



ALL RIGHT? CAMPAIGN

Canterbury District Health Board, Mental Health Foundation

All Right? is a mental health promotion campaign aimed at supporting communities affected by the Canterbury earthquakes.

We draw on international research about disaster recovery and mental health promotion but make a point of doing our own research with local communities to find out how people are doing, how they nurture their own wellbeing and whether or not the campaign is working. All messages throughout the campaign are based on the 'five ways to wellbeing', which has a strong evidence base.

Those in Christchurch might have spotted our campaign on billboards, in newspapers, on noticeboards, on buses and bus stops and on badges on people's chests. They may have even heard us on the radio and seen us on Facebook.

Indeed, we have a wide level of awareness amongst Christchurch City residents. 66 per cent of our July 2014 survey participants recalled at least one element of our campaign, up from 51 per cent in July 2013. 89 per cent of these participants agreed (slightly or strongly) the messages were helpful. 48 per cent agreed our campaign made a difference to how they felt or what they chose to do in their daily lives.

Our research also informs the development of campaign resources. For example, our findings that 65 per cent of July 2014 survey respondents felt tired and 64 per cent were still grieving for losses caused by the earthquakes showed us that our messages should continue to remind people that it's normal to feel a range of emotions for several years after a disaster. This resulted in the Winter Survival Kit, which reminded people that "beating the winter blues is about more than just keeping warm". The kit used stickers to help people identify the small things they could do to prioritise and nurture their wellbeing through the winter months, such as visiting a library, having a good boogie or catching up with friends.

We've also discovered from our research that widespread weariness is resulting in fewer people taking part in physical exercise, which has consequences for mental and physical health. We therefore partnered with the Body Festival (dance festival), the Walking Festival and Summer Starter (fun run) to support people to engage in events which help them practice all five ways to wellbeing, including being active. Given the need for greater Christchurch residents to sustain themselves over the long recovery period, the focus for spring and summer 2014/15 was 'Take a Breather', reminding people to take opportunities to recharge their batteries in small ways over the warmer months.

Focus groups with Māori also inform the campaign. Throughout spring and summer 2014/2015 we promoted Te Matatini, the national kapa haka competition, hosted in Christchurch in March 2015. We emphasised the role of kapa haka and other aspects of tikanga in nurturing wellbeing and encouraged the whole city to learn about why this festival is so important to our recovery.

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

hello@allright.org.nz





CANTERBURY FAMILY VIOLENCE COLLABORATION

Led by Barnardos with over 40 government and non-governmental organisations supporting

We're a cross-sector community of over 40 organisations and agencies that operate within the wider family violence sector in Canterbury.

Together, we work to reduce the level of family violence in Canterbury and enhance the total response to family violence through innovation and improvement of systems. Our vision is to see a community that values respectful relationships and where families, whānau and individuals do not use physical, sexual or psychological violence.

The earthquakes and their resulting impacts have strongly increased the risk factors fuelling family violence. Immediately following the earthquakes, family violence services reported a dramatic increase in the level of demand and case complexity. In 2012 Canterbury Police investigated over 7,400 incidents involving family violence, an average of 20 per day. Additionally, the earthquakes' long-term psychosocial effects such as post-traumatic stress and increased drug and alcohol consumption are still having a major impact on the community. These extra pressures put added strain on relationships and are known to increase aggression, short temperedness and the frequency and severity of family violence.

Together we work to enact systemic change in five identified strategic priority areas: Youth, Prevention, Staff Learning and Development, Crisis Response and Housing. Working together has emphasised that tackling family violence requires a whole-of-community level response, inclusive of diverse agencies, sectors and population groups and communities.

The vigilance of the Collaboration has empowered us to identify opportunities that emerge in our community and act on solutions together. Some of these include:

- Health and Wellbeing packs for the rebuild workforce, which collated health, mental health and social resources to distribute to incoming families to assist them as they settle in to their new communities.
- The Pacifica Campaign, which involved five Samoan churches taking part in a campaign to say no to violence. Ministers created their own anti-violence messages which we put onto posters for the Ministers to launch in their churches.
- A Champions project, where well-known identities partnered with us in a Canterbury Can Stand Up Against Violence campaign on posters, billboards and bus backs. These champions continue to assist the Collaboration to talk to the community about family violence.
- A Youth Voices project in local high schools to find out about young people's views and knowledge on family violence and what they would like the sector to do in response. As an immediate result of this research we discovered that confidentiality, privacy and trust were major issues and road blocks for young people seeking help. We have run a workshop for school counsellors and youth workers on these issues in response.

