



# Catholic Social Services

people helping people āwhina tātou

## MOU Signed with Changemakers Refugee Forum

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### CSS Volunteers acknowledged in Infoodle Awards

In March 2022, Catholic Social Services won the 'Church' category prize at Infoodle's inaugural annual awards. Infoodle provide Charity and Church Management Software and CSS now use their software to manage our donation records.

Kamau Holland, CSS Director said: "Congratulations to all our wonderful volunteers!

This award is all about you and the work you do as volunteers, supporting people in need. This includes companioning people suffering from grief and loss, advocating at Benefit Impacts; supporting and resourcing our Refugee Resettlement programme, and financial donations. There is no doubt this Award is intrinsically wrapped up in your generosity.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your ongoing support and know there are many individuals and families quietly rebuilding their lives as a result of you."

*(Continues on Page 3 )*



In 2019 Catholic Social Services surveyed all of our Resettlement Project Volunteers to gather their thoughts on the project to date and any aspirations for further development. It was wonderful to hear from many of them their willingness to continue.

However what was amazing was their desire to do more, to connect with former refugees in a meaningful way and make them feel welcome. There was a genuine desire to befriend them and be part of their lives.

From that time onwards Catholic Social Services has been looking at different ways we can enable that to happen.

Friday 29th April 2022 was a landmark day! CSS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Changemakers Resettlement Forum. The goal being to work together to enable friendship across our communities.

This MOU expresses how we will work together in the future.

Words taken from the MOU ...

"A commitment to partnership, collaboration and the achievement of a shared vision and the recognition of our shared humanity. Enabling whānau and communities who do not have a voice the opportunity to speak and be heard. Enabling people the opportunity of being connected, having meaningful relationships rich with respect, celebration of difference, and surety of truly being part of NZ life."

Watch this space as we bring our communities together.

*[Pictured right to left: Jacqueline (Jacqs) Wilton, General Manager Changemakers Resettlement Forum, Kamau (Karen) Holland, Director Catholic Social Services; John Prendergast, GM Archdiocese of Wellington]*

## Meet the Catholic Social Services team



Kamau Holland, Kaiarahi (Director) Catholic Social Services  
Ko Ngati Maniopoto tōku Iwi; ko Ngati Parewata tōku Hapu; I te taha o taku whaea ko Hana Mere Fergusson tōku tipuna wahine. Kamau took up the role of Kaiarahi of CSS in 2019.



Lizzie Wootton (upper photo); Kate Sanders O'Connor (lower photo) - Hospital Chaplains, Wellington Hospital. We provide a ministry of presence for patients, whānau and staff at the hospital.



This spiritual pastoral care work is varied, depending on what people identify they need; for example, someone to listen, to pray, to laugh. We honour each person whatever they are experiencing, we have time to sit with and accompany, witness to their questions, pain, hope and faith, provide access to the Sacraments, prayer, and pastoral care for patients at the end of life, and their families. We visit across the hospital in all wards, including mental health, bearing witness to God's healing, whether spoken or unspoken. It is a privilege to respect the spirituality of people in times of vulnerability.



Kathryn van Woerkom, Hospital Chaplain, Hutt Hospital. As a hospital chaplain I have the privilege to provide support, a listening ear, a comforting presence, prayer and unconditional love and acceptance to all patients, their whānau and the hospital staff. I bring Holy Communion, can accompany patients at the end of life and organise a visit from the priests and other ministers when requested. I am also involved with many projects at the hospital which help to make living with illness and dying more comfortable for all involved.



Marie Paurini. Kia ora. My name is Marie and I am the Kenepuru Hōhipera Chaplain. It is a privilege and honour to walk alongside our patients, their whānau and all of the amazing staff at Kenepuru. Blessings of Aroha and Light to you all.



Falefou Sio, Prison Chaplain at Arohata and Rimutaka Prisons. Falefou's role is to provide prison ministry services in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church by serving persons in prison, to promote and share the Gospel message of Christ's salvation, provide opportunities to celebrate the Sacraments and to provide pastoral care, counsel and support.



Paul Alsford, Community Facilitator. Paul took up his role in 2019 and has led some key projects: Benefit Impacts, ongoing Refugee Resettlement, Afghan emergency evacuee response and CSS Befriender Volunteers programme. He has built connections and partnerships within parishes to safely work with and advocate for the poor and vulnerable, and respond to poverty through projects and partnerships in their wider community.



Lyneen joined CSS as a Navigator in May 2022. Lyneen will work with our Community Facilitator and Social Worker. Lyneen comes from a background in education and mental health work, within the disability sector. She is Deaf and speaks fluent NZ Sign Language and vocal English. We are delighted to have Lyneen as part of our team.



Katrin Eickhorst has been Trainer/Coordinator Seasons for Growth of the Archdiocese of Wellington since 2019 and is based at CSS. Seasons for Growth is an educational ministry supporting people through grief, loss and change and has been available in New Zealand for over 20 years. The programme is widely available in schools and also in adult communities. Katrin enjoys helping people learn strategies to manage their loss and grief.



Linda MacGregor, Clergy Healthcare Coordinator  
I am the Archdiocese of Wellington's Clergy Health Co-Ordinator. I have been in this role since 2013 and it is a privilege to work alongside this special group of men.  
My primary focus is to ensure the healthcare and welfare of our clergy. This is a varied role where no two days are the same.



