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Community Housing Aotearoa Newsletter 27 April 2017

37 Endorsements received for Our Place

Our Place continues to improve through your input and leadership. With the updated goal and endorsement for the direction, you are making history as we build momentum behind a plan to improve housing affordability in New Zealand. When you join us at the 7-9 June IMPACT Conference in Wellington we'll take the next steps- building Our Place. Thank you to the following organisations for your endorsement:

Abbeyfield NZ Inc	Mike Greer Homes NZ Ltd
Bays Community Housing Trust	Modcom Portable Buildings Ltd
Beacon Pathway Incorporated	Monte Cecilia Housing Trust
Chintaro Housing Management Software (MDB Consulting)	Nelson Tasman Housing Trust
Christchurch Methodist Mission	Papakainga Solutions
Cobham Street Trust	Platform
Community Law Centres o Aotearoa	Pre Fab NZ
Community Networks Aotearoa	Queenstown Lakes
De Paul House	Community Housing Trust
Family Works New Zealand	Tamaki Housing Association
Housing Action Network	Tauranga Community Housing Trust
Human Rights Commission	Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga
Hui E	Tenants Protection Association (Chch) Inc

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Hutt Valley Disabled Resources Trust

The Bishop's Action Foundation

Lifewise Trust

Tiny Homes NZ LTD

LinkPeople and Wise Group

VisionWest Community Trust

Manaia Health PHO

Wesley Community Action

Marlborough Sustainable Housing Trust

Whangarei Accessible Housing Trust

Windows Trust

Don't see your organisation here? [Contact us to endorse.](#)

Hurry- early bird closes at 5pm tomorrow



Remember significant early bird savings close tomorrow at 5pm so get in quick! [Register here.](#)

The programme offers exciting opportunities to be part of shaping the future of community housing in Aotearoa New Zealand. We have international speakers from the USA and Australia as well as leading New Zealand thinkers, addressing topics ranging from the importance of good housing for the wellbeing of New Zealanders to how we end homelessness. There will also be a mix of master classes, workshops and networking opportunities. These include:

- How to build sustainable communities and neighbourhoods
- How to involve and engage with tenants
- The tools for collaboration and partnerships
- And, looking at the challenges of growing your organisation to deliver more homes.

The conference will provide an opportunity for Pacific Island providers to meet with partners and officials to look at how we can develop housing options for Pacific People and, in partnership with Te Matapihi, a Maori housing symposium on Friday 09th June.

And with the help of futures thinker, Dave Wild, we will be challenged to be the drivers of the future we want to see.

IMPACT Keynote session: Dave Wild - futurist, innovator and strategist



[Dave is a strategist and innovation coach](#) who believes that the best way to predict the future is to invent it, to design your own future instead of letting others dictate it for you. He has been at the forefront of significant market shifts. That's exactly what Dave is going to do for us on Friday 9 June. Unique to his approach is a focus on the new, identifying mega-trends across markets while applying new insights from global innovation leaders.

The People's Mental Health Review

[A recent report](#) on the experiences of 500 people using mental health services has been released by the Action Station. The People's Mental Health Review reiterated the housing experiences of many consumers of mental health services and made comment on this as a significant issue for consumers of mental health services – as it has been for many years:

“Another significant source of mental distress for people was the struggle to find safe and affordable housing. This challenge was often exacerbated by discrimination and stigmatisation against people with experience of mental illness, but in some cases a lack of secure housing was one of the stressors that led to mental distress in the first place.”

Positive step forward at the Open Space Hui - National Science Challenge- Building Better Homes Towns and Cities: Kāinga Tahī, Kāinga Rua

This 18 April event was a co-creation Hui designed to bring together those that intend submitting research proposals to the National Science Challenge in the area of Māori housing.

CHA's Hope Simonson says the Hui was designed to bring experienced people together that could form multi-disciplinary teams to submit research proposals. While focused on Auckland, proposals that demonstrate successful outcomes from other areas that are replicable in Auckland can be submitted.