The Collaboration was formed as a dynamic entity and will remain so. This means we're constantly reviewing the most relevant priority areas of work needed to address family violence. In the long-term we seek to have made a demonstrated contribution to the Canterbury community's overall recovery. We envision a community where all people are free to be themselves to reach their fullest potential, relationships are peaceful and harmonious, children are nurtured to flourish in safe home environments, diversity is accepted, strengths and successes are celebrated, safe living environments are embraced and people can go to any public space they choose, children can walk to school free from fear of harm, elders are cared for respectfully, workplaces are free of harassment and we value respectful relationships.

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





CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Trust

We were the official global fundraiser for the earthquake recovery effort for Christchurch and the Canterbury region. Launched by Prime Minister John Key on 27 February 2011, we were set up to complement emergency support provided by other charitable agencies and core government responsibilities.

When the earthquakes struck, community facilities which took decades of fundraising to put in place, such as sports fields, parks, community buildings and historic buildings, were ruined within hours. We continue to help rebuild these things that are at the heart of Christchurch communities, the places and services that make a city worth living in. If we want to put a city back together, we need to put its communities back together too.

Since our launch we've received or been pledged a total of \$99 million of donations. \$98.4 million has been approved to recovery projects and \$600,000 from a SKY Television pledge will be allocated over the next three years. We chose to commit the funds towards communities, not individuals, and address the gap between what other funders and government were already funding. It has been satisfying and rewarding to partner with donors either on projects that they have specifically wished to support, or match their donations up with projects that lacked funds.

As infrastructure or 'bricks and mortar' needs were addressed, the growing psychosocial needs of people became more apparent. In recognition of this, we granted up to \$4.3 million to help address such hardship and also to benefit people still struggling as a result of the earthquakes. Some highlights in 2013-2014 have included:

- \$1.5 million to "Supporting Children in Christchurch" to help address the increasing psychosocial needs of children, young people and their families post-earthquakes, through major social service providers including Aviva, Barnardos, Early Start, Family Help Trust, Methodist Mission and Wellbeing North Canterbury.
- \$400,000 to Summer of Fun for 60 events throughout Christchurch, Selwyn and Waimakariri districts in 2014 and 2015
- \$240,000 towards the fit-out of the Christchurch Community House's permanent premises, to provide a home for a large number of small to medium sized community groups displaced by the earthquakes
- \$150,000 to provide a new facility at the Spencerville Community Hub that meets the needs of community groups that lost important facilities in the earthquakes
- \$100,000 to the Let's Find and Fix It initiative, to fund repairs to "unintentionally uninsured" houses in time for winter 2014
- \$300,000 to extend the current Residential Advisory Service to help meet the needs of people still working through insurance and housing issues
- Over \$2.8 million of hardship relief towards projects that relieve hardship and benefit people still struggling as a result of the earthquakes.

We've also made significant allocations to portfolios of education/youth, sport and recreation and heritage and culture.

We're no longer receiving funding requests but our trustees will continue to meet as required to make funding decisions concerning projects that directly benefit people still struggling, and on any other matters. All grants will continue to be administered and monitored within the Department of Internal Affairs.

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





COMMUNITY INFORMATION HUBS

Resilience Think Tank

We're a neighbourhood-level initiative aiming to strengthen communities and local resilience by supporting and creating thriving places and spaces that provide access to information and activities.

The types of spaces that act as hubs differ from neighbourhood to neighbourhood, but include community NGOs, local shops, schools and other natural places people gather. Many of these places were lost due to the earthquakes, or their communities dispersed.

One of our goals is to identify those hubs that remain and those that have emerged in the aftermath. This process is undertaken by members of the Resilience Think Tank including Family and Community Services (FACS), Christchurch City Council (CCC), Waimakariri District Council, Selwyn District Council, Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management and Red Cross.

While many hubs are of a similar nature, they needn't be defined by the type of organisation they are, or their physical form - a better approach is to look at the common characteristics they have. We've identified these as:

- face-to-face contact
- multiple services and/or activities delivered in the one location
- a place/space that already acts as a natural "bumping place"
- a place/space that already provides information.

With these defining characteristics, we used our respective information resources (particularly CCC profile work) and pre-existing relationships to find a range of 44 existing hubs across the region.

