

WESLEYCOM

The following reports graphically present the significant commitment the Methodist Church of New Zealand makes to social service. Each reflects longstanding costly ministries of unconditional care and concern for the whole of society. Each is a commitment to justice and compassion. A commitment to “putting right” social and economic conditions that otherwise erode the lives of young and old and jeopardise any Cycle of Hope[®].

But each of these social service ministries is maintained in increasingly complex economic and social conditions. Constantly the demand for service outstrips the capacity to provide. Consistently, escalating costs stretch the boundaries of developing and managing affordable service delivery. Complex demographic and population changes are being experienced. Continuously, emerging social policy and practice must be measured against the Church’s social principles and on behalf of the Methodist Church of New Zealand, WesleyCom bears a burden to ensure responsible critique and advocacy.

Methodist Mission Aotearoa

Each regional report outlines its own areas of service and concern. Each speaks for itself. But increasingly, it is becoming critically important (particularly in discussions with government or in negotiations with government departments) to be able to address issues collectively. Although within the life of the Connexion, the name “WesleyCom” has become the recognised identity of social services ministries, it has proven to be a descriptive far less familiar beyond the bounds of the Church.

As a result, any awareness of the considerable greater Methodist commitment to social services was often dispersed by its regional fragmentation.

For that reason, WesleyCom, in its collective dealings with government and on other nation-wide matters, has returned to using the descriptive “Methodist Mission Aotearoa”. Importantly, it clearly embraces our identity as “Methodist”; it includes each and every locality and service initiative from Whangarei to Invercargill; and facilitates an easily recognisable Methodist social service mandate.

Pathways to Partnership

“Pathways to Partnership” was a policy announcement of government earlier this year. It is arguably the most significant change for some decades in the funding of essential social services.

Firstly, it is a commitment over four years to achieve the full funding of agreed services provided by the non-government sector. But secondly and of equal importance, it gives clear recognition to the long standing reality that by and large it is the NGO sector, rather than government, that commits most to the delivery of such services.

However, the prospect of full funding of essential services also creates a risk of resource dependency. The overt influence of so-called full funding from one source alone and the extent to which, if left unmonitored or without critique, can compromise the values and independence of an NGO were identified by Jeffrey Pfeffer and Gerald Salancik as early as 30 years ago.

It will therefore be critically important for social service entities to appropriately monitor and manage that risk. But equally important is that the Church and wider community maintain their own firm commitment to ensure financial resources (independent of government contractual funding) remain generously available for such costly ministries of social service.

However, at the time of writing, the extent to which meaningful funding will be provided from the “Pathways to Partnership” model in the 2009 financial year is yet to be full determined. Already there are indications that the proportion of funding will fall considerably short of the sector’s earlier expectations. If so, it is cause for some concern. For it risks burdening already financially overstretched service providers with the costs of sustaining the ever increasing demand for essential services, many of which are addressing complex multiple needs.

New Zealand Christian Council of Social Services

The Methodist Church of New Zealand is one of six member Churches of the New Zealand Christian Council of Social Services. This year and with the support of Church Leaders in a series “*Let us look after each other – Aroha tetahi ke tetahi*” the Council has taken a specific initiative to address the attributes required to achieve a just and compassionate society and the means by which communities and congregations might, particularly in an election cycle, approach questions of social concern.

“*Let us look after each other – Aroha tetahi ke tetahi*” has included “Our Children Our Treasure”, “A Valued Place For Older People”, “Made Poor in New Zealand” and soon to be released, “Housing Affordability” and “Supporting Communities”. For all six Churches (Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian and Salvation Army) the NZCCSS undertakes important research, analysis and policy development that might otherwise be beyond the capacity of each.

Amending Legislation

Conference 2007 warmly commended the passage of legislation amending s59 of the Crimes Act. Now however, WesleyCom must note the likelihood of a nation-wide referendum in 2009, sought by petitioners wishing to reclaim the right to hit children.

Change in legislation (no matter how worthy, no matter how finely crafted), does not of itself seal societal change. Even on occasions when such legislation is an urgent beacon to social transformation, at best it is an evolution of change often taking ten, twenty years or more, before becoming the heart, soul and mind of the community.

The amendment to Section 59 of the Crimes Act and the fierce opposition and media misrepresentation that it evoked, is an excellent contemporary example of that very telling analysis. For here was that “urgent beacon of social transformation” desperately needed in a country and among its people, who shamefully today, have one of the worst records of violence towards children anywhere in the western world.

Where to, now that the rights to a referendum have been successfully claimed? Over the months ahead, the most effective counter claim the Methodist Church of New Zealand can make to that referendum is simply to BE that beacon of social transformation in all that we are and all that we do.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead

METHODIST MISSION NORTHERN

New Name for Services:

After almost 18 months of research and brand development, the Mission launched its new services image under the name of LIFEWISE – turning lives around. The launch was a very successful occasion and so far the response of parishes and the wider community has been very positive, with very few concerns being expressed. Over the next few months the Mission will review the success of this renaming.

Of interest to the Conference would be the following.

From the months of June and July LIFEWISE has:

- featured on Radio Live, in the Western Leader, in the internal news of AUT twice, on TV3 News, in The Aucklander (2 editions), Central Leader, City Harbour News, Awhi Mai 0 Awhi Atu (CYFS), Challenge Weekly, New Zealand Herald (twice).
- With AUT has been selected as a finalist for a Robin Hood foundation Social Hero Award (including the Prime Ministers award).
- Received good support from the parishes that participated in the Hot Water Bottle Appeal (Wesley Day).
- Published and distributed the first edition of a new look newsletter for supporters.
- Progressed translation of a regular LIFEWISE church bulletin into Maori, Samoan, Tongan, Fijian and Korean.
- As many of our publications as possible printed on paper sourced from sustainable forests and the ink used is vegetable based and non-polluting.

During the year the Mission said farewell to Jaclyn Green. Jaclyn had been General Manager for a number of years. As GM, she was instrumental in steering the Mission through some very difficult times and assisted the Board in the implementation of sound policies and processes in property management, risk management, human resourcing and finance control. Her replacement as General Manager of Property and Commercial is Bruce Stone, who as a chartered accountant has served with Housing New Zealand and in a number of other property companies.