The research question for this project is: **How do we collaboratively finance, design and build developments with buy-in from multiple stakeholders in ways that overcome discriminatory policy, legislative barriers and actively support Māori**

aspirations and needs for long term, affordable, healthy housing.

[Expression of Interests for this challenge are due by noon on 5 May and more information about this challenge can be found here](#)

Hope says the Open Space process was a great way to bring together people to a forum for testing ideas, building relationships and potentially to form collaborative partnerships. *“It opens the floor for people with a good idea to find those that might be able to support them and is a voluntary and transparent approach. There is trust between participants and it takes away some of the competitiveness, helping develop projects that will really make a difference. We’ll look forward to working with Te Matapihi who are taking a lead in this area.”*

Open Space is particularly designed to work with the following principles:

- Complexity – when the question to be solved is bigger than any one person, group or area of expertise will be able to fully address.
- Diversity – when successful resolution of the issue or question necessarily must include input and action from a wide variety of different kinds of stakeholders and/or with a wide diversity of interests.
- Conflict – real or potential, when there’s real passion in the situation, meaning people care enough to fight for or about something.
- Urgency – when the time for decisions and action was yesterday.
-

Community housing providers, procurement and the building industry



Research briefing 9 May 4-6pm in Auckland

This seminar recognises the importance of the community housing sector commissioning from the building industry, homes that are liveable, affordable and contribute to our communities.

It is an opportunity to celebrate but also drive forward the sector’s commitment to building decent homes for vulnerable people that work

for them through all ages and stages of their lives. Three researchers will share learnings from research in New Zealand and Australia:

- **Kay Saville-Smith, CRESA**, will present the findings of BRANZ Levy Funded research into 'Community Housing Providers, Procurement and the Building Industry'
- **Professor Bruce Judd**, Director, the Australian School of Architecture and Design, University of New South Wales, will share with us his research on multigenerational living and its implications for the community housing sector
- **Associate Professor Catherine Bridge**, Director of the Home Modifications National Clearinghouse, and researcher leader of the Enabling Built Environments and Smart Cities Programme, University of New South Wales, will demonstrate the ways in which home environments can be made more functional and homely both in new builds and in retrofit situations.

This will be followed by a discussion on how we support the case for capital investment into social and affordable housing, based on the CRESA procurement research and the recent research presented by the New Zealand Housing Foundation.

[More details here](#) and please RSVP here support@communityhousing.org.nz

MSD releases social housing quarterly report

We are very pleased to see this quarterly data published. The report shows that:

- \$550 million total housing support provided in the March 2017 quarter (89 days)
- Helped 1800 households into homes
- 4865 people on the housing register – up 2 per cent on last quarter
- 9218 emergency housing Special Needs Grants paid to 2616 clients – total spent \$8.8 million
- Around 66,000 social houses across New Zealand
- \$20.4 million was spent on Accommodation Supplement payments per week
- 2,616 individual clients and \$8.8 million was spent on the emergency housing special needs grant for the last quarter

These figures illustrate the need for more action on affordable supply – and connecting the pathways for people to secure genuinely affordable, secure tenure housing as the priority. We all need to see release of the Housing Affordability Measure core statistic – which is long overdue. It will help connect the picture of housing affordability and social housing spending – hopefully leading us toward more long-term investment.

[Maira Lawler of Lifewise Trust talks to Newstalk ZB about what these latest figures mean.](#)

[The new Social Housing Quarterly Report](#)

[The latest figures on the Housing Register](#)

New role for Hope Simonsen



Hope Simonsen, Senior Programme Manager for CHA, is taking a new role as National Housing Manager at Emerge Aotearoa effective 8 May. We are very sad to see Hope leave the team here at CHA, a position she has held since January 2016. During her tenure she has supported the Auckland Community Housing Provider Network, led several work streams in building sector capability and is instrumental in our delivery of services to providers seeking CHRA registration.

Hope is a highly skilled leader in our sector through the winning combination of deep sector experience, integrity, technical knowledge and a commitment to see all kiwi's well housed.