Aranui Community Trust (ACTIS) were supported by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) in 2014 to develop this work further and to achieve an agreed understanding with representatives of hubs about how information and supports will be shared through hubs and their networks. They provided three recommendations:

1. Strengthen links between residents that use information hubs and other activities/services/opportunities offered by agencies/city-wide organisations.
2. Make it easy for active local solutions to be channelled through local hubs.
3. Make information as specific as possible for specific geographical areas, including data and services.

Working on these recommendations, CERA's Community Resilience team is working with CCC, ACTIS and Hornby Presbyterian Church to establish a network of information hubs in the west and to plan a "phase 2" pilot in the east that will initiate neighbourhood planning through interested information hubs that are already part of a network in these suburbs. The pilots aim to support neighbourhood planning, build capacity of information hubs and support community resilience. It is hoped the local community boards will be interested in participating in these pilots with their local information hubs.





COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUPS

Mental Health Education and Resource Centre, Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, Ministry of Social Development

In 2013 we developed a pilot scheme for community support in the Port Hills, Dudley Creek and Shirley areas, intended to promote ways to enhance mental health.

The project was initiated by CERA to support property owners in the Port Hills who suffered significant land and property damage and are struggling with on-going issues arising from these problems. We then extended it to other geographic areas with significant land damage due to earthquakes and/or flooding.

The pilot comprised of two workshops. The first focused on enhancing participants' knowledge and skills to improve their mental wellbeing. The second workshop aimed to develop participants' skills to hold (or continue to hold) their own support groups effectively, and encouraged them to share the knowledge and skills they learnt with others in their communities and networks.

We identified a number of trends and needs from the workshops. Earthquake effects are still having a significant impact on our participants' day-to-day lives in areas such as road works, traffic, property damage, stress, financial difficulties, uncertainty and accommodation. Practical support (such as house repairs and child care) was rated by participants as the most significant need in the community, followed by social and emotional support (such as coffee with friends, support groups and counselling). Social and emotional support was identified as needed to help people get through while they wait for practical support and it is also required after, as people adjust to their 'new normal'.

We have heard that as people experience stress or feel overwhelmed they often reduce activities they perceive as 'less important', such as exercise, healthy eating and yoga. But these are activities that support mental health - it is vital that we continue to emphasise to the community the importance of mental health and how this can be achieved each day.

As with all pilots, we picked up a number of tips along the way to improve the development and delivery of the workshops for the future. One of these tips includes working with any existing, natural support groups, rather than creating new ones. The project has the potential to be redelivered to other geographic areas. The project will continue to evolve as greater Christchurch rebuilds and the needs of its people change.

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



EARTHQUAKE SUPPORT COORDINATION SERVICE

Ministry of Social Development, Family and Community Services

The Earthquake Support Coordination Service (ESCS) provides information and practical help for people, families or households whose homes and lives have been affected directly by the Canterbury earthquakes.

The ESCS coordinators:

- provide information
- help residents develop recovery plans
- connect residents with services
- undertake referral and application processes for services needed
- facilitate meetings between residents and relevant experts.

ESCS' skilled virtual team of staff includes non-governmental organisation (NGO) personnel, government Earthquake Support Coordinators and members of the Canterbury Earthquake Temporary Accommodation Service (CETAS). They provide an individualised service, ranging from "light touch" support for people who are managing their own situations through to intensive wrap-around support for those needing a recovery plan or referral to additional support services.

Services can be accessed through an 0800 number (0800 777 846) or by visiting the CETAS website (www.quakeaccommodation.govt.nz).

The innovative nature of the service was developed out of necessity rather than by design. It was piloted as the "earthquake navigation service" following the September 2010 earthquake, supporting 900 displaced families and households. It was based on lessons learned from the 2009 Victoria, Australia bushfires. The service was expanded after the February 2011 earthquake, becoming known as the Earthquake Coordination Service. As part of this expansion, the service:

- leveraged off work done by Family and Community Services' (FACS) Right Services Right Time initiative
- adapted the Waimakariri District Council's customer relationship management database used to support its community work
- utilised the 0800 number platform already established by FACTS with NGO partners Youthline and Lifeline. Other helplines were brought in to operate off this platform, aiding the process of connecting people to community-based social services (e.g. Family Violence Information Line).

Its work has been characterised by innovation, goodwill and willingness to "give it a go". ESCS says it has demonstrated what's possible when government and the community work together. Strong existing relationships between senior government agency managers enabled coordination of services based on a common goal and an underlying spirit of trust and respect.

