

ALL NEW ZEALANDERS WELL-HOUSED



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CHA Newsletter 16 March 2020

Welcome to the fortnightly newsletter of Community Housing Aotearoa *Nga Wharerau o Aotearoa*.

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COVID-19 information

CHA is looking to work with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Ministry of Health (MOH) for housing-specific advice related to COVID-19. We will share any advice and information with you as soon as we receive it, and we assume that you may receive advice directly as well. We will pass onto HUD any queries you send us - please contact CHA Senior Programme Manager [David Zussman](#).

We will be contacting the Chairs of the various community housing networks regarding upcoming meetings, and offering to host these via Zoom where appropriate and/or practical.

General information and advice about COVID-19 is available on the [Ministry of Health website](#). This includes links to the 0800 Healthline number 0800 358 5453.

While there is no information specific to the work of community housing providers with transitional housing, the closest we can find is the Ministry of Health's [advice for people working in hotels](#).

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The Auckland Regional Public Health Service has also provided the following [information for workplaces](#).

CHA staff in Wellington and Auckland will be working remotely for the foreseeable future. We have full access to our files and can be contacted in all of the usual ways (by phone and email).

The anniversary of Christchurch terror attacks

It is a year since the terror attacks on two mosques in Christchurch, which resulted in the deaths of 51 people. Our thoughts are with the survivors of those attacks and with the families, friends and colleagues of those who died.

We would like to thank housing providers who were able to offer accommodation to people affected by the shootings.

CHP Profile: Bays Community Housing Trust



Five minutes with John Tiy, General Manager, [Bays Community Housing Trust \(BCHT\)](#)

BCHT started in 2004 to provide affordable, quality housing to people in need. Initially the focus was on those who were struggling with poor mental health, and the elderly.

Currently we have just over 50 tenants, with capacity for another 14 in around six months' time.

Comments from our tenants include:

- Helen: “I had looked and looked and looked, and got very desperate.”
- Chris: “I was in emergency housing for so long I lost hope, now I have hope.”

The Trust changed its focus about 18 months ago to be more holistic.

BCHT started out as a ‘supportive landlord’ model. Its main purpose was to provide a house for people. In the last few years, it’s pivoted to a holistic care model. It now provides more than a roof over someone’s head - it supports tenants’ wellbeing with the purpose of helping them participate fully in the community and live independent lives. To help achieve this, the trust has recruited a social worker to oversee the organisation.

Coming up - we’re just completing a new development which will welcome 14 new tenants into the Long Bay community. This development has been purpose-built to enable and encourage a ‘micro-community’ of the tenants who’ll live there, with the intention of enabling them to ultimately form stronger connections with the broader community around them.

It’s easier to become part of a community when you’re already part of a group. It’s less daunting than doing it on your own.

Being part of a community to help empower tenants is what we’re all about at BCHT, and we’re likewise stoked to be part of the [Auckland network of community housing providers](#). It’s made a massive difference for us as an organisation to be able to access the knowledge and support of other organisations in this professional network. We’re really grateful for it.

Your Community Housing Networks

Want to stay up-to-date with regional community housing matters and discuss strategic issues relevant to your work? You might like to consider joining one of the regional community housing networks up and running.

The networks meet regularly – please contact [David Zussman](#) at Community Housing Aotearoa to be put in touch with the network chairs. The Auckland network is only for registered CHPs and there is an approval process to join.

The Auckland network also has [its own website](#) with more information about its members and the range of housing solutions they provide.

Dates for the Auckland network's meetings in 2020 are:

8 April, 13 May, 10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December.

Dates for the South Island network, Te Waipounamu, are:

2 April, 4 May, 16 July, 13 August, 22 October, 26 November.

Case study videos: stories with heart



Lemau and David with their family - getting a mortgage in Auckland seemed impossible until they were offered a hand.

If you haven't already, take a look at the wonderful case study videos produced by The Salvation Army, Monte Cecilia Housing Trust, the Housing Foundation, and Haumaru Housing.

Each video features an interview with someone who has been helped into a good, permanent, affordable home.

The videos show what good housing looks like for each person. They're on CHA's YouTube channel - and of course, you can contact each community housing provider directly if you'd like to find out more about the work they're doing and how it makes a difference.



Joan, whose housing situation became unsettled and frightening after changes to her living circumstances.



Rozeena, who needed immediate housing support after a fire ravaged the rental property she and her children lived in.



Alex, who lived in a basement after being diagnosed with brain



Christine, who moved in with family after a stroke and then

cancer, before being helped to find a good home.

needed help finding a permanent home.

Universal design in practice

[Hear Fiona Matthews](#) from The Salvation Army talk about the use of universal design in the Salvation Army's Te Hononga Tāngata Royal Oak social housing complex.

Research highlights housing pressures in Lower Hutt

The Hutt City Council has published research commissioned from Community Housing Solutions, CHA's contracting arm, into housing pressures in the region. Ian Mitchell with Livingston & Associates worked with CHS and produced the demographic projections of future housing need in Hutt City.

The Council says the research has highlighted serious challenges around housing affordability and starkly shown how many households are struggling to house themselves and their families.

The Council's media release is [available here](#).

The research report is [available here](#).

Community Housing Solutions Ltd (CHS) is the consulting service subsidiary of Community Housing Aotearoa. It was set up to provide CHA with a delivery arm to provide technical consulting services to support individual members and community housing providers. CHS is trading and contracted to provide services to several organisations.

