Annual Report 2017-2018

This has been a steady year for training in spite of the previous National Government's decision to totally cut the funding of Computers in Homes throughout the country in their last budget.

The result has been dramatic. Our Trust has had to cut back on the number of courses from seven to four a year. All the other Computers in Homes training organisations in New Zealand have closed.

Because of our stewardship and careful management of our finances, e-Learning Porirua has been able to continue to operate using our reserves and grants from charitable trusts and foundations and cutting our cloth to meet this new challenge by reducing overheads and hours of our training staff.

We have continued to run the highly successful Refugee Connect programme for refugee communities throughout the Wellington region with financial support from the Ministry of Education. This makes a significant difference to their lives as we give them the computer skills and knowledge to apply for and obtain employment. The consequent integration into our community therefore becomes easier as their families start to participate more fully as citizens in our society.

As unemployment has dropped, so too has the number of students coming to us, also detrimentally affecting numbers at polytechnics and universities.

The new Coalition Government, following extensive lobbying by us prior to the general election of Labour, NZ First and the Green parties, promised in their Coalition Agreement that funding for Computers in Homes will be reinstated. We anticipate this will occur in the May 2019 budget.

In the meantime we will continue to aggressively seek grants from other sources to meet the demands from the more disadvantaged members of our local community.

Since the formation of the Trust there have been over 14,000 adults and children living in the same households directly benefitted from our Computers in Homes programme. This has been very significant in closing the digital divide in our city.

This will be my last Annual Report as I am resigning as the Chair of the e-Learning Porirua Trust for health reasons, but will remain a Member of the Board.

The Trust was founded in 2001 by Trustee Phil Major and myself. He is stepping down this year and I want to acknowledge his commitment and strategic appreciation and tactics in order to make this organisation such a success in Porirua.

Because the Cabinet Manual states there is a conflict of interest with Kris Faafoi's new role as a Cabinet Minister in his portfolios of Broadcasting, Communications and Digital Media, he has resigned from the Board. We greatly appreciate his significant service to the Trust since he has been our MP.

Over these 18 years, plus the year we commenced planning and designing how our Trust would operate, it has been a sometimes bumpy road as we grappled with raising finances, resources, and at times overwhelming numbers wanting to be trained.

Throughout, the commitment and dedication of our Trustees has been magnificent. The constancy of their efforts and expertise has been outstanding, with many serving for much of this time. I am humbled by their commitment, as I have been with our team of dedicated trainers, technicians and volunteers, led by Project Manager Tim Davies-Colley.

Graham Kelly
Chairperson   *September 2018*

Future Challenge

1000 estimated households in Porirua City with school aged children without internet access.

2300 estimated number of households in Porirua City and Linden with school aged children without a computer.

"In spite of advances in technology and reduced costs, there are families in our community who do not have the money to purchase a home computer.

"Our Trust provides them with a 10 week training course and a refurbished home computer. The IT skills that these parents and these children acquire is used to lift their educational achievements and by doing this they will gain jobs that pay higher wages and lift the economic status of their households.
.
"Giving them the confidence is transformational as many seek further training and education that they would not otherwise have attempted.

" Without our Trust's involvement, many would be left behind in the digital divide."

Graham Kelly, Chair of e-Learning Porirua

Report Card 2017-18

162 new Computers in Homes graduates (plus 41 additional since 1 April 2018)

622 children in these households who benefitted

275 estimated additional adults who benefitted in the same household

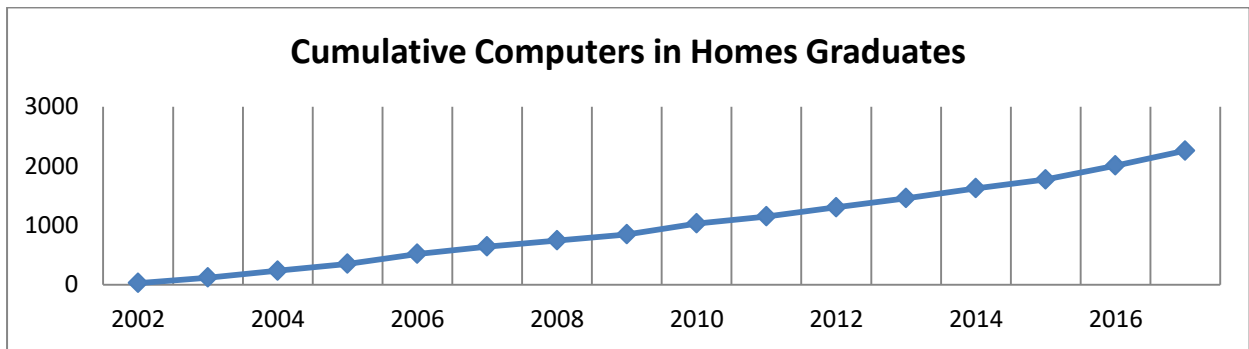**213** new Stepping Up graduates (plus 93 since 1 April 2018)