In November 2007 John McCarthy, was appointed as General Manager of Community Services, John has worked in and managed various governmental and non-governmental agencies and his experience is welcomed by the Board and Service Managers.

The Board continues, as reported to Conference last year, the discussion on a new Board structure. Already much of the work of the Board is conducted through the two proposed arms by way of committees. To ensure the smooth transition, the Board of MMN is developing processes to ensure that the work of both new Boards is consistent with the Cycles of Hope©, that the strategic planning of both is aligned and investment and service delivery plans are not in conflict.

CBD Property:

The Mission began a process of marketing its CBD sites in September 2007. Included were the multi-storied commercial properties on 360 Queen St, and 3 Wakefield St, other properties included 7 Wakefield St (predominately single level car parking), 370

Queen St, (retail and Chapel access), Airedale St (LIFEWISE Centre, carparking, and Chapel). A very complex set of properties. At the time the intention was to sell a leasehold interest in the property and a marketing programme was devised in consultation with Bayleys Real Estate. By February it was clear that very few developers were interested in leasehold properties. However, a number of potential buyers did express an interest in a freehold sale. The Board asked that freehold offers be explored along with the few interested in the leasehold. The end result was that the advantages of the freehold offers could not be ignored and finally a sale on this basis was agreed.

The Board followed the church processes diligently, and in fact constantly reviewed the situation to ensure that all consultations were taking or had taken place – this was no small task as the property was both commercial and church, and because different processes are used for each many committees had to be consulted. After exhaustive work, marketing and negotiating it was not until the last minute that the freehold option was accepted – that is the leasehold possibility was totally exhausted, and there was little use in pursuing it any further.

What was entailed and what were the advantages to the church?

- The freehold offer was substantially better than any other.
- A one hundred year lease might still retain the ownership of the land, but it is impossible to know what liabilities might be incurred over that period of time.
- The offer did not require due-diligence.
- The terms of lease for the occupancy of the Chapel and The LIFEWISE Community Centre were most favourable.
- The sale enables the Mission to look at investing in order to fund its activities without any outstanding maintenance or debt.

The figures: Without the sale, a deficit in 2008/09 of at best \$404,000; if maintenance is included \$820,000; ongoing interest payments of \$571,000. With the sale, a surplus of \$340,000, no debt servicing in second half of year, and a manageable maintenance programme.

Hiccups?

Even though the Mission had a very elaborate communication plan involving hundreds of letters and email communication to tenants, donors, contractors, clients, Aotea Chapel community, synod members, the wider church and media it did not go perfectly. It is unclear what more could have been done given that the Board was bound by commercial confidentiality clauses, and once the sale had been completed there were three days in which to inform people in a carefully planned sequence. That there would be some hurt and frustration was always of concern and everything that could, at the time, be done was to ensure that communications happened as soon as practicable and sensitively, however with the strong emotional and historic links to the site some anger, frustration and sense of being betrayed was inevitable. The Conference would do well to remember that this was not a sale entered into lightly or without a deep sense of the implications for the future of the Mission. It was no easy moment for either the Chairperson of the Board or the Superintendent to sign the Sale and Purchase Documents!

Services

LIFEWISE Family Services

With the rebranding it has been interesting to see staff creatively engage in the presentation to clients and others the new name! Cakes, pens, and wearing something red have all added to a 'good fun' atmosphere and reduced the concern of those who might have been concerned about the implication the new name had on them. This Service is currently being reorganised to allow for development of our community focussed part of this service.

LIFEWISE Home Care

One of the largest providers in New Zealand and one the Church should be proud of as it is seen as a 'preferred provider'. With over 1,700 clients and 250 staff it is no small business. Its strength is in the attitude of the staff and its mission to provide not only excellent service but to a sector of the labour force which is often marginalised a high quality educational service. At a recent graduation ceremony in the Aotea Chapel over 100 employees received entry level qualification certificates. A proud moment for all.

The LIFEWISE Centre

Corie Haddock is the new manager for this service. With a strong background in mental health and a real passion for the work it has been good to observe the new service model being implemented. It is pleasing to see that this aspect of the Mission's work is moving from 'soup kitchen' to a Centre offering a range of activities and opportunities – wood carving, medical support, group work (CADS and Odyssey House), AUT, Housing New Zealand are just a start. Centre staff are working with Street Football Aotearoa to take a team of homeless people to the 2008 Homeless (Soccer) World Cup in Melbourne – a first for New Zealand. Further development of the LIFEWISE Centre model is expected as a result of the relocation of the service following the sale of the inner-city premises.

LIFEWISE Aotea Methodist Chapel

Tony Franklin as the presbyter has brought some invigorating commitment and energy. The chapel has been used for a variety of functions including a graduation, a choir and bell ringing concert, and a Synod meeting. It continues to provide a place for worship for the Aotea Chapel Community and the Auckland Deaf Christian Fellowship. With the sale of the property the community will be involved in consultation of how the Mission engages with the people of the Central Business District, and what it means to have a 'presence' theologically, prophetically and pastorally, in the heart of the city.

LIFEWISE Innovations

The Takapuna Methodist Parish and LIFEWISE have shared in a community development project on the North Shore. This has been highly successful, and offers a sound model for shared parish – LIFEWISE projects. Rebecca Harrington, the Community Development Worker employed, has had a significant impact within the area through her involvement with City Council consultations, advocacy for local groups, youth and a very successful "Know Your Neighbour" programme which featured on the front page of the North Shore times and the New Zealand Herald.

John Murray
Superintendent

David Smith
Chairman

The Employment Generation Fund

The fund was created in 1992 to create employment by assisting small businesses through funding advances. Key points achieved during the year were:

- Six advances were made during the year, totalling \$100,000.
- Jobs created since the fund started now total 337 FTE (full time equivalents).
- The net operating and asset results generally reflect the level of grants received each year. The level of loan activity has been less than last year, a result of high employment and easier commercial sourcing of capital, but there are recent signs that the cyclical nature of these two factors is reversing.

As indicated in our report last year the trustees have been investigating ways of making the fund become more financially self-sufficient; this has reached a stage where the lending policy of the fund has been amended to include the seeking of a number of carefully selected ventures in which the fund will take an equity interest.

Table of the fund's position at 30 June 2008

	Number	\$	\$
Capital Fund input			575,000
Ventures assisted	141		
FTE employment	337		
Funding advances	199	1,516,872	
Loans repaid	83	881,342	
Loans being repaid	19	289,400	
Repayments not started	2	40,000	
Special grants	111	118,870	

At 30 June the Trustees and Management Committee members were as follows:

Trustees:

Maurice Copeland (Chair)
 Angus Fletcher
 John Fraser
 Brian Gauld
 Geoff Peak
 Graham Dewar

Management Committee:

John Fraser (Convenor)
 Margaret Crozier
 Brian Gauld
 Philip Hickling (Fund Manager)
 Brian McFadden
 Geoff Peak

LOOKING AHEAD.....

- The Trustees and Management Committee will continue their efforts to improve the financial sustainability of the fund by seeking four new investment ventures, following which prospective partners will be approached to take the fund to its next stage of development.
- The Trustees and Management Committee will continue to work with interested parties to replicate the fund in other areas.
- The Management Committee will actively promote the objectives of the fund and continue to seek out ventures needing financial support.

The Trustees and Management Committee acknowledges and is extremely grateful for the ongoing support it receives from Methodist Mission Northern. The Tindall Foundation and ASB Community Trust have also provided funding assistance, without which the fund could not operate.

Maurice Copeland (Chairman)

Phil Hickling (Fund Manager)

Bainbridge House Charitable Trust Towards Independent Living

Bainbridge House has been operating now for fifteen years. The Trust houses in Rotorua number four and referrals are accepted from Taupo and Turangi. One house is dedicated to crisis respite care intervention ; another house is an alcohol and other drugs home for people waiting entry to treatment centres or returning from a treatment centre; and two of the houses are used as transition homes for people affected by mental illness. All clients are encouraged and supported during their stay with the aim of integration back into the community.

The staff number 7 in total and all are completing or have completed the National Certificate Mental Health Support Worker. Staff have a variety of qualifications which enables Bainbridge to offer a variety of services within the mental health community. The staff, under Alice Whare's management and leadership, have a commitment to providing recovery-focused service in an holistic manner that is free of stigma and discrimination.

There is a policy of inclusion into the community as opposed to exclusion from the community and encourage tangata whaiora to seek opportunities for education and employment in main stream educational facilities and work places.

Bainbridge Trust works closely with many agencies including Workwise, Te Utuhina Mangaakitanga Trust, and community mental health teams. This collaborative work endeavours to achieve the best outcome for all tangata whaiora.

This year is one of consolidation by the new manager and for the Board, having experienced an upheaval in staff changes and a long awaited DHB audit. Putting the 'house' in order and keeping the morale of the dedicated staff peaking, as well as in making Bainbridge Trust Houses a point of difference and excellence in the local mental health community, must bode well for the future integrity of the business operation.

Tamahere Eventide Home And Retirement Village

Period: 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

1. General

We have had an excellent year with continued high occupancy levels. The Tamahere Eventide Home Trust was registered as a Charitable Trust on 19 February 2008.

2. Rental Apartments

We had full occupancy for the year with an ever expanding waiting list. Tenants made good use of our catering service, transport and nursing services. A total of 7,125 meals were provided to tenants.

The real value of this project can be measured in the social benefits to the residents with increased social integration and participation, ability to attend Church services on site, nursing services and catering services suited to their needs.

3. Residential Care Services

The high occupancy level of the previous year was maintained and improved on. A waiting list for rest home and dementia beds continued to increase and demand is the highest it has been in many years. The occupancy levels were as follows:

- Rest Home 100% (2007 - 98%)
- Dementia Unit 100% (2007 - 100%)
- Villas 100% (2007 - 100%)
- Apartments 100% (2007 - 100%)

The Day Care programme had an average monthly attendance of 246 (2007 – 225) client visits.

The demand for respite care beds remained very high with 864 (2007 - 1156) bed days occupied for this service at a value of \$58,038 (2007 - \$77,642). The availability of beds for respite care restricted this service as most beds were fully occupied by rest home residents.

The nurses and caregivers under the leadership of Cushla Wolland, Clinical Services Manager provided excellent services to the residents and their families.

4. Activities

The therapy staff, lead by Chris Brocket continued to provide a diverse and entertaining programme of activities and outings for the residents.

Special events included Daffodil Day, Volunteers Christmas Party, Melbourne Cup, Easter, Residents' Christmas, Queens Birthday, Mid-Winter Christmas, Father's Day, Mothers Day, Halloween, Guy Fawkes, Trip to Cambridge Town Hall Christmas display, Waitangi Day, Valentines Day, Bus Trip to Raglan, Anzac Day, Licorice Display and Sales, on site shopping with Rose Lynn Fashions.

5. Retirement Village

We achieved registration as a Retirement Village on 31 October 2007 as required by the Retirement Villages Act 2003.

Seven villas became available for sale during the year and sold at the valuation, with a net income of \$286,466. The valuation of a two bed room unit increased to \$250,000 (2007 - \$240,000). We have a substantial waiting list for the Villas.

Social activities included Happy Hour, Putting competitions, Petanque, Crafts, Trips to Raglan, Pirongia, The Ole Creamery Cafe, Lily Pad Café, Te Piko Restaurant & Café, Willow Glen Café, Lake Karapiro, Christmas Lunch, Mid-Winter Christmas Lunch, Shopping at Chartwell and visiting the Te Awamutu Rose Gardens.

The purchase and delivery of groceries through a fax order system from New World is well used by a number of residents.

6. Quality Improvement

We maintained our ISO 9001/2000 accreditation and Ministry of Health Certification.

7. Maintenance

Internal maintenance kept the buildings up to a good standard. The presentation of the gardens continues to be a source of pride and enjoyment for all.