Vivien Chiu, Administrator  
I joined CSS in 2009. I look after general administration for the agency including admin support for our Kaiarahi, admin support for our donors to the '1000 Club' group and Kotahitanga Appeals. I also provide admin support for other projects and programmes that the agency undertakes. There is plenty of variety in this role which makes it very interesting.

## Our Clergy and COVID-19

During this unpredictable time of COVID and long periods of lockdowns, we've all had many mixed feelings. Isolation, loneliness, depression and fear have had us in its grip. 'Normal' daily routines were no longer. The same was true for our clergy. Like us, they were forced to adapt and adjust. Gatherings of any description were suspended. Funerals were conducted with only a priest and funeral director in attendance. Hospital and rest home visits were 'out'; Zoom meetings, mask wearing and hand sanitizers were 'in'.

*Linda MacGregor, Clergy Healthcare Coordinator*

Their ministry entered a new phase where innovative ways to continue meeting their communities' needs became the norm and at times, a struggle. They had to juggle what was right for their own health and welfare and that of their community. Their understanding of these needs with guidelines from the Archdiocese and Government, meant they were able to offer reassurance to their communities when called upon to do so.

## Bicultural Dimension for Seasons for Growth

The New Zealand License Council for Seasons for Growth and its Australian owners Good Grief, are delighted to announce that a **Bicultural Dimension** for Companions of the Seasons for Growth Children and Young Peoples' Programme is now ready for launch.

All those involved with promotion

and delivery of the programme in New Zealand have been eagerly waiting for this to happen so are very excited it is now ready.

The launch is dedicated to the Accredited Māori Companions who contributed to the project and the team of project leaders. It will take place at Whakarongotai Marae in Waikanae.

Attendees will include:

Rakauoteora Te Maipi, *Kaumatuā*; Cardinal John Dew, *NZ Seasons for Growth Licence Holder*; Anne Graham, *author of Seasons for Growth*; Fiona McCullum, *General Manager of Good Grief* and others. The following day will be dedicated to all New Zealand trainers.

*Katrin Eickhorst, Seasons for Growth Trainer/Coordinator*

## CSS Volunteers Award *(cont'd from page 1)*

Cardinal John Dew said "Congratulations to you and the CSS Team for this awards, well done to you, the staff and the volunteers."

Read the Infoodle Judges' comments for granting CSS this award below:

"Catholic Social Services is a well-structured organisation doing really great work across the wider Wellington region. The programmes and activities they shared embody their vision of engaging with all people to help empower them as they live their lives. Their rapid

response in supporting Afghan evacuees arriving in New Zealand in August 2021 was a testament to their great community engagement, networking, and ability to work with other organisations ...."

*To read more about the award, visit the Infoodle website: <https://www.infoodle.com/blog/looking-after-volunteers>*

**Save the Date! Tuesday 27th September 2022**

- an event to bring all our volunteers together.

More information to follow!



## Game On! A Parenting Course just for Dads

E: [office@greenstonedoors.co.nz](mailto:office@greenstonedoors.co.nz) (or)

E: [reception@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:reception@wn.catholic.org.nz)

### • Great Fathers

A course of weekly meetings supporting dads over 8 weeks;

### • Tane Talks

On-going weekly meetings during school term time; participants are encouraged to attend when they can.

### • Game On

A parenting programme which supports men run over 6 weeks.

### Term Two (2 May to 8 July)

- Game On (Lower Hutt)
- Tane Talks (Upper Hutt)
- Tane Talks (Lower Hutt)

### Term Three (5 July - 30 Sept)

- Great Fathers (Wellington)
- Tane Talks (Upper Hutt)
- Tane Talks (Lower Hutt)

### Term Four (17 Oct - 16 Dec)

- Game On (Wellington)
- Great Fathers (Upper Hutt)
- Tane Talks (Upper Hutt)
- Tane Talks (Lower Hutt)

A parenting programme, just for Dads! This programme is being run by **CSS in partnership with Greenstone Doors**.

*[As this newsletter goes to print, the two agencies have also just signed a MOU. More details to come!]*

Feedback from participants has been excellent. If you have any questions or concerns, send a txt to 0220395788. To register, send an email to either email address: —

## Thank You to our Funders

Like other NGOs, each year we apply for charitable grants to assist us carry out our normal work and special projects. This means we compete with other groups for the same funds.

Every donation received outside of this pool of funds is gratefully received and vital to our continued work. Catholic Social Services thanks all our funders for their magnificent support. In particular we would like to thank the following:

- The Archdiocese of Wellington
- Gaynor Charitable Nominees
- Donovan Family Charitable Trust
- New Zealand Lottery Grants Board
- Oranga Tamariki Ministry for Children
- Wellington Community Fund
- Winton & Margaret Bear Charitable Trust
- St Vincent de Paul
- Est. Kathleen Alice Boyd Charitable Trust
- Wellington City Council: Betty Campbell Accommodation Assistance Fund
- The Catholic Foundation
- David Daily Charitable Trust
- Hutt Mana Charitable Trust
- KSC Wellington Charitable Trust Board
- Ministry for Social Development
- J K Baxter Trust
- Tindall Foundation
- CARITAS
- Nikau Foundation

Also, a **huge** thank you to our **1000 Club members**, our **Kotahitanga Appeal donors**, and all others who regularly donate to CSS each year. Your donations allow us to continue assisting the most vulnerable in our communities.

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