

**ALL NEW  
ZEALANDERS  
WELL-HOUSED**



## Newsletter 16 April 2018

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The fantastic opening of CNSST Kotuku House is this issue's highlight. Read about Jane Mead from Habitat for Humanity's tenth global build in Fiji and updates on our work.

## CNSST Kotuku House – a new era in housing for Auckland



*The ribbon cutting ceremony at CNSST Kotuku House.*

There was a Chinese drum dance blessing, a dawn Māori blessing, an opera singer leading the national anthem, speeches and a very long red ribbon that was cut at the very impressive opening celebration of CNSST Kotuku House in Panmure, Auckland, recently. Mayor Phil Goff officially opened the new property. Hon Jenny Salesa, Minister for Building and Construction and Ethnic Communities, and Simon O'Connor, spokesperson for Social Housing and MP for Tamaki, gave speeches.

CNSST Kotuku House was built by the Chinese New Settlers Services Trust (CNSST) in partnership with Government, for senior Asian people that face a number of social issues, including isolation,

safety concerns and a lack of independent living options.

Minister Salesa said “We are looking to partner with community housing providers.” She acknowledged that MBIE provided \$5.2M in capital funding as well as an IRRS contract for rent subsidy, and the success when a partnership is between Government, Council and the CHP.

CNSST’s Executive Director, Jenny Wang, says CNSST Kotuku House is just the start of what the Trust aims to achieve in the public housing space.

“The Trust is focussed on developing further social housing projects for local Asian seniors, and re-investing our housing surpluses back into social housing to meet the increased housing, social and cultural demands of the people we work with,” she said.

CNSST Foundation (CNSST), formerly known as Chinese New Settlers Services Trust, a registered charitable trust since 1998, offers culturally and linguistically appropriate services to both Asian new settlers and the wider community.

CNSST’s team consists of seven board members, 25 full time and 12 part-time staff, 105 contractors and over 50 volunteers to serve more than 15,000 people annually. In the past 20 years, CNSST has been working closely with other sectors and community groups providing social services, social housing and education.

For more information about CNSST please email [them](#).

We look forward to attending your next opening.



Dawn blessing



Chinese traditional drum dance blessing



The invited guests enjoy the colourful opening



CNSST Kotuku House

## Spotlight on our Council



**Moira Lawler is a member of our Council and Chief Executive of Lifewise. She tells us about her work.**

**What does your role involve?**

Lifewise is a social development organisation that provides a broad range of services from working with babies, right through to working with older people. We seek to innovate and so my role is helping Lifewise develop new innovations in the areas of social housing, alternatives to foster care, solutions to homelessness, working with families and children experiencing trauma. We innovate in the social sector space to try to come up with new solutions. We are currently focused on homelessness, the impact of trauma on children, and families, and ways to combat loneliness and disconnection.

**What's your best work story?**

Recently our team had lunch based on a social enterprise, that is being tested by someone with lived experience of homelessness, who is delivering lunches to our office. We have stories like that every day of people who are creating new ideas and participating in the work that we do.

**What's your career highlight?**

I think being at the forefront of the demonstration work in New Zealand around Housing First is definitely a highlight. Being able to bring experts who can talk about the evidence base to New Zealand, working in partnership with the City Mission to house our most vulnerable homeless people, it is a huge highlight. Every day we are reminded how challenging, but also how hugely rewarding it is, so it is a highlight.

**Why did you want to be on our Council?**

I think there is a huge opportunity in New Zealand to try different models of community owned and developed housing. A range of options will be needed to meet the really diverse needs of New Zealanders. I'm a passionate believer in locally grown solutions and I think CHA Council holds the space for the sector and increases our influence with government and helps the sector build partnerships.

**What's the best thing about working in the community housing sector?**

I think it is a great mix of visionaries and really creative and inspired leaders but also people who are really practical and pragmatic and willing to get involved hands-on. Housing is such an interesting space you have to hold the vision but you also have to understand some of the technical and financial details about how it actually works. And so, the people who are passionate about social housing are very interesting people.

**What do you do to relax?**

I swim, particularly I ocean swim. One of my great sorrows is the current state of the ocean environment around Auckland, so I am busy lobbying council at the moment to fund improvements to Auckland's infrastructure.