8. Staffing

Management and nursing staff remained stable. During the past year recruiting and retention of caregivers remained very difficult. The contribution of nurses, caregivers, therapists, chefs and other staff is appreciated and it is one of the most important factors in the success we achieved during this year.

9. Chaplain

The spiritual worship runs very well under the leadership of our Chaplain, Reverend Alice Hill. The Chaplain leads communion services in the Rest Home & Dementia Care Unit and takes a Sunday Service on a regular basis. The Chaplain also provides for the spiritual needs of our staff.

Sunday Church services was provided by:

Hamilton East Methodist Church	Rev Anne Griffiths, Mrs Dickie
Chaplain	Rev Alice Hill
St Stephens (Tamahere)	Rev Craig Lucock, Rev Juliet Drage
Morrinsville Methodist Church	Rev Nancy Jean Whitehead
St Paul's, Melville	Rev Susan Thompson
Chartwell Methodist Church	Rev Ken Olsen
St Francis (Hillcrest)	Rev George Hammond
Te Awamutu Methodist Church	Rev Maureen Calman /Mrs Lynn Pinkerton
Relief Ministers	Rev Len Schroeder, Rev Gloria Zanders

The Catholic Ministry has a monthly service which includes mass, reconciliation and anointing the sick on the 1st Friday of the month led by Father Joseph Akkara.

We appreciate the contribution the abovementioned Individuals and Churches made to the spiritual life of our residents, families and staff.

10. Financial Performance

An operating surplus of \$533,846 (2007 - \$377,001) on a turnover of \$3,726,338 (2007 - \$3,207,206) and total expenditure of \$3,192,492 (2007 - \$2,830,205) was achieved for the year. This will be amended under compliance to IFRS.

One Double Five Whare Roopu Community House

One Double Five Whare Roopu Community House continues to offer inspiring cups of tea to people in Whangarei. Projects that have developed from this interchange over the years continue to flourish. We continue to offer whanau support, counseling and community development support to marae and community groups in our area.

The community house home team of Margaret Poananga, Carol Peters, Maraea Wharehinga and Debbie Kiriona has been strengthened during this year. Takurangi Yorke is our host, whanau support worker and information technology teaching. Matt Johnson has taken over from Alex Mason as technical support. Alina Mancini is now working for us as a researcher.

Our school, Te Kakano o Taniwharau, this year has had 20 young people learning and growing with us. They have inspired the adults with their enthusiasm and commitment to one another. Our youth team of John Pelasio, Crete Phillips and Rowena Moselen have been the rock of connection for the young people and have provided a strong secure base for the group despite difficulties with a place for the project to be. Rurarangi has continued to have problems with the power – the generator is unreliable; with the security – it has been broken into twice this year, and with general access – the road floods from time to time. The youth group has used the church and One Double Five as an intermittent base. One Double Five has had the added pleasure of their company more often.

The community law service was launched formally in February this year. We have moved one of the school buildings over to the site to be used by the Opportunity Shop so that the law service can use their building as a centre. Katene Eruera, our main lawyer, has an interest in Maori land and incorporation legal issues. Karen Tipa, advocate, and manager has expertise in mediation, in employment law and in ACC issues. Aro and Margaret Poananga and Debbe Kiriona have been developing legal secretariat abilities. This is a strong team who can carry this project forward into the new year.

The cyber project is exploring the possibilities of video conferencing lawyers' services into unmet areas in the mid-north. Three videoconferencing units have been purchased. Alina has been conducting research to provide the parameters and to establish feasibility for the expansion in the mid and far north.

Takurangi Yorke is teaching information technology in the form of a course 'keeping up with the grandkids', a course for mature people. Takurangi is now accredited as a NZQA assessor and has been learning how to teach people who are blind with the use of special IT programs. She is also teaching on the 'computers in homes' project together with Otangarei Primary School.

Television and film production: Channel North went to air on the 1st August. The launch was an elaborate affair with 200 glitzy people, the associate minister of culture, and a one-hour live programme. It was ambitious, but we managed to pull it off. Volunteers to worked hard to outfit the studio, produce programming, and to iron out transmission issues. The team is working well together under the leadership of Juanita von Elders. John Gwillim is producing Pukeko Echo, the children's programme, Jo Keating is organising sales, Pete Gillard is managing the business side, and there is a talented group of producers working with the station Aaren, Ashley, Garath, Sean, Matthew and Kullum. People are working voluntarily at present, but we expect the project to be able to employ people eventually. However, all the development so far has been covered by donations and grants, there are no debts, and general overheads are low. We believe that next year will involve consolidation of this project. During the year the project in combination with Northtec has trained over 80 film-makers in the flaxroots courses in film making. Northtec also has diploma and degree courses in multi-media underway. Nineteen school have joined the Pukeko Echo PET project and will use their school media departments as production houses so that they can be involved with Channel North – John Gwillim and Marilyn Small will coordinate school involvement. One Double Five continues to let out quality film making equipment to community producers in Whangarei. There have been some feature length films and a number of documentaries produced during the year. Five teams entered the 48 hour film festival.

The quality of films being entered into the NAFF (Northland Amateur Film Festival) festival has improved again this year. We look forward to continued development of this industry during the next year.

The Emergency housing project is separately incorporated and is supported by One Double Five in an advisory capacity. New facilities have been opened in Kaitaia and two houses are maintained in Whangarei. The project continues to be supported jointly by six local churches. Government support for salaries has still not been forthcoming.

Te Puawaitanga Healthcare Centre has had a good year with stability being provided by an inspired Manager, Lisette Hayes who has drawn together a tight and effective team. The group appear to be making improvement in the health outcomes for the area of Otangarei. Health promotion activities include working with health and fitness groups, a community gym and a community gardens. Otangarei has embarked on a Community Renewal project headed by Housing New Zealand and the health project has been involved in this.

Our core business continues to be hosting people. We are thankful for the strength of long serving members of our group who continue to offer good food, good company and a time to reflect for those who come to call.