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The service's single shared client management database has enabled information sharing, allowing much more targeted, successful and productive service delivery. It captures shared data about ESCS activity as well as data from CETAS temporary accommodation and financial support services.

Resource (total FTEs) for the service has diminished as referrals have decreased. However, the nature of these referrals are now from residents with more complex and lengthy repair/rebuild situations, many of whom have added vulnerabilities such as poor health.

The ESCS experience may provide useful guidance for ways of working in environments characterised by change, not just situations arising from disasters. The model demonstrates the potential of co-located "hubs" of government and NGO services in order to create efficiencies, avoid duplication of services and improve targeting of funding.

<http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/working-with-us/programmes-services/connected-services/supporting-canterbury/earthquake-support-co-ordination-service.html>

0800 777 846





KNOWING YOUR NEIGHBOUR IS A PIECE OF CAKE

Te Raranga

We aim to increase neighbourliness and social capital throughout greater Christchurch by encouraging individuals to develop stronger connections with those that live by them.

We launched in March 2014 with the slogan “Knowing your neighbour is a piece of cake”. We distributed postcards with space to include names and contact details for neighbours to homes throughout Christchurch, Selwyn and parts of the Waimakariri district. With postcard in hand, people might then pop next door or over the road and introduce themselves over a piece of cake or a cup of coffee.

It was a celebration of getting together over something simple and encouraging and reminded Cantabrians that relying on their neighbours was a big part of life after the earthquakes. We hope it will help tackle isolation in the community and make it easier for people to approach their neighbours in the future should they need some support.

This support is important in many contexts, but particularly in the aftermath of disaster. Often the first responders are not trained emergency personnel but rather local residents and neighbours. Existing social networks and community connections create efficient recoveries and contribute towards resilient communities.

In the aftermath of the Canterbury earthquakes, we saw informal relationships develop spontaneously across neighbourhoods throughout greater Christchurch as people responded to their immediate environment through a shared experience. While some communities have retained these connections, many others have reverted back to life pre-quake.

The earthquakes also weakened social connectedness in some communities as people left due to damage to their homes or concerns about aftershocks - particularly in the hard-hit eastern suburbs. Children’s social networks were disturbed, with some travelling to schools in other parts of town.

Almost twenty years on from the earthquake in Kobe, one of the key lessons for recovery has been that it is impossible in a disaster recovery situation to do anything that isn’t done by citizens on a regular basis. To this end, in order to build social capital and a feeling of connection in local neighbourhoods, activities such as talking to neighbours or attending local events must become part of everyday life - and our Neighbourhood Project helps do just that. We will continue to encourage people to connect and share - because everybody needs good neighbours.

“Just had a wonderful afternoon sharing cake with my neighbours. My next-door neighbour and I baked cakes and dropped postcards and an invitation to afternoon tea into the other 14 houses in our cul-de-sac. 20 neighbours gathered together at our house and had such a good time that we have already begun planning the next event. Thanks for the nudge, Neighbourhood Project!”

“We did a ‘bake off’ and had a great time - the inaugural Chester Community Bake-off was a great success on Sunday afternoon with about 10 different entrants voting on a wide variety of delicious treats!”

“They [the postcards] are ideal for new neighbours and I will continue to give them out as the neighbourhood changes.”

<http://raranga.org.nz/pieceofcake/>



LYTTELTON'S COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

Lyttelton Community

Our community emergency response plan focuses on building community from regular day-to-day use of community groups.

When the 22 February 2011 earthquake hit, many elements of our Lyttelton emergency services were called to help with the tremendous damage elsewhere in the city. The tunnel was closed, further isolating our community. The emergency response was left largely to us as locals.

Nearly two years later, in November 2012, a small group of our residents got together to consider what Lyttelton's community response to future crises could be. A community preparedness plan emerged from the lessons of the earthquakes, the core of which is that any response will be better if the community is already well-connected, allowing efficient distribution of information throughout the community and providing opportunities for people to request help or resources when needed. It's about people supporting each other - communities of volunteers, emergency specialists, local businesspeople and fire, police and health services.

*"As a community, we don't spend too much time training for an emergency. Our close connections mean a few trained people can work with well-connected community members and we know from experience we will produce a pretty good response to any crisis."*¹

Our existing community networks help create a more rapid and efficient response. Lyttelton Community House, Lyttelton Health Centre and the Hibiscus Club were able to identify at-risk elderly quickly, evidenced by their cooking evening meals five days a week for 42 people. The Timebank, which had 330 individual and 18 community group members at the time of the September 2010 earthquake, was able to identify gaps and holes in the response as they arose and address them quickly. The Timebank has now grown to 500 individual and 35 community group members.