Programme to date

2314 families who have graduated in Computers in Homes in Porirua City since January 2002

8649 children in these households who benefitted

2974 additional adults who benefitted in the same household

1661 number of Stepping Up graduates since 2011

Cumulative Computers in Homes Graduates

Successful Refugee Training Programme

Over the past three years 147 refugee families have graduated, representing approximately 588 people who have learnt how to use a computer.

Since July 2014 e-Learning Porirua Trust became the Wellington region's sole provider of Computers in Homes refugee training courses.

This resulted in a new pilot "in-home delivery model" for teaching that our Trust, through tutor Ibrahim Raouf-Morton, developed. The new model's reach extends to family, friends and neighbours, who are encouraged to attend lessons.

These families received computers at the commencement of their course, instead of at the end. It allows them to practise their skills between home visits. It also reduces the time to train and allows refugee families early access to the internet to be able to maintain contact with their families and friends in their country of origin, as well as being able to begin job seeking.

Because we encourage other refugee families to participate, we are training four times the number of people that would otherwise be the case.

This method of teaching is ground-breaking in New Zealand, has proved highly successful and has been endorsed by the Ministry of Education.

Specific job preparation courses for refugees are part of this programme.

Over the last year our courses have benefitted refugees from Afghanistan, Colombia, Burma, Vietnam, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Palestine Egypt and Sri Lanka.

The Mansour family with Laurence Millar (right)
- **Chair of the 20/20 Trust.**

Quotes from Refugees

"It is wonderful to be in New Zealand it is so green and peaceful. We are very happy to be able to learn to use the computer to talk to family overseas and do internet banking. I hope to look at ideas on the internet to help me set up a business."

"Thank you for the computer it has helped me and my family so much. I like using it to improve my English and look up information for school."

Outcomes and Graduate Profiles

From research, 12 months after graduation

34% enrolled in other courses after graduation -
- 8% for NCEA/unit standards
- 3% trade certificate
- 4% degrees
- 7% adult literacy/writing
- 5% business studies
- 12% computing/ICT
- 4% languages
- 5% Maori studies/Te Reo
- 3% nursing/ health
- 2% social work
- 4% teaching
- 11% work skills

98% completed Stepping Up courses

30% gained a job (14% full time, 16% part time)

25% of other adults in the CIH households obtained jobs (11% fulltime and 14% part-time).

40% said using a computer and job seeker web-sites was helpful getting a job

34% acquired new skills

33% felt confident about seeking employment

85% said their eldest child is using a computer for research and homework

84% enrolled in further training for NCEA, certificate level or university degree qualifications

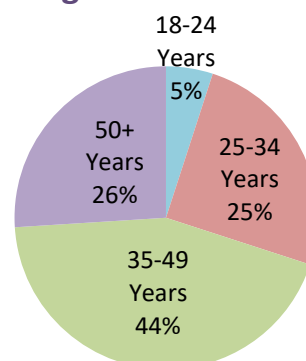**74%** said having a computer had helped improve their employment prospects

70% are using their internet connection to access at least one government website

"Being able to use a computer was the most helpful component in obtaining a job."

76% … of families told us this was a direct result of our Computers in Homes course.

68% … said learning how to use a job-seeker website was highly rated in getting a job.