You can read more about CHS on our [website](#) or please contact [Chris Glaudel](#) if you'd like to know more.

Local government pathfinder for affordable housing

A report released by LGNZ provides a roadmap for councils finding their way through the complex policy, regulatory and market tools available to help enable more affordable housing developments for New Zealanders.

With demand soaring, rents rising and building costs increasing, many councils are grappling with how best to facilitate affordable housing developments in their communities. While the Government has begun to implement a range of legislation and organisations, understanding how they all fit together and are best utilised is difficult at best.

The report, "[Policy, Regulatory and Market Resources to Create Affordable Housing](#)," provides councils with details of the tools

available, their advantages, disadvantages, and any lessons learnt in their development and implementation so far.

“Communities across New Zealand are facing housing pressures, and a feature of this has been a lack of development in the affordable housing segment, which plays a critical role in helping people transition from social housing through to market provided housing,” says LGNZ President Dave Cull.

“LGNZ’s latest report aims to make the provision of affordable housing easier by providing an accessible guide to all the resources that out there, as well as guidance on how to use them, which until now have been stored in a wide variety places.”

“Make no mistake, we do not see this as a silver bullet that will deliver reasonable priced housing to New Zealanders. That is going to take coordinated action at a central and local government level, to tackle the factors that make it so expensive and difficult to build in New Zealand.”

“But, we need to do everything we can now to help kiwis while this work is under way, to repair our broken housing system. There is more that we as councils can do to help, particularly in the social housing space, and we are currently pushing central government to remove the hurdles that prevent local government from being more active in providing housing to those most in need.”

Have your say: state of the community and voluntary sector

Our work in the community and voluntary sector is needed more than ever with the pressures on individuals and whānau in our communities – and in an election year we want to be able to clearly say what we do and how our sector makes a difference to the lives of so many New Zealanders.

The information we gather from the biennial ComVoices State of the Sector survey tells us about the wellbeing of our community organisations, which we can then weave into our conversations with politicians and other decision-makers. It’s very much a case of ‘news you can use’.

Please take some time to [complete the survey](#).

Your response will be anonymous, and it might be helpful to have your financial information handy before you begin. As all responses will be anonymous we cannot remove duplicate entries and ask that each organisation fills out the survey only once.

The survey is open until 5pm, 31 March 2020. We’ll then analyse the responses and report back to you in May 2020.

Please share the survey with organisations in your network

Any questions, please feel free to [contact ComVoices](#).

Come @ us!

CHA's Twitter handle is [@HousingAotearoa](#)

IN THE NEWS

- [Public housing waitlist tops 15,000 as new builds fail to keep up with demand](#)
- [Govt buys motel in bid to ease housing crisis in Wellington](#)
- [Living in a motel no holiday for people experiencing homelessness](#)
- [As motels close doors to emergency guests people are being forced into tents](#)
- [Wellington City Council agrees to let draft social housing policy go to consultation](#)
- [What Auckland's ghost homes could do for the housing crisis](#)
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EVENTS

Property Council conference March 2020

The Property Council is holding a conference themed 'City Shapers 2020 - Creating communities' in Auckland on 25 March 2020.

The focus will be on shaping cities where communities thrive, and the conference will include analysis of the political landscape and legislative environment, innovative case studies in urban design. and the blurring of lines between traditional development and emerging residential sectors such as Build to Rent.

More information is [available here](#).

KĀINGA 2020 – the Auckland Māori Housing Summit

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The Independent Māori Statutory Board has made the decision to POSTPONE KĀINGA 2020, the Auckland Māori Housing Summit (scheduled for 30 and 31 March) due to the recent CoronaVirus cases in Tāmaki Makaurau. We will be releasing the new date as soon as we have comfortability that we are not putting people at risk. The Independent Māori Statutory Board is holding its second summit in Auckland on March 30-31.

Please visit their [website](#) for further information.

NZGBC Housing Summit May 2020

The New Zealand Green Building Council's next Housing Summit will be held in Auckland on 19 May 2020.

More information is [available here](#).

National Māori Housing Conference May 2020

The national Māori Housing Conference will be held in Hastings from 30 April to 1 May 2020.

The theme is: Providing shelter and a foundation for whānau.

The conference is a biennial event and provides an opportunity for regions to showcase their leadership and contribution to housing initiatives and developments.

It also provides a platform for Māori and stakeholders to share ideas, information, network and to formulate strategies to assist Māori into quality, affordable housing.

[More information, including the programme and registration details, are available here.](#)

AHI Housing First Finland study tour May 2020

The Australasian Housing Institute is supporting a Housing First Finland study tour from 11-15 May 2020. Applications closed on 28 November 2019, but you can still be added to the wait list if there are cancellations.

The study tour is an opportunity to examine first-hand Finland's Housing First application and how Finland's lessons might work in an Australasian context.

More information is [available here](#).

LGNZ annual conference July 2020

The 2020 Local Government New Zealand annual conference and excellence awards will be held in Blenheim from 16-18 July.

Visit the conference [website](#) for information about the programme and registration details.

National Homelessness Conference 2020

AHURI and Homelessness Australia are pleased to announce that the 2020 National Homelessness Conference will be held in Canberra from 10 to 12 August.

The conference will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra.

As the meeting place for the Federal Government, the 2020 Conference will present a unique opportunity to engage with national leaders across all political parties on the state of homelessness in Australia.

Registrations for the conference are currently on hold as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. A plan for the conference is being developed by AHURI and Homelessness Australia and more details will be announced soon.

For more information click [here](#).