's Te Mana i Waitangi Project

To Be Who I Am

The network of trans people and others interested in progressing the Transgender Inquiry's actions and recommendations

Nga Reo Tangata - Media and Diversity Network

Connect people and organisations with an interest in media and diversity to improve the reflection and promotion of cultural diversity in the media.

Te Korowai Whakapono - The Religious Diversity Network

To support and publicise groups that undertake interfaith activities, projects and programmes that contribute to religious tolerance, public understanding of religions, beliefs and interfaith cooperation for peace, security and harmonious relations.

Te Ngira: New Zealand Diversity Action Programme Update

A monthly update for participants in the New Zealand Diversity Action Programme, and any other interested parties.

Te Punanga - The Refugee Focus Network

To connect refugee communities and people and organisations that work with them by publicising events, projects and activities involving refugees in New Zealand.

Te Waka Reo - The Language Policy Network

To support and publicise groups that undertake language policy initiatives, projects and programmes that foster linguistic diversity in New Zealand.

<http://www.hrc.co.nz/newsletters/>

Current Commission Publications

Most of the reports and publications produced by the Human Rights Commission are available online.

- Case Studies
- Community Language Resources
- Disability Rights
- Education (Human Rights)
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Human Rights
- HRC Guidelines for Non-Discrimination
- Mental Health
- Pacific Issues
- Posters
- Transgender Inquiry (Action on the Transgender Inquiry)
- Treaty of Waitangi and Human Rights

<http://www.hrc.co.nz/resources/>