*"Communities really benefit from organisations that exist to build communities all the time, rather than those that exist for a narrow purpose - like Civil Defence."*²

We have the most developed community emergency plan because it focuses on building community from regular day-to-day use of community groups which, while effective in emergency situations, operate primarily for non-emergency purposes. It's already paying off - communities in our area are connecting more than they ever did before. The spin-off benefits are expected to continue long after any emergency and help the community as a whole through long-term recovery.

*"Community networks are more dynamic and can spontaneously initiate solutions to problems. Those solutions come from the people and are more likely to be sustainable by locals."*³

*"Our community is now taking responsibility to shape the future of our town - it gives hope."*⁴

<http://www.lyttelton.net.nz>
office@lyttelton.net.nz

¹ Lyttelton Review, 4 August 2014

² Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, *Community Resilience: case studies from the Canterbury earthquakes*. TEPHRA Nov 2012, Vol. 23

³ Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, *Community Resilience: case studies from the Canterbury earthquakes*. TEPHRA Nov 2012, Vol. 23

⁴ Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, *Community Resilience: case studies from the Canterbury earthquakes*. TEPHRA Nov 2012, Vol. 23





PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP COURSE (MGMT 208)

University of Canterbury

In collaboration with the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, Christchurch City Council, and Selwyn and Waimakariri District Councils, we've designed a course that enables groups of students to work with community groups and leaders to develop projects that benefit these organisations and their communities.

The course's initial purpose was to enrich student learning but it is now about the mutual benefit of both students and community groups. Students are assessed based on how they meet community need, and the student/community relationship is placed at the centre of each project - there is a focus on the need for people and communities to connect and show that others care.

We get students to see leadership differently and help them understand the kind of leadership required to make a positive difference. We focus on experiential learning, because the best way to teach leadership is to expose students to it - and the collaborative, holistic approach of communities indeed demonstrates real leadership.

Our 2014 students worked on a wide range of projects with an even wider range of groups. Students advised on and wrote reports, plans and strategies for St Albans Residents' Association, arts networking group In The Loop, community garden trust Just Dirt, sustainability group Soil and Health Canterbury, Citizens Advice Bureau, Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration, youth organisation White Elephant Trust, Riccarton West Neighbourhood Safety Panel and more. They organised projects to transform land and spaces for Sumner Coast Care and Heathcote Village Project. They even looked at ways to increase and diversify the memberships of Bowls Canterbury, Christchurch Bridge Club and the Hornby Community Centre. Whether in-progress or complete, their work has made a significant difference to their greater Christchurch communities.

Our students have also benefited greatly, learning from the wisdom and experience of the community groups. As a result of their involvement, they have developed greater enthusiasm for volunteering and involvement in the community independent of course work, and have gained valuable and practical skills through positive experiences.

Our future goals include expanding the course from a single semester to a year, offering it to students across the University rather than from just Management, creating a University portal through which the community can access support and seeing the course incorporated into communities' long-term planning.

<http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo/GetCourseDetails.aspx?course=MGMT208>





RECOVERY MATTERS WORKSHOPS

New Zealand Red Cross

We offer workshops to empower communities and workplaces to support themselves and others in recovery.

The workshops are for community members/groups and workplaces with staff and volunteers working during recovery. These workplaces include those working in pre-disaster roles that support communities in recovery, such as health services, council and insurance staff.

Our workshops recognise that people working within and alongside communities are key players in the recovery and are designed to support these people's efforts. They promote Dr Rob Gordon's message: "Yes, recovery is having homes repaired, but what matters most is the life we live within them."

Our workshops are developed with input from leading international disaster recovery experts. Materials include real stories of those who have experience recovering from disasters, both from New Zealand and the international community. The workshops are run by our trained facilitators.

We fully fund the approximately one-hour community workshops, which aim to:

- provide practical tips and tools to understand and support loved ones, friends and neighbours through the recovery process
- understand the science of stress, including problems with memory, decision making and managing responsibilities
- connect with others facing similar recovery challenges.