We wish to extend thanks to all those who have supported the Community House this year with their time, with goods and services and with funds. We offer our thanks to the following who have supported us financially:

Methodist Mission	28492.14	Lottery Board	20000.00
St Johns Cooperating Parish	6000.00	MSD	41883.44
ASB Trust	76235.00	Ministry of Education	172569.30
Community Partnership Fund	67107.56	COGS	5000.00
J R McKenzie Trust	6944.44	Housing New Zealand	8420.00
Tindall Foundation	94000.00	Legal Services Agency	233308.83

Carol Peters, Coordinator

New Zealand Ministry with the Deaf Trust

About the Trust

The first meeting of the trustees was held on 13 November 2006. The Trust was incorporated as a charitable trust in March 2007 and was registered by the Charities Commission as a charitable entity in April 2008. The Trust's official registration number is CC23473.

Donations to the Trust are eligible for the tax rebate for charitable giving.

The Trust has been set up in association with Methodist Mission Northern (now operating as LIFEWISE), which will annually recommend trustees to Conference for appointment. Trustees currently are: Rev. Barry Neal (Chair), Dr Greg Morgan (Secretary), Graeme McDonald (Treasurer), Jean Masters, and Rev. John Murray.

The Trust's purpose is to establish and support Methodist and inter-denominational ministries with the Deaf which encourage spiritual exploration and advancement, fellowship and community among Deaf people. The initial goal is to build an endowment

fund from which the interest can in time be used to finance a range of Deaf ministry projects. The Trust could also hold funds donated for specific purposes that are compatible with its charitable aims and objectives.

As it seeks to become a funding body, the Trust does not intend to provide services directly or to become an employer.

Activities

Donations towards the endowment fund have been received from within the Connexion and from individuals. Donors to the Trust since 2006 have included the Auckland District dream fund, Te Taha Maori, the Tidd Foundation, Papakura Methodist Parish, and the Gordon Trust. The Trust also received a PAC communications grant of \$1,000.

In May 2008 the Trust made a one-off grant to Crosslight Trust in Hamilton to assist with the cost of copying brochures advertising Crosslight's information and advice service for Deaf and hearing-impaired people.

The Trust has built relations with the Crosslight Trust. By agreement Crosslight have applied for funds to cover the costs of a part-time facilitator for their community based programme of support and advocacy for the Deaf. The NZ Ministry with the Deaf Trust has successfully applied to the Tidd Foundation for a grant to reinstate a monthly service for the Deaf in Hamilton. This will pay for the bi-monthly visits to Hamilton of the Auckland Deaf Christian Fellowship chaplain and cover associated local costs. The NZ Ministry with the Deaf Trust and the Crosslight Trust seek to share information, leverage resources in support of Deaf community and services and ministry, and network with local churches.

In October 2007 NZ Ministry with the Deaf Trust visited the Auckland Deaf Christian Fellowship to explain the Trust's existence and purpose. The Trust believes that it has a key role to play in facilitating awareness of Deaf ministry needs in Aotearoa New Zealand.

A two-sided information card and donation form has been produced. "The Auckland Methodist" published an item on the Trust in its April 2008 issue.

The Trust maintains a web blog: <http://nzministrywiththedeaftrust.blogspot.com>. The blog contains information on the Trust's aims and on how to support the Trust financially.

Financial position

Statement of financial performance for 15 months ended 30 June 2008:

Donations received	
Donations	\$15,200.00
Grant for communications	\$1,000.00
Interest received	\$1,080.42
Total income	\$17,280.42
Less expenses	
Postage and stationery	\$220.00
Bank fees	\$15.00
Total expenses	\$235.00
Surplus for the year	\$17,045.42

This does not include the grant of \$5,000 received from the Tidd Foundation, which will appear in the 08/09 accounts.

Chair's comments

I am grateful to all who have supported the Trust this year. To the individuals who have made donations, thank you. To the organisations that have understood and responded with grants to the gap the Trust seeks to fill, thank you.

Thanks, too, to those who have encouraged and worked with the Trust in other ways. In this financial year we have put in place the foundations for restoring Deaf community church services in Hamilton. Through a variety of discussions we have sought to explain the Trust's vision for vibrant and sustainable Deaf ministry in Aotearoa New Zealand. This means ministry opportunities for and by Deaf people. The Trust's focus is on providing funding to nurture faith initiatives within the country's Deaf communities.

Can you help with a gift in a way that best suits you: one off, regular giving or through a legacy?

Barry Neal, Chair

HAMILTON METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICES

2008 marks the 25th Anniversary of Hamilton Methodist Social Services. To date we have marked this milestone by commissioning kaumatua Reverend Buddy Te Whare to write an agency waiata and planting a rewarewa tree at the Centre during Matariki. We're planning a bus trip to local sites of historical significance for Tainui and Methodism during September and celebrations will culminate with our AGM in October.

This 2007/2008 year has been characterised by changing leadership, growing service usage and an increasing profile both within and without the church community.

In March Kate Duggan resigned after three and a half years as Director to further her studies in education. We thank Kate for the dedicated and thoughtful leadership she gave to the agency and also to both the Hamilton Combined Christian Foodbank Trust and the Hamilton Christian NightShelter Trust.

At the end of April Reverend Lindsay Cumberpatch was appointed Director. He returns to the parish where he first began in ministry twenty eight years ago.

Programmes and Services

- Statistics show a 33% increase in service usage over the previous year.
- The Monday lunch continues to be a focal point of our work. We've added more sense of whanaungatanga / community with live music, more pastoral care and a community nurse.
- Computer Education continues to be a growth area - anticipating an 80% increase in computer income in the new financial year.
- In June 150 people attended a very successful forum on Homelessness we co-hosted with the Salvation Army. The evening centred around the screening of 'Putting Homelessness Into Focus', a documentary recently produced by Dr.

Kate Amore from the Wellington School of Medicine and Health Sciences and directed by actor Charlie Bleakley.

- Information dissemination continues to be a niche role MCA has developed over the years. The NFP email distribution network continues to grow. Last year we produced a booklet 'Faith-Based Services for Emergency Needs' to resource parishes and community agencies.
- During Matariki we hosted a flax weaving course. This proved very popular with requests that we repeat it again sometime soon.
- Sport Waikato are about to start the third block of 'Cook Smart' cooking classes here in the Centre kitchen. These six-week courses teach people how to cook healthily and cheaply.