Age Distribution

Since CiH Graduation

10% enrolled at polytechnic
19% enrolled to complete NZQA units
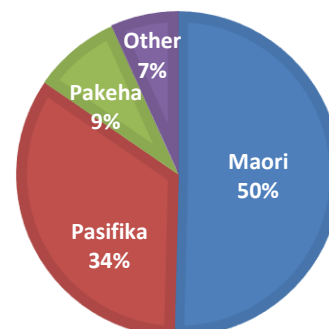**98%** completed Stepping Up modules
24% enrolled in a Wananga Course

Others achievements include obtaining a driver's licence, apprenticeships, self-learning online and participation in other community programmes.

Education & Training prior to CiH

No qualification	**62%**
School qualification	**21%**
Tech/Trade qualification	**14%**
Tertiary	**3%**

Ethnicity

Dramatically Improved Educational Achievement

Our on-going research clearly shows the dramatic impact our Computers in Homes programme is having with low decile families –

- *33% of school-aged children in our graduates homes are now performing above the national average at school – largely supported by having a home computer.*
- **66% of children now use a home computer to do homework and research school projects**

Parents tell us that their children are doing better at school because they have a computer and the internet is available at home.

It is a proven fact that children who do not have a computer are seriously disadvantaged compared with those that do.

Graduates from Course 77

Student Quote

Vaine - I am a mother of four kids who migrated from Samoa in May 2016. It is a great pleasure to express my gratitude to the great Support from this Computer Course to the families who have just started to live in New Zealand like my family. The learning has already helped me and my family and I know we will all use the computer when we get it home.

e-Learning Websites

For further information on e-Learning Porirua, go to our website:
http://e-learning.org.nz

or have a look at our blog:
http://cih-porirua.blogspot.co.nz

and like us on Facebook:
http://goo.gl/9mnMVA

Learning Management System-Moodle:
http://comuterinhomes.com/

Who is e-Learning Porirua?

The Porirua City Community IT Educational Trust (e-Learning Porirua) was established in 2001.

It aims to bridge the digital divide by training low income families in computer skills to give them the confidence and tools to get a job and therefore reduce unemployment.

Parents of school-age children who do not have a job or a home computer are eligible.

Importantly, we are also lifting student achievement levels in the 25 low decile schools in Porirua City and one in Linden. e-Learning has now extended its reach to include low income parents in the seven high decile schools in Porirua City.

In the mid-1990s the number of homes with a computer in Whitby was 80%, but in Porirua East it was just 6%.

The last Census in 2013 showed homes with the internet (not necessarily computers) averaged 53.8% in the suburb of Cannons Creek, 51.5% in Waitangirua and 71% in Titahi Bay, while it was 95% in Whitby.

Computers in Homes courses are held weekly for 8 to 10 weeks each term. Students learn the basics of how to use a computer, Gmail, Google Apps, word processing and how to write a CV. Graduations are held at the end of each school term.

Graduates take home a refurbished computer and are provided with a 12 month subsidised internet connection and technical support supplied by e-Learning Porirua.

Stepping Up Programme

The Stepping Up programme, run by e-Learning Porirua, is for anyone with basic computer knowledge wishing to develop skills relevant to their work and life. You choose the modules (called digital steps) you want to learn. Stepping Up is an ideal follow up to the Computers in Homes training.

There are 25 plus Digital Steps taught including word processing, spread sheets, on-line trading, communications for work, employment readiness, home finances etc. All CiH graduates complete four or more of these steps.

Our team

Special thanks go to all members of the dedicated team involved in e-Learning Porirua. We couldn't succeed without their skills and commitment.

Tim Davies Colley – Project Manager

Noel Evans – Technician

Peter Lynch – Tutor / Technician

Ibrahim Raouf-Morton – Tutor for refugees

and our many volunteers.

Thanks also to the board who contribute significant expertise and effort to ensure the ongoing focus and success of our organisation.

Graham Kelly (Chair)
Philip Major (Deputy Chair)
Wendy Betteridge
Tim Davies-Colley
Janine Dean
Kris Faafoi MP
Douglas Harre
Chris Lipscombe
Martyn Newman-Hall (Treasurer)

Acknowledgements

We are very grateful to the following organisations and people for their on-going support for e-Learning Porirua.

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- Lottery Community Grants Board
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- Trust House Foundation
- T G Macarthy Trust
- Remarket
- Deans and Associates, Accountants
- David Turner, Auditor
- Maude & Miller, Lawyers