Our workplace workshops are three-to-four hours, to suit the needs of the group. These are offered on a cost recovery basis of \$1000 for businesses and agencies and are fully-funded for non-profit and community-based organisations. They aim to:

- support workplaces to understand the recovery process in the context of their organisation and promote strategies for staff and volunteers involved in community recovery
- understand the science of stress and its impacts on ourselves, colleagues and clients
- recognise that staff and volunteers working during recovery may hear personal recovery stories from the communities in which they work, often acting as informal conduits of support and information
- recognise that working in the recovery environment takes energy and care and that staff and volunteers do not work in isolation from their own recovery experience and external life stressors.

The feedback we've received has been that the workshops are valuable:

"I can confidently say that there was a significant value for each and every one of us who has survived the earthquakes to take part [in the workplace workshop]... we wish you well with this initiative – it's a worthwhile one, no question." - Business Unit Manager, Johnson & Johnson

"I feel empowered that we are helping and doing the right things for our community." - Door-knocking volunteer, St Christopher's

<https://www.redcross.org.nz/what-we-do/in-new-zealand/helping-in-canterbury/community-workshop/>





RESIDENTIAL ADVISORY SERVICE (RAS)

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, Earthquake Commission, Insurance Council of New Zealand, Community Forum, Christchurch City Council

We provide free independent assistance to greater Christchurch residential property owners, enabling them to understand and make progress in their individual repair, rebuild or resettlement process. We focus on progressing the issues between home owners, insurance companies and the Earthquake Commission (EQC).

Our advisors are independent qualified solicitors provided by Community Law Canterbury. They work with the property owner to try and achieve progress for the individual situation, which may be through providing advice to give confidence, or through more involved engagement with the relevant insurer or the EQC. If we can't help we can connect the property owner to other services that may be able to assist. We also provide free facilitation of multi-party meetings for situations involving other property owners and multiple agencies.

Interested residential property owners contact us via an 0800 number or email. Between our launch in May 2013 and early April 2015 we received 9,409 inquiries. We progressed 2,281 of these to a meeting with an advisor and referred 589 to other agencies or organisations. We've focused on ensuring our triage at the first contact is consistent and that we refer cases to other agencies appropriately in the first instance. We have seen increased contacts and subsequent referrals in the year to date above the previous year, including an increased number of property owners who have yet to engage with their insurer or EQC.

We continue to receive positive comments from our clients about their experience with us. Examples of some of these are available as case studies on our website.

An exit survey to March 2015 showed 77 per cent of respondent clients were very satisfied or satisfied with our service and 80 per cent were very likely or likely to recommend us to others.

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

info@advisory.org.nz





ROTARY NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

Rotary (District 9770)

Our Neighbourhood Project Fund was established to support locally initiated projects that help improve wellbeing and build resilient communities and neighbourhoods.

Our core focus is supporting grass-root initiatives to encourage individuals to do something constructive in and beneficial to their community. It's not just about "signing cheques" - a Rotary club is linked with each project, whose members then work with the applicants to find out what they need and how they can help. This unique method helps our clubs become more engaged in their local communities, but also assists community groups to establish an ongoing relationship with their local club. It promotes relationships that can endure well beyond the lifespan of the project.

The project's fundamental values are:

- Recognise that communities have strengths and assets
- Engage communities and/or connect people to people
- Strengthen community leadership
- Do things differently
- Support parents, young children and families
- Utilise community assets
- Community-led recovery.

The project fund is supported and promoted by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, with initial funding from international and national Rotary districts. Applicants can apply for up to \$500 for small neighbourhood events and up to \$4,000 for larger community events. Some projects we've sponsored include:

Cashmere Carnival

We helped sponsor this brand new event at Thorrrington Primary School in April 2014. Music, carnival games, candy floss, face painting, Pita Pit and epic game "Prize Fishing" came together to make the day a big success, despite wet weather. Over 30 families attended in the wettest part of the day and cleaned out almost all the prizes.

Zero to Hero Beginner Boat Fleet

The University of Canterbury Canoe Club run this white-water kayak course three times a year. They wanted to buy new boats for beginners to learn in as the existing ones were weakening and deteriorating. They had grants from other sources but needed a little more to meet their target and help a group of young people have some fun and learn some skills.

Quilt-making

New Zealanders Migrant/Refugee Women's Quilting Group were very pleased to have some assistance for materials for their work in sewing and quilt-making. This teaches migrants a new skill and provides general support for them and an opportunity to socialise and to practise their English. The quilts are also exquisite!

Christchurch Break Mission Event

This was a dance event with some "how-to" classes run by the Shirley Community Trust. Entry was by bringing a gift of food or clothing, which were then distributed to those in need. There was also a graffiti artist in attendance and a breakdance competition.

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



STRENGTHENING THE YOUTH SECTOR PROJECT

Strengthening the Youth Sector Inter-agency Group

Our inter-agency group provides leadership and coordination for the youth sector in greater Christchurch.

Our broad membership includes central and local government agencies, non-governmental organisations and philanthropic funders. We help to build capacity and identify gaps, overlaps and opportunities for efficiencies in the youth sector.

In the aftermath of the earthquakes, community groups, schools and other agencies that work with young people responded to the needs of young people in a number of innovative ways. While some of these responses were co-ordinated and collaboratively planned, in many cases responses emerged in an ad-hoc and organic way, developed by service providers responding to an identified local need, rather than from a sector wide strategic plan.

While this approach allowed for the innovation and flexibility required in a response phase, a number of organisations identified that a more planned approach would be needed as the city moved into recovery to ensure that the youth sector could meet its many challenges.

In September 2012, the Canterbury Youth Workers Collective, supported by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, the Wayne Francis Charitable Trust and the three local authorities gathered together members of the youth sector for a hui focused on strengthening the sector post-earthquake.

From discussions that day, it emerged that a collaborative approach was needed within the youth sector to:

- strengthen existing networks
- support young people to participate in the rebuild
- enhance the capacity and capability of the sector and advance the quality of existing services
- ensure funders and service providers collaboratively plan to make the most of opportunities presenting themselves in the current environment
- ensure services, programmes and activities meet the recovery needs of young people.

The Strengthening the Youth Sector Project Interagency Group was established in response - a collaborative attempt by partner agencies to formalise their activity and enhance the response to youth sector issues, both psychosocial and economic.

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We support and advise five work streams intended to build a stronger youth sector:

- **Youth Friendly Spaces and Places**

This is the newest work stream of the project, focused on designing a 'check card' and audit to help ensure public places and spaces are relevant for the young people of greater Christchurch.

- **Youth Charter**

At the hui it was strongly recommended that a Youth Charter be written to provide overarching youth development principles that any youth strategy would be aligned to and any organisation working or engaged with young people would agree to promote and work by. A draft charter was launched in September 2013.

- **Youth Participation**

In consultation with the Christchurch Youth Council, this group created Youth Voice Canterbury, an online network of youth councils and youth advisory groups from Canterbury which connects young people with the best people to answer their questions, consider their suggestions or make a change.

- **Youth Employment**

The Youth Employment Focus Group facilitated a December 2013 workshop inviting participants working within the youth employment spectrum. Those present were asked to reflect on what the key priorities should be to ensure the maximisation of employment opportunities for young people in Christchurch. These priorities are a key focus of the Youth Employment Focus Group.

- **Building the Capacity of the Youth Sector**

This group is responsible for distributing the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Trust funding given to support the wellbeing of the sector's workforce.

<http://www.cywc.org.nz/sys-project.html>





SUMMER OF FUN

Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Trust, The Methodist Church, Anglican Life, Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council, Waimakariri District Council, YMCA

Together we coordinated this annual series of free summer family events planned by local communities for local communities in Christchurch City and the Waimakariri and Selwyn districts.

Funded by the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Trust (CEAT), supported by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) and coordinated by the Anglican and Methodist churches, we set the fun days up to help reconnect communities and raise morale following the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes. The events continue to give neighbourhoods an opportunity to get together and enjoy themselves in an informal way with things like bouncy castles, candy floss, face painting, live music, magic shows, clowns, hāngi and slushy machines on offer.

The Summer of Fun programme took place in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Planning is under way for 2016 with a focus on making the programme sustainable for the future. Local business support is being gathered to provide funding for local events to replace CEAT funding.

To date almost 200 locally-organised events have taken place with an estimated combined total attendance of 37,500.

Some Summer of Fun 2014/2015 events

Life Church in Upper Riccarton held the first event of the summer on 1 November 2014. It was a tremendous success with a turnout of approximately 400 local people from the local community.

A Life Church representative said *“It was heartening to see so many different groups of people interacting, including young children, teenagers, young families and older people. There was something for everyone - with the free clothes giveaway a particular drawcard for all. Many people commented to our volunteers that they were blown away by the generosity shown towards them, with nothing expected in return.”*

Toddlers' Big Day Out on 25 January 2015 saw 2,000 people in attendance, including babies, toddlers and school-aged children (5-12 years). The event focused on bringing the North Canterbury community together to enjoy a day of children's entertainment and interactive activities and reached out to the community by providing general information and encouraging further knowledge of the community's many activities and education providers.

Young people attended the low-key Bangers and Music event in Sumner on 24 January 2015. Organiser Lukas Thielmann said they wanted to use music to bring local youth together. *“With the loss of city centre, especially in the music community, there is a loss of a central hub. It is slowly coming back but it has still go a long way to go. The music community is a little bit fragmented now, which is one of the reasons why we chose a music theme.”*

A Summer of Fun community fun day at the Central New Brighton School on 25 January 2015 gave parents, students and teachers from the new Rāwhiti School a chance to meet ahead of the new school year. The school has been created from the merger of Central New Brighton, Freeville and North New Brighton schools.

Opawa-St Martins Anglican Parish held a Community Fun Day on 31 January, with approximately 150 people in attendance to enjoy a bouncy castle, giant board games, face painters and a balloon twister. After being asked why the church decided to get involved, they said *“We feel it is a positive service to the community, and that community service is a necessary duty for a church such as ours. Anything that helps to remove stress is a positive thing”.*

“Having seen the positive reactions from people in the community, we are very keen to continue hosting such events and the vestry has proposed we attempt to spend more of our energy on similar projects.”

<http://facebook.com/ChoiceChCh>





TE RARANGA AND THE INTERCHURCH FORUM

Te Raranga

We're a coordinated network of around 300 churches, representing more than 37,000 people in the greater Christchurch area.

Our network emerged organically in the immediate aftermath of the earthquakes when a number of denominational and local church-appointed earthquake coordinators began to meet fortnightly to discuss emerging trends and to look for ways in which they could collaborate.

Te Raranga is the banner that our Churches Forum operates under. It also provides a vehicle for collaborative projects and initiatives to take place across the city.

The Interchurch Forum (or Canterbury Post-EQ Churches Forum) meets monthly and has provided a remarkable context within which to share information and resources. Our membership includes representatives from the Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, the Salvation Army, a range of independent churches and government agencies. We've been supported by several Christian non-governmental organisations including World Vision, TEAR Fund and Christian World Service.

Representatives of our Forum have been invited to engage with the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) as part of the Community Wellbeing Planners Group, the Psychosocial Committee, the Build Ready community facility programme and to discuss pastoral supports that could be provided to residents throughout greater Christchurch. We've also collaborated with Christchurch City Council and the Ministry of Social Development. In this way, Te Raranga has become a "go-to" organisation for government and NGO engagement with churches and faith-based social services agencies in Christchurch.

<http://raranga.org.nz/>





YOU, ME, WE, US KAIAPOI

Waimakariri District Council Social Recovery

This is our legacy programme, fostering community-led projects in earthquake-affected communities in Kaiapoi. We show that people and communities working together can make great things happen and we build partnerships between local businesses, grassroots community groups and residents.

We took over from Rubble Rousers, the Kaiapoi Gap Filler project that had for over two years created artworks on empty sections in the town's business area. Difficulties securing funding and volunteer overworking saw this come to an end, so we started this new platform to manage funding while involving many of the same people.

It's all about putting ideas into action. In October 2013 we invited locals to a conversation café where heaps of ideas for community-building and beautification initiatives were shared. A year on, over 15 of these have become a reality, some of which include the Harcourts Kaiapoi River Clean-up; giant toy boxes and community naughts and crosses boards (using repurposed road cones as markers) for the town centre; planting days to grow food forests; bottling, pickling and preserving workshops; the family-aimed Kaiapoi Adventure Race; and Kaiapoi Stands Tall - which saw five 1.3m-tall fibreglass giraffes decorated by local schools. Our steering group looks forward to helping deliver many more, particularly with businesses and sports and youth groups.

Two funds were created to support our work. One was to help groups and individuals respond to ideas from the conversation café, particularly community projects relating to the themes of enhancing natural environment, young people and youth space, arts and culture, businesses and economic development and community spaces and facilities. The other finances community events that build on community involvement, camaraderie and enjoyment. Funding comes from rates, the Canterbury Community Trust and a range of government agencies.

A lot has changed since the programme began. There is an increased sense of community in the area and more connectedness between residents. We have a platform for social innovations and creativity that signal hope and energy. We envisage a variety of existing groups such as Waimakariri Creative Arts Group and Kaiapoi Promotions Association taking ownership and discussions are under way between the District Council and Promotions Agency for an alliance to bring all local community groups together to work for the good of the town and its residents.

<https://www.facebook.com/YouMeWeUsKaiapoi>