Other Partnerships

- MCA looks forward to hosting the WesleyCom network here in Hamilton in October. It will be great to have colleagues join us for our Annual General Meeting and the culmination of our 25th Anniversary celebrations.
- MCA continues to provide governance and administrative support to the Hamilton Combined Christian Foodbank Trust. Kate stepped down in March after two and a half years as Chair of the Board. A recent highlight for the Foodbank Trust has been relocating to their own premises at the Te Ara Hou Village in Hillcrest. We will continue to support the Foodbank through our annual 'Brown Paper Bag Appeal'.
- MCA also provides governance and administrative support to the Hamilton Christian NightShelter Trust.
- Social housing continues to be a focus for the Hamilton Council of Christian Social Services. MCA Board member Karen Morrison-Hume made a submission on behalf of HCOCSS to the Hamilton City Council's Draft Annual Plan advocating for the need for social housing.

Profiling & Publicity

- Through Haidee Kalirai our Community Development Worker, MCA had a presence at a number of community events and also at this year's Methodist Youth Conference held at Lincoln University.
- Despite the best efforts of staff, we suspect MCA is "one of Hamilton Methodism's best kept secrets". In an attempt to lift the profile of the agency, new brochures have been produced outlining the range of services and resources MCA provides. The 'Panui' has gone up-market now being produced in colour and Kaveh is finalising our website – www.hmss.org.nz.

Conclusion

Two highlights in our relationship with the Hamilton Methodist Parish over the past year have been the 'Being a Good Neighbour' forum and the annual Combined Parish

Service to Celebrate the Work of MCA. The service was a fitting occasion to 'unveil' the agency waiata 'Ko matou nei, te Taunga Mahi e', written for us by Buddy Te Whare.

Whilst we cherish our relationship with the Hamilton Methodist Parish and are immensely grateful for the facilities here at the London Street Methodist Centre, we're keen that MCA is seen to belong to the whole of Hamilton Methodism. To that end we're looking to build links with the Hamilton East Methodist Parish and the four Cooperating Parishes in the city.

Our grateful thanks to staff, members of the Board and our funders, principally the Hamilton Methodist Church Trust, the Tidd Foundation, Trust Waikato and the Tamahere Eventide Home Trust for enabling our social service, community development and social transformation work here in Kirikiriroa / Hamilton.

The Board and staff of MCA are saddened by news that Board Chair Reverend Dr. Susan Thompson is up for 'stationing' at the end of this year. We value her commitment to MCA and will miss her.

Lindsay Cumberpatch
Director

Susan Thompson
Chairperson

WESLEY COMMUNITY ACTION **(Otaki, Kapiti, Porirua, Hutt Valley, Wellington)**

Wesley Community Action continues progress with its new strategic direction to act more as a facilitator of positive community development as opposed to purely being a provider of services. This journey raises more questions than answers and means we need to be constantly open and responsive to what is happening around us. We are pleased to share with our wider Methodist family some of what we are doing and what we are learning.

Some of our key developments this year have been:

- Starting a collaborative initiative 'good cents' in Porirua that seeks to address issues of spiralling debt and promotes wealth management.
- Running a successful programme in Wellington Courts to work with young people who have committed crimes and have drug and alcohol issues.
- Entering into a partnership with unions and management at Wesleyhaven to help improve the success of this facility for all.
- Supporting a range of initiatives to help 'hard to reach' communities grow their capacities.
- Opening an office in Kapiti to provide community support to older people who are isolated.
- Supporting a range of community initiatives for communities to help themselves (this includes men's sheds in Wellington and Hutt Valley, eldercare counselling service and a meeting space for Black Power, and a community 'strengths and directions' survey in Titahi Bay).
- Establishing a discretionary fund for residents at Wesleyhaven with no financial means for uses ranging from; purchasing glasses and false teeth to arranging outings, or providing educational and physical education (including Tai Chi classes).

These developments are in addition to our standard work of providing:

- Dedicated care for very frail older people at our two rest homes and hospital
- A safe and caring home for young people in our two houses and with up to eight foster homes
- Extra help for families whose young people are in the care of CYF
- Regular support for isolated older people and mental health consumers living at home
- Running a range of community based activities for young people needing extra support and guidance
- A very low cost counselling service from four locations (Wellington, Porirua, Pomare, Petone)

From all of this activity we are learning:

- Our commitment to our strength based approach is critical and we need to keep working on this.
- Good partnerships are critical – we never have all the ‘solutions’.
- Taking time to pause and reflect is important (hard to do with constant high demand).
- Good financial management is very important.
- We need to be thinking about our strategic direction at regular intervals through the year.
- Our linking through Wesleycom with our sister agencies is a strength.

More details of our work can be gained from our web-site www.wesleyca.org.nz . We look forward to learning more, strengthening our partnerships and overcoming the challenges install for us in 2009. I remain open to suggestions as to how we can grow a stronger positive relationship with the Methodist Parishes. I believe the Methodist Church should be proud of Wesley Community Action.

PALMERSTON NORTH METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICES

This year has seen many challenges and changes across the organisation. Staff hours have increased in some parts of the organisation due to demand and decreased in others as a means of reducing costs.

The social services operation is in very good heart with all services oversubscribed throughout the year. Unfortunately the same cannot be said for our finances as we continue to struggle to raise the funds we need to meet the demand for our services.

The Goodwill Operation is in good heart in terms of operation, with Highbury House turning over \$87,000, nearly \$15,000 up on last year. Unfortunately the contribution they make to the funding of our social services is well down due to the cessation of Taskforce Green funding from Work & Income.

The newly formed export operation has not generated any funds for social delivery in its first year of operation and the challenges and learning have been significant. We are still navigating our way forward with this project.

CHRISTCHURCH METHODIST MISSION

The Christchurch Methodist Mission offers a diversity of services, with the wide ranging nature of those services often highlighting the multiple, complex needs that today, confront children, adults, families and older persons.

