

News

VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON



National Volunteer Week 2017 • 18–24 June

The chance to promote, celebrate, thank



This year's National Volunteer Week theme *Live, Laugh, Share – Volunteer* or *Kia Ringa Hora, Me Mahi Tūao* helps to capture the heartfelt appreciation we feel when we volunteer, building stronger and more vibrant communities.

It is an opportunity for all community and voluntary organisations to promote the value of volunteering and to celebrate and thank volunteers involved in your organisations.

Volunteer Wellington is organising a special promotional one-page supplement in the *Dominion Post*. Appearing on Tuesday 20 June this supplement is always a bright, catchy page focused on volunteering and communities. It's a great opportunity for your organisation to contribute supporting advertisements (at specially negotiated rates) thanking volunteers and promoting your services.

We have sent an information flyer with sizes and costs to our members and if you have any questions, or would like to book space on the page, please email aileen@volunteerwellington.nz. *Don't miss out – register your interest for the supplement by 6 June.*

Volunteer Porirua is celebrating National Volunteer Week by giving community organisations in the area the opportunity to promote the work they do and the impact it has. The event will be outside the Porirua Library in Pataka on Wednesday 21 June from 11.30am to 1.30pm. Organisations will be able to talk with the public about the difference they can make in their own lives and others when they make time for volunteering.

To find out more and participate in this event call Julia Donovan on 237 5355 or email managerporirua@volunteerwellington.nz

Volunteer Hutt is working with Weltec students to produce a fun filled interactive event for National Volunteer Week on Monday 19 June from 12–1.30 pm at the Dowse, James Coe rooms 1 & 2. It will highlight a diverse range of volunteer opportunities in the Hutt Valley, as well as sharing inspiring volunteer stories. To find out more and participate in this event email Katie Terris managerhutt@volunteerwellington.nz



Celebrating

The Nikau Foundation Corporate Challenge 2017

Volunteer Wellington and KPMG invite you to join us

at KPMG's Wellington premises
Level 9, 10 Customhouse Quay
Wednesday 21 June from 5pm sharp to 7pm

At this event we reflect upon the flood of volunteering activity initiated by The Challenge

Who will win the Nikau Corporate Challenge award for a standout partnership between corporate volunteers and a community group in 2017?

Come along and be inspired by the theme of
Local Action for Global Impacts

KEY SPEAKER

Hon Alfred Ngaro, Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector

Refreshments will be served

Reply to Lyne Pringle by Wednesday 14 June 2016
Phone: 04 499 4572 | Email: ev@volunteerwellington.org.nz



NIKAU FOUNDATION

VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON | TE PUNA TAUTOKO | A CATALYST FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

➤ VISIT US AT www.volunteerwellington.nz ➤ EMAIL info@volunteerwellington.nz

CHAIR'S COLUMN



The end of the financial year and the fiscal planning for the next year is a busy time for management

and the governance teams. **Volunteer Wellington** is no different. A loss of a significant portion of our funding midway through last year heightened the focus on the sustainability and resilience of our organisation. No doubt similar financial pressures are being felt in other community organisations within the sector.

So why focus on organisational resilience and sustainability? Resilience is the ability of the organisation to overcome disruptions by transforming to meet the changing operational environment and the needs of its clients and stakeholders. Sustainability, in contrast, is being able to flourish and grow in the face of an uncertain future – forward looking risk management.

It is easy to focus on the immediate demands like those of operational funding, but it is the other organisational factors that influence resilience and sustainability which are really important. These include relationships, networks, trust, access to information, technological agility, cooperation, human resources, capacity, cultural values and organisational vision. These are the factors that define the organisation. They are the point of difference. They are the foundation for marketing and communication activities and provide the collateral for achieving resilience and sustainability.

The annual strategic planning review allowed the **Volunteer Wellington** team to determine what is needed to nurture the above defining factors to ensure we meet the present needs without compromising the organisation's future. The marketing and communication of these points of difference have become key in the efforts to address that budget gap.

Kia Kaha

Glenn Todd

WORKSHOP NEWS

The power of peer mentoring 12 JUNE

Tools for coaching or mentoring groups

Are you in a role where you have a lot of responsibility and have to make complex decisions on your own? Do you crave an ear to run things past, a shoulder to lean on when you've bitten off more than you can chew? Wouldn't it be great to learn from others so you don't have to reinvent the wheel? This workshop introduces you to a unique approach to mentoring and supervision that doesn't rely on the presence of an identified expert in the mix – a mentor.

The approach is extremely effective and easy to learn. In one training day participants have all they need to use the tools successfully. The training comes with a resource kit for each participant including *The Power of Peer Mentoring* booklet. Participants can, if they wish, form a group on the training day by teaming up with other interested participants.

For further information and registration [click here](#).

Let's be clear – writing with clarity forum 30 JUNE

A free interactive workshop covering simple plain language techniques for connecting with your audience and getting your message across.

You must reach many audiences

As a community organisation, your clients and supporters are likely to be people of all ages, with all levels of literacy, and from all walks of life. You're also writing for other organisations and government, for staff and volunteers and for funders. Plain English is crucial for connecting and communicating with all your readers.

You'll get advice you can use

Inez Romanos of Write Limited has drawn expert advice from several of their workshops to create a session tailored to the work of community organisations. She will cover:

- getting to know the needs of your audience
- using techniques to create a document that's easy for a reader to read, understand, and act on.

No matter who you're communicating with, you'll find easy-to-apply concrete tips and advice.

■ **When: 10–11.30am, Friday 30 June**

■ **Where: St Johns in the City Conference Centre, Willis Street, Wellington**

Tea and coffee provided. \$5 koha for **Volunteer Wellington** to cover venue and morning tea appreciated.

Brought to you by Community Comms Collective and Write Limited, and hosted by **Volunteer Wellington**.

RSVP to comms@communitycomms.org.nz by Monday 26 June. Please let us know the organisation you're representing.

Business continuity planning 24 JULY

In the event of a big earthquake or other major disruption, how would your organisation cope? Are you, your staff and volunteers prepared? How would the people who rely on your organisation cope if you weren't able to continue your services?

The Wellington Region Emergency Management Office in collaboration with **Volunteer Wellington** is offering a workshop to help your organisation get prepared.

Discover the three key characteristics of organisations that survive disasters and how you can foster these in your own organisation. Discuss your emergency procedures to keep staff, volunteers and clients safe. Learn some simple actions you can take now to build resilience into your organisation's functions and business processes to make sure you can continue to provide your services during challenging times.

To join us for an interesting, insightful and interactive workshop [click here](#).

Community gardens, compost, conservation

Students give it all a go

Student Volunteer Week 1-7 May Skicked off with enthusiasm as students from Wellington College's Trade Academy worked at Te Kawakawa Commons. A number of the students tackled building steps over rugged terrain on the perimeter track while others grabbed cutters and attacked the blackberry bushes. Others picked up glass to ensure the path through the bush is safe for walkers and their dogs. The students started their own



Two of the enthusiastic Massey students getting ready to prepare the gardens for winter

vegetable garden at school and were interested to see how the community garden was managed. A future session on composting with WorkerBe Oasis is planned.

Massey University got behind Student Volunteer Week with teams of students volunteering at Ronald McDonald House, The Free Store, The Soup Kitchen, WorkