



Chairperson's message



Greetings to everyone! It just seems like only yesterday we were all together enjoying our Christmas party together and now Easter is approaching! It was great to see so many people at the Christmas party. More than eighty people attended the largest number so far.

Since Christmas we have heard a great deal about how the economy is getting worse. We know people are losing jobs and things are very hard for many people. We know also that people with disabilities are very vulnerable at such times and they are often the first to lose their jobs. We know that prejudice and discrimination increase as times get tough. All the more reason then for citizen advocates to stand beside their protégées and advocate for the person.

Ana Maria, Co-ordinator and Liz McAneny, Board member, recently returned from attending the South Australian Citizen Advocacy Conference. Ana Maria presented a well received paper describing examples from New Zealand of the power of advocacy and sharing lives. Ana Maria and Liz reported to the board on Tuesday March 3 2009 and it was clear that our Auckland programme will be greatly enriched by the knowledge gained and networks made. It is important that we keep learning from other Citizen Advocacy programmes as we are pretty isolated here in New Zealand. I wish to acknowledge the superb hospitality and willingness to share knowledge shown by the South Australian Citizen Advocacy programme. Ana Maria and Liz were in Australia at the time of the terrible bush fires and the heat in Adelaide was 40 degrees most days. We extend our sympathy

to the many people who lost loved ones in this tragic event.

Ana Maria stayed on in Adelaide to participate in a CAPE evaluation of a local citizen advocacy programme. Insights gained will deepen our understanding of citizen advocacy principles. The board hopes to conduct an internal evaluation of our programme soon with the assistance of external people met as a result our links with Citizen Advocacy in Australia.

On January 27, the board met to conduct our strategic planning meeting for the year. We renewed our commitment to our purpose which is to recruit, train and match citizen advocates with people with intellectual disability who are in need of advocacy. We have set up two subcommittees to plan and fundraise for 2010 when we hope to hold a celebratory event marking twenty years of Citizen Advocacy in New Zealand. We will keep you all informed as plans for this exciting event take shape.

I would like to acknowledge the passing of Rosa Tauia who passed away on 21 January 2009. The board extends our sincere sympathy to Rosa's family, friends and advocate and staff at Gift Centre. Rosa will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Although we hear lots of gloomy news about the world recession, I am thrilled to hear lots of good news from Ana Maria about the advocacy and actions that members of Citizen Advocacy Auckland programme are involved in. I know it is people like you who can and do make a difference in the lives of others. The board acknowledges your commitment as citizen advocates.

Fran Hartnett (Chairperson)



In early February I travelled to Adelaide, South Australia with our CA Co-ordinator Ana-Maria to attend the Citizen Advocacy National Conference which was hosted by CA South Australia Inc. The conference ran over three days from the 6th to the 8th of February and was attended by representatives from nine CA programmes in Australia plus Ana-Maria and I from NZ. In total fifty people attended and ranged from those with a long-standing involvement with CA to relative newcomers to the movement.

There were four invited guests who, as well as others there, gave presentations and contributed to the at-times, lively discussions.

Ana-Maria did us very proud with a well-received presentation on The Power of Sharing Lives. Topics covered by others included: CAPE (Citizen Advocacy Programme Evaluation); Introducing CA to Other Cultures; Growing CA; CA Board Roles and Development; Is being Right all an Advocate has to be?; Reflections from consultancy with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community about CA and Reflections from the 'new kids' on the CA block.

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Our hosts were very hospitable providing wonderful food throughout the three days and transport for people to and from the airport. Ana-Maria and I were also shown some of the sights of Adelaide by Board member Heather who generously spent most of the two days after the conference driving us around and chatting about CA issues.

There were two other aspects to my trip to Adelaide which made it unforgettable, the first being the climate. During our first three days we experienced the tail end of a heat wave in which temperatures soared to over 41 degC. Standing outside for 20 seconds at lunchtime was all I could bear of that dry oven-like feeling. What should have been the "green belt" around the city of Adelaide (ie green grass and trees) was brown and dry

as a result of having no rain for over three months mixed with scorching temperatures.

The other lasting memory from the trip came from the fact that we were there for Black Saturday (Victorian bush fires) and experienced the ongoing media unveiling and exposure of the extent of the indescribable tragedy in the days following the fires.

Overall, attending the conference was an enjoyable net-working and thought-provoking experience for me. I wish to thank the CA Board for their generosity in providing for me to attend and also Ana-Maria for all the organising she did to get us there and back.

Liz McAneny (Secretary)

Coordinator's News

We started the year with sadness because beautiful young Rosa Aua Tauia (RIP) passed away on 21st January unexpectedly. She is missed by her family, friends and staff at the Gift House where she lived for many years, at her Church community, at her work place and the people who trained with her for the Mini Olympics. Rosa in her short life touched many people hearts because of her kind and soft nature. All who knew Rosa will keep in their hearts her beautiful smile and memories of her. Rosa had been a protégée in our programme since 2004 and was matched with her new advocate Qiuqing on 17th August 2008. Fran and I attended the funeral. To Rosa's family, advocate and friends my thoughts and condolences are with you.

February was an exciting and fruitful month for me. I attended the Citizen Advocacy conference organized by the Citizen Advocacy South Australia in Adelaide. The conference was attended by about fifty people from Australia plus Liz McAneny, Citizen Advocacy Auckland board secretary, and Dr. Zana Lutfiyya from Canada. The programme included presentations on topics related to Citizen Advocacy Principles, CAPE, experiences of advocacy, CA coordinator's reflections, reflections on how to influence Government decision making, CA Board Roles

and development. Those topics were presented by Dr. Zana Lutfiyya, Bob Lee Coordinator CA Sunshine Coast; David Abela Coordinator CA Sunbury & Districts; Peter Millier Citizen Advocate, Senior SRV trainer; Dr. Lorna Hallahan Chair SA Disability Advisory Council, Mitchel Peters Board member, CA Eastern Suburbs, Linda Hahn & Vanessa Henry, CA Launceston Region Inc., John Armstrong Citizen Advocate, Senior SRV trainer and myself representing CA New Zealand.

Following the conference the Citizen Advocacy South Australia (CASA) programme had their Citizen Advocacy Programme Evaluation (CAPE) from 12 until 18 of February. I was a member of the CAPE team under the leadership of Dr. Zana Lutfiyya. The CAPE was an extraordinary experience for me and a privilege to evaluate a CA programme with such experienced people.

The Citizen Advocacy Auckland Inc. has been supporting advocates and protégés for nineteen years providing advocacy for the most vulnerable people in our society, with the freely given relationship from citizen advocacy advocates. We follow the CA mission statement and principles. Since attending the conference and experience of being in the CAPE

team I have ideas for improvements to our programme at CA Auckland.

In Australia the CA programme is widespread and many people from different CA offices offered their support to New Zealand CA. I felt privileged meeting such lovely and supportative people with so much passion for Citizen Advocacy.

Many people from CA Australia showed interest in attending the conference and celebration in 2010 marking the 20 year Anniversary of CA Auckland. There will be more details in later newsletters.

Don't miss reading the list of future celebrations for advocates and protégés and the workshops for new and existent advocates.

I don't work on Thursday. I'm in and out of the office on other days so if you call and I'm not there to answer your phone call, please leave a message with your name and phone number. I'll call you back as soon as possible.

I hope and wish that this year will bring lots of satisfaction and happiness to all of us.

"Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it"
(Dalai Lama 2009)

Ana Maria de Vos (Coordinator)

If you
move
house



If your
phone
number
changes



Please tell Ana Maria:

Ph: 09-358 4141

Email: ca.akld@ihug.co.nz

Matches Anniversaries ~ **Congratulations!**



Happy Anniversary!

Protégés - Advocates

April

Alison & Barbara..... 19 years

May

Annette & Fran..... 19 years

Kevin & Fran..... 19 years

Scott & Teresa..... 6 years

Clare & Bhama..... 2 years

Andre & Sara..... 2 years

Brandon & Rome..... 1 years

June

France & Karen..... 12 years

Linda & Liz..... 10 years

Jenny & Lyn..... 9 years

Grahme & Mary..... 3 years

July

Hamish & Maureen..... 19 years

Christina & Chrissy..... 5 years

Sacha & Ana..... 4 years

Clare & Haiyan..... 3 years

Sharing our lives

Rob, Loren and Rosemary met through Citizen Advocacy in 2006. Our first meeting was at the Governor General's house in Mount Eden. We had a coffee together first and hit it off straight away. We have been firm friends ever since.

Since that time we have spent lots of time together, doing all sorts of different things together.

We have been rollerskating, walking, swimming at the beach near where Rob & Loren live. Rob and Loren also came to our wedding and have become an important part of our new son, James, life. Rob and Loren like having special time with Rosemary and James and love having them as a part of their lives. Rob and Loren have encountered many challenges over the past 3 years, particularly in relation to their wish to live independent lives together. As their advocate, I have come to admire and respect their determination and strength in making this happen even when things don't always work out as planned. When this happens we talk and work out the best way to overcome problems together. We have learnt a huge amount from each other. As the future unfolds with the challenges that come along, we all feel lucky that we have a special relationship to help us all along the way.