Consequently, over the past five years, the Methodist Mission has made a strategic commitment to maximising the inter-relationship of this diverse range of services. By doing so, each becomes one component part to a comprehensive Methodist ministry of social service and our commitment to a Cycle of Hope®. Through this now well-developed inter-relationship of services in the Christchurch Methodist Mission, there is a kete of care and concern, service and support available to assist with even the most complex, multiple needs.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Te Kete Oranga – is the successor of what was once simply charitable response to emergency need. Today, it is a whole basket of services designed to engage with all the complexities of contemporary socio-economic circumstances. It is a whole-of-life approach and involves personal, in-depth engagement with each individual, utilising coaching/mentoring models of care designed to enable people to reach their own goals. They are services designed to inspire, motivate and assist in developing new confidence and new learning skills. It includes advocacy, budgeting, debt management and life skills education. Nutrition and healthy cooking, intensive tailored numeracy and literacy, support-to-work, self-development programmes for men are all part of the basket of Te Kete Oranga services. Although food assistance is still often an important component part, today it is an adjunct to these “other” Methodist Mission services addressing cause and concern. Food assistance (including the very successful Support-a-Family programme provided around Christmas each year) is now focussed more intentionally in ways that enable recipients to create positive change.

ChildWise – is the successor of the Methodist Mission’s long commitment (originating in 1912) to the needs of children and families. Perhaps the most telling mark upon this service this year has been the death of Sister Rona Collins. Today, the comprehensive, specialist and widely respected services ChildWise offers, owes much to the remarkable ministry of this gentle, dedicated saint. ChildWise services include home-based social work, psychological services, parenting education, self-development programmes for women, child counselling, life-skills education for children and emerging young leaders, and child mentoring.

Aratupu Preschool & Nursery – offers not only pre-school and nursery care to children, but has a strategic objective to meet the needs of the whole family, many of whom are young single parents with children and struggling with low incomes. The service includes a whanau support worker. This year, the Christchurch Methodist Mission completed an extensive capital project of refurbishment and extension of the Aratupu complex. Today, throughout New Zealand it is a leading example of community based early childhood education services.

This coming year, the Christchurch Methodist Mission’s investment in its various community services will be in excess of \$1.79 million.

SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Increasingly today, services for older people need to offer a continuum of care, supporting independent and semi-independent living, or offering affordable, sustainable housing. For some, it may include transitioning through varying degrees of frailty and acuity requiring full rest home and hospital care. Although Christchurch Methodist Mission has been a long time provider of rest home and hospital care and more recently, social housing, it has also been aware of the importance and urgency of diversification. The burgeoning growth in New Zealand of an over 65 year old population will of itself, profoundly influence social and economic needs in aged care services. But particularly, since the release of the Ministry of Health "Health of the Older Person" policy in 2002, there has been a marked transition towards the development of community based services for older people and currently the Methodist Mission is developing such strategic services (including advocacy).

WesleyCare – includes all of these services and today, the beginnings of a strategic interrelationship between institutional residential care (rest home and hospital) and community based care. The redevelopment of the current WesleyCare site in the future is likely to incorporate not only contemporary, purpose built rest home and hospital facilities to best practice standards, but also integrated independent living capable of offering variable levels of support and medical care. However, the concept of fully integrated services is still very much at the cutting edge of government's health and care of older people policy and is likely to require considerable detailed attention.

This coming year, the Christchurch Methodist Mission's commitment to its services for older people will be in excess of \$4.8 million.

CONCERNS

Compliance - The increasing cost of compliance has been alluded to in previous reports. To the extent that compliance endeavours to ensure best-practice, such requirements serve the community well. For example, like many not-for-profit (or rather, "for-people") service providers, the Methodist Mission welcomes the close scrutiny of its standards. One of its strengths has been to consistently model standards of care which we believe are the right and responsibility of all.

But when the demand for compliance becomes unnecessarily excessive, it compromises the capacity of every agency to respond to urgent social and economic need. Every dollar committed to the excessive management and administration of compliance, is money not spent in the provision of service. An objective balance is essential.

One further concern is the often unintended consequence of new legislation upon the sector. Three examples from the past year have either already impacted or have the potential to impact unhelpfully. The first has been the Retirement Villages Act 2003 and the manner in which it has jeopardised previously well intended social housing initiatives among faith-based social service providers and communities. The other has been two Bills before the House, the Financial Advisers Bill and amendments to the Securities Act. For this reason, the Christchurch Methodist Mission maintains an active brief on legislation and endeavours to make meaningful submissions as and when appropriate. In particular, the level of compliance required by the Retirement Villages Act 2003 has meant that the Christchurch Methodist Mission (and Dixon House Trust Board in Greymouth, in which the Methodist Mission is in partnership) is now making a managed

exit from licence-to-occupy social housing. It has also had wide implications throughout the Connexion.

Funding – The Government’s announcement of “Pathways to Partnership” funding was welcomed throughout the social services sector, both in non-government and faith-based organisations. Over 4 years, the intention is towards the “full” funding of essential social services.

It is not an entirely new phenomenon, for the sector has operated acceptably around so-called “full-funding” in rest home and hospital care for many years (although since the devolution of funding to District Health Boards, constantly immersed in tortuous negotiations). But there is a cautionary concern to be carefully monitored: that is, the extent to which growing dependency on “full-funding” can compromise the values and independence of the service provider. Currently, even within existing funding contracts, it is a situation which requires careful and astute management when increasingly, we find ourselves challenging inappropriate or restrictive contract conditions and requirements.

SUMMARY

In addition to this report there is an extensive critique of current and social economic conditions that should also be made. It would show clearly why the services of the Christchurch Methodist Mission remain more than simply a measured, affordable response to social and economic need. They are an unconditional ministry of social service and a ministry called to be at the cutting, costly edge of human condition. It is a ministry concerned less for risk-avoidance and instead, committed to risk-taking. It is a ministry wholly part of and accountable to the Methodist Church of New Zealand, Te Hahi Weteriana O Aotearoa. But in which the product and dividend from its investment is to the community at large, where more than ever, hurts and hopes remain still disastrously entangled in social and economic disadvantage.