Scott Figenshow says *"Working with Hope for many years across several roles, I remain impressed by her commitment to stretch and grow. CHA will be recruiting to fill this important role so keep an eye out for the position announcement soon. Please join us in wishing her the very best of success in her new role."*

Member news

Housing First Auckland update



LinkPeople staff Rami Alrudaini, left, and Tom Caukwell are helping south Auckland's homeless people into housing.

Housing First Auckland is a joint initiative between the Government, Auckland Council and five community housing providers. It's goal is to house 472 homeless Aucklanders in the belief it's easier for them to have issues, such as mental health or substance abuse, addressed once they have somewhere to live. [Read more here.](#)

[See the new Housing First Auckland website here.](#)

In the news

[The stalled Crown Land programme now in scope for Amy Adams.](#) Social Housing Minister Amy Adams has picked up responsibility for the Crown Land Programme in addition to her existing portfolios.

[Latest newsletter from Scott Gallacher and the social housing team at MSD.](#)



[Cohousing: the solution to a crisis?](#)

As policy makers puzzle over how to increase the supply of housing around the country a group of people in Dunedin think they've found a novel solution. The group are hoping to build New Zealand's second ever co-housing community on the site of an old primary school in High Street. Co-housing works by having small private homes with shared facilities such as a commercial kitchen, workshop and backyard. The group are working with the Dunedin City Council which is supportive and is buying into the social housing units that will be part of the project. [More here.](#)



[Wellington Council proposes first-home rates discount](#) Wellington City Council is planning to give first-home buyers of new houses a one-off \$5000 rates discount, but some worry it will not be a big enough incentive. Under the new plan, people buying a newly-built first home - including new apartments - will get a \$5000 discount off their rates, which will carry over until the amount is spent. The discount would apply for homes built after 1 July this year. The council is taking submissions on the draft plan, which will close in a month's time

[The taskforce is focused on addressing every aspect of the housing continuum from affordability in the private market through to better support for the city's homeless.](#)

New shared equity home ownership for Christchurch

Congratulations to Christchurch City Council and Government for reaching agreement on plans to support a shared equity home ownership programme in the city. We hope the details will enable a community housing provider partner to deliver it. [Recent evidence](#) proves this is an important part of making our housing system work for more people.

[Released on 19 April 2017, the Government announcement stated](#) "Committed from Budget 2015, \$3million will be used to set up the Christchurch Housing Fund to help Christchurch residents on modest incomes buy their own home." Christchurch City Council is to match the Government's funding and estimates that between 25-40 households would be assisted by the \$6 million Christchurch Housing Fund in the first three years of operation.

We were hoping for a much bigger announcement that would have activated shared equity home ownership as an option for many more households across the country, especially in the regions. This middle segment of the Housing Affordability Continuum needs much bolder action in order to foster paths out of social housing.

Events

[10 May 2017 – Wellington - The Not-For-Profit Finance Forum](#)

A dynamic one-day event that will provide guidance, hope and inspiration for CFOs, accountants, finance leaders, CEOs and board members grappling with addressing common questions and goals.

[23 July to 25 July 2017 Creating pathways to 2050: liveable spaces and loveable places - LGNZ conference- SKYCITY Convention Centre Auckland](#)

Life When Renting - mid-term summit 30 May 2017

This summit will report on findings to date at the midpoint of a four-year programme.

Life when Renting: Enabling Older People's Independence in the Tenure Revolution research programme asks, what are the future implications for NZ of growing dependence on the rental market?

The Summit is an opportunity for you to hear from the research team and give feedback on their findings as well as talk with an international expert on ageing and resilience.

- Dr Rob Wiener - Executive Director, California Coalition for Rural Housing and lecturer in housing policy at the University of California.

[Read more here.](#)

RSVP is essential to CRESA on freephone 0508 427 372 or [here](#)



[4th - 5th May MELBOURNE: Implementing the New Urban Agenda: Making cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.](#)

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