## Habitat for Humanity – building in Fiji

Read this great [story](#) about Jane Mead, Global Village Coordinator for Habitat for Humanity, who was recently out in the field building houses. It was her 10th Global Village Build. Inspiring stuff!

## A Call for a Level Playing Field for Housing Support Services

CHA recently collaborated on a paper '[Toward a level playing field: Housing Support Services](#)' with both Platform Charitable Trust and Social Services Providers Aotearoa. This is the follow-up from our March Council meeting discussion on HNZC entering the intensive support services area.

We have support from our fellow peak body organisations for the 'level playing field' funding argument. This provides a great opportunity to talk about contracting with our sector.

We see an opportunity to work more closely with HNZC. They have proposed that we co-create the future for what HNZC and CHPs can do together. Please read the paper and let us know [what you think](#).

## Encumbrance – an update

There is still no clear path forward to resolve the delays created by the new encumbrance document which MSD introduced for new supply IRRS contracts. We weren't aware of this issue until members alerted us.

Please see this [letter](#) to Andrew Plant, General Manager Strategic Purchasing, laying out the concerns we heard from members. We remain hopeful that we will be able to work with MSD, members and lenders to reach a mutually agreeable resolution.

Please email [Chris Glaude](#) with any feedback on this issue.

## Emergency Housing Forum meeting summary

Community Housing Aotearoa partnered with MSD to host a series of Transitional Housing Forums between November 2017 and February 2018, in Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington and Hamilton. MSD released a summary of the meetings to the attendees on 6 April.

We would love to share these with everyone, but were instructed not to publish them. If you have an interest in Emergency Housing, please contact MSD for more information.

We will continue to push for greater openness and transparency from our government partners.

## Intensive client support tender

The Ministry of Social Development is seeking to engage with non-government organisations in various locations to support the

Intensive Client Support Managers in a new way of working. The contracted organisation(s) is expected to be a navigator to stair-case clients to become work ready; Stair-casing here refers to the steps a client takes to move from one milestone to the next as agreed on their employment, education or training plan. Providers will need to access community based services that will help clients to learn different skills, and /or support and coach clients to meet their needs through a number of intensive practices.

For details, click through to the GETS website

**RFP: 19617829**

Intensive Client Support (ICS-X) Trial  
Ministry of Social Development

**Deadline: 24/05/2018**

Click [here](#) for the GETS notice.

## **KiwiBuild website is go!**

MBIE launched its new KiwiBuild website recently and it's a great resource. It has progress reports, news items, how to buy and information for developers and suppliers. Check it out [here](#).

## **In the news**

[The Nation: Construction Minister Jenny Salesa](#)

[Housing pressures require urgent action in face of ongoing growth](#)

[Ngongotaha Angrily Rejects Council's Special Housing Area Proposal](#)

[Rental prices continue to rise](#)

[Home affordability fluctuates across the country](#)

[UN supports call for a human rights based housing strategy](#)

[CHA says government needs community input to fix housing crisis](#)

[Renters getting raw deal from property managers](#)

[Is It Time to Regulate the Property Management Sector?](#)

[Have your say on whether tenants should pay letting fees](#)

[Landlord fined for non-compliant gas supply](#)

[New Property Management Standards Needed](#)

[Insight: Full House – Homelessness & Big Families](#)

[Architecturally designed, relocatable and sustainable prefabricated homes to be built in Levin plant](#)

## Events



### 16 and 17 April 2018 Age Concerns Everyone

We are all ageing and have an interest in creating a society that respects, values and celebrates the contribution of all older New Zealanders. By 2036 it is anticipated that one in four people will be 65 years of age or older. By investing now in solutions that support the transition to an ageing society, New Zealand's future social and economic prosperity will be protected so we can all flourish. We want you to be part of the conversation so please register you and your team members for this exciting event.

The line-up of speaker presentations includes: The Ageing Well National Science Challenge research, housing and older worker discussion panels, scamming and online safety, Māori solutions to issues affecting Māori, LGBTQI issues, volunteering and caring, and the Campaign to End Loneliness. Read the full programme [here](#).

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