Michael W Greer, Superintendent

Don Eade, Chair

THE METHODIST MISSION (Dunedin Methodist Mission)

During the last Connexional year the Dunedin Methodist Mission has continued to delivery outstanding social services, particularly focused in South Dunedin (a Ministry of Health Deprivation Index decile 10 community).

We have re-established ourselves as a single, significant, provider; pulling all our services together under a single name (The Methodist Mission), a single logo (the airborne seed of the native New Zealand Clematis Paniculata, Puawhananga), and a single purpose statement sitting under the Church’s commitment to Creating Cycles of Hope™ (“Enough support and challenge for you to risk a better future”).

We have confirmed our strategic direction for the next 5 years, based on 4 imperatives:

- Distinctiveness: complementing not competing with other providers (especially parish-based initiatives).
- Client-alignment: respecting the god-given value of each individual by working with them on their terms.
- Community-alignment: anticipating changing needs and leading community responses.
- Balance: ensuring that our desires and ambitions do not rob us of our stability.

These four challenges will provide the Mission with much in the way of focus and opportunity, and we are looking forward to developing our role and our activities.

This year we have also decided to not seek or accept money derived from Gaming Machines in the belief that for us to be a beneficiary of the gaming industry risks a contradiction of the intent of our social service ministry. As we have few contracts with the Ministry of Social Development, we are unlikely to be able to take advantage of the Government's "Full Funding" programme, Pathways to Partnership, and wait to see what side effects this programme will have on other funding sources.

With this stronger identity and a re-born commitment to bringing the voice of Methodist Social Services to our local media, we have been able to create a greater public awareness of our work.

Highlights of our activities for the last year include:

In our Adult and Community Education Service

- Enrolment on our second-chance learning courses has been over 100% for some months. We see a disproportionate number of men aged 45+ who are struggling hugely to enter or re-enter the workforce, and the changing economic conditions suggest that this struggle will only intensify.
- Government contracting for services remains quixotic, and we are now subsidizing (internally) much of the work in our adult and community education services.

With Children & Families

- We have completed a major research project under the Centres of Innovation scheme in our Early Learning Centre, looking at the value of social workers attached to preschools.
- We have re-oriented enrolment of families in the Centre to ensure uptake by families in South Dunedin, and are seeing much higher levels of social need in these families – a great chance to make a difference with our Whanau Support Worker.
- Our Wise Up Walk Tall groups have been running at capacity, and like the Whanau Support Worker, this programme is funded internally from Mission resources, unfortunately limiting its growth.

In Community Social Services

- We are experiencing growing use of our Community and Home Support Services, and receive constant affirmation of our client-aligned practice.
- We see increasing need for Community Development Workers, particularly in our local communities with high levels of deprivation. We believe that Government assurances that it is all about making the dollar work smarter fall flat in communities where there just aren't enough dollars. Community Development Workers will give us a way to support those communities to achieve more resourcing, and more ownership, toward solutions.

We come into the new Connexional year ambitious for our communities, determined to move beyond reactive service provision, and challenged to find imaginative ways to meet our goals.

Financial Performance

At the time of writing figures for the last financial year had not yet been audited. However, preliminary figures indicate a loss of around \$140,000 for the 2007-08 year. This is attributed to a lower than budgeted return on investments (down by approximately \$200,000).

Laura Black, General Manager

Colin Gibson, Chairman

Suggested Decisions:

1. That the reports be received.
2. The 2009 Methodist Mission Northern (Auckland) Board membership be: Gardenia Atimalala-Taulealeausumai Prince Devanandan, Seini Filiiai, Nicola Grundy, Marion Hines, Keith Hopner, David Hunt, Norman Johnston John Murray (Superintendent), David Smith (Chairperson), Greg Wright, and further members to be appointed by the President.
3. That the 2009 Employment Generation Fund (Auckland) Trustees be: Maurice Copeland (Chairperson), Graham Dewar, Angus Fletcher, John Fraser, Brian Gauld and Geoff Peak.
4. That the 2009 Tamahere Eventide Home (Hamilton) Board membership be: Neville Jack (Chairperson), Beverley Attrill, Chad Chibnall (Deputy Chairperson), Catherine Dickie, George Diprose, Ken Olsen, Don Sim, Shane Vanin, Louis Fick (CEO).
5. That the 2009 Bainbridge House Trust membership be: Warwick Hill (Chairperson), Katrina Allison, Barbara Dunn, Doug Graham, Lau Lasika, Tony Pike and John Murray, Superintendent of MMN.
6. That One Double Five Whare Roopu Community House Trust membership be: Rev Peter Williamson (Chairperson), Frances Freeman, Takurangi Yorke, Ryan Welsh, Hemi Horne, Isopo Samu and John Murray, Superintendent of MMN and further members to be appointed by the President.
7. That the 2009 Ministry with the Deaf Trust membership be: Barry Neal (Chairperson), Jean Masters, Greg Morgan, Graeme McDonald and John Murray, Superintendent of MMN.
8. That the 2009 Methodist City Action membership be: Catherine Dickie, Louis Fick, Margaret Henshaw, Karen Morrison-Hume, Faye Te Whare, John Murray, Superintendent of MMN, Parish Superintendent and further members to be appointed by the President.
9. That the 2009 Wesley Community Action (Wellington) Board membership be: Desmond Cooper (Chair) Fletcher Thomas, Fatuatia Tufuga, Kathy Stirrat, Fuailangi Salepolu, Lesley McSharry, Jan Calvert, Senorita Laukau, Sheila Swan, Stephen Finlay, David Hanna (Director).
10. That the 2009 Trustees are: Brion Jarvis, Graham Pritchard Philomena Kinera, Derek Charlton, and two more who are yet to be appointed.
11. The 2009 Dunedin Methodist Mission Board are: Joy Clark, John Gallaher, Colin Gibson (Chair), Rev Stuart Grant, Rev Michael Greer, Natalie Karaitiana, Julie Pearse and David Polson.