(Loren & Rosemary)



"Citizen Advocacy a Free Given Relationship that Make a Difference in People Lives"

Citizen Advocacy **advocates** make a difference in a person's life who may be at risk of social exclusion, abuse of their personal and human rights, vulnerable to abuse, neglect, exploitation and difficulties in forming reciprocal relationships.

The advocates protect and defend the rights of a person with intellectual disability (protégé) as if they were their own. In many cases the CA advocate is the only un-paid person in the protégés life. The CA advocates primary loyalty and focus is to their protégé to nurture and safeguard their well-being.

Welcome new matches



Robert & Izumi

Suzanne & Ester

David & Viola

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities

The principles that underlie the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities are:

1. Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one's own choices and independence of persons
2. Non-discrimination
3. Full and effective participation and inclusion in society
4. Respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity
5. Equality of opportunity
6. Accessibility
7. Equality between men and women
8. Respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities

Advocates Needed in:

Albany, Avondale,
Buckland Beach, Glenfield,
Glen Innes, Henderson,
Otahuhu, Mangere East,
Mt. Roskill and Ranui.

Do you believe in social justices and want to make a difference in one person's life.



Contact CA Auckland
358 4141-
ca.akld@ihug.com.nz
visit our website:
www.caauckland.org.nz

Important Dates for 2009

Advocates Training Workshops
For new and existing advocates

Saturday

18 April - 1 August - 7 November.

Time: 9:30am - 1:00pm

Venue: CA office - 44 Khyber Pass Rd. Grafton.

Advocates & Protégés Celebration

Friday: 19 June 2009

Time: 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Venue: CA office- 44 Khyber Pass Rd.

If you are interested to attend, contact Ana-Maria 09-358 4141 or e-mail ca.akld@ihug.co.nz



Christmas Party 2009



Sunday: 29 November

Venue: To be confirmed

CA Auckland 20 Years Anniversary in 2010

The Conference sub-committee will keep you informed

Information & Networking

National Residential Intellectual Disability Providers (NRID)

Conference:

Life is a highway – intrepid journey
8-10 July – Christchurch
Convention Centre

E-mail: barney@cct.org.nz
Phone: 03-477 0499

International Conference

Making Inclusive Education Happen.
28-30 September – Te Papa,
Cable Street Wellington.

www.imaginebetter.co.nz
StandardsPlus@imaginebetter.co.nz

Auckland Disability Law

Is a free community legal service in the Auckland region. It aims to help disabled people access legal services, and to increase awareness of disability law.

www.aucklanddisabilitylaw.org.nz
Phone: 09-257 5140

Email: info@adl.org.nz
Mobile/Text: 027 457 5140

Modern Dance Class Mixed

Abilities in North Shore. Contact Linda Parker on 09-817 3051 or 021 048 2894.

New disability.rec

Sports programs, music lessons, lifestyle skills and a range of respite care to choose from in different destinations around New Zealand.

Phone: 09-532 8310
disABILITYrec@xtra.co.nz

Free workshops

Fire Safety & Promotions Contact Leo Capernaros Community Liaison Officer NZ Fire Service

leo.Capernaros@fire.org.nz
Phone: 09-3090 754
Mobile: 027 482 2232

Auckland Disability resource Centre (DRC)

Equipment, products, showroom and sales. 14 Erson Avenue, Royal Oak, Auckland

www.disabilityresource.org.nz
Phone: 09-625 8069

SuperCare4u.com Total mobility passenger transport door to door service

Phone: 09-630 2060
www.SuperCare4u.com
E-mail: info@supercare4u.com

Recreate Auckland

Provides holistic recreational opportunities that enhance the social, emotional and physical development of young people with disabilities while also providing support and respite for their parents and families.

Phone: 09-636 0351 **Ext.** 224
www.recreate-auckland.org.nz
info@recreate-auckland.org.nz

Citizen Advocacy Board Members 2009

Fran Hartnett	<i>Chairperson</i>
Liz McAneny	<i>Secretary</i>
Fred Yuen	<i>Treasurer</i>
Annette Rogers	
David Hughes	
Debbie Espiner	
Jee Ho Rodriguez	
Kevin Rogers	
Yonne Riley	
Ana Maria de Vos	<i>Coordinator</i>



A few Christmas photos from 2008



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DRC - Sub-contract Services (DIAS)
COGS
The Lion Foundation



When One Person Can Make a Difference
Citizen Advocacy Auckland since 1990

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