

## **Nomination form**

### **2017/2018 Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) National Council**

Due by Tuesday 26 September 2017 to [support@communityhousing.org.nz](mailto:support@communityhousing.org.nz)

I, Julie Nelson, am standing for the CHA National Council.

Member Organisation: LinkPeople

Nominated by: Christine Hall - LinkPeople

Seconded by: Allan Pollard Trust House Limited

By signing below I confirm that I am an employee of LinkPeople which is a Full Member of Community Housing Aotearoa for the fiscal year of 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018.

Julie Nelson

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(name, signature, date)

### **Please provide a photo and a short background on yourself -**

#### **1. Outline of involvement in community housing sector.**

Julie Nelson is currently Chair of LinkPeople (formally Keys Social Housing Ltd) a CHP and joint Chief Executive of the Wise Group of entities which includes Pathways Ltd, one of New Zealand's largest non-government provider of mental health and wellness services, and a range of other subsidiary companies. LinkPeople tenants and manages over 300 Community Group Housing properties nationwide. LinkPeople purpose mission is to enrich the lives of people by providing safe, healthy, affordable homes and practical support. Julie plays an active role in the realisation of safe, healthy affordable housing for vulnerable populations.

#### **2. Short biography: (Maximum of three short paragraphs)**

Julie Nelson has a wealth of social housing experience. Earlier in her career, Julie was Manager of Hamilton Housing Resource Centre and then joined the Housing Corporation. While working in this role, Julie was responsible for establishing community housing in the Waikato which involved working with organisations to purchase appropriate housing options. Julie has been a member of national housing committees and has also worked on policy development at a national level, particularly community group housing policy and rent relief policy.

Julie is currently chief executive of the Wise Group and has been instrumental in growing the organisation from one employee to over one thousand people working nationwide to help people with mental illness live great lives. The activities of the group are diverse and

are joined by a common purpose – to create fresh possibilities for the wellbeing of people, organisations and communities. Julie’s knowledge and experience in the areas of governance, infrastructure services, leading complex services and development of solutions is vast. She is regarded as an authentic leader who engages deeply with people and builds strong enduring relationships.

Her most recent involvement is through the Peoples Project, established to end Homelessness in Hamilton to be rare brief and non-reoccurring. Working at the frontline has been one of the more insightful projects she has been involved in for many years. In addition, Julie is also involved in the establishment of the Housing First Collective in Auckland to address Homelessness. Julie has an in-depth knowledge of community housing and has spent time in other countries reviewing various community housing models.

**3. Key skills:** *(List up to six areas of expertise you offer which are relevant to a national governance role)*

- 3.1 Governance – Chairman, Trustee and Director
- 3.2 Leadership – at CE level
- 3.3 Financial, audit and risk
- 3.4 Social housing and asset management experience
- 3.5 Political and key stakeholder engagement and relationships
- 3.6 Strategy, Entrepreneurship and Community Development

**4. Other governance positions held** *(include year held)*

Wise Group Governance roles

Wise Trust Board Trustee – appointed 2001 to present

Wild Bamboo Ltd Director – appointed 2009 to present

LinkPeople Ltd – Director & Chair appointed 2013 to present

Te Pou Ltd Director & Chair – appointed 2013 to present

Le Va – Pacific Inc Ltd Director & Co Chair

Blueprint NZ Ltd Director – appointed 2007 to present

The People’s Project – Project Lead, project established 2014 to present

Past Governance roles

Waikato Primary Health Organisation (PHO) – Board member

Platform – Chairman 2005-2009

**5. Election statement to members** *(no more than two sentences)*

The opportunity to be part of the CHA council is exciting and provides a wonderful platform to engage with the sector and key players to create sustainable change.

For me there is nothing more important than safe affordable quality housing and quite simply it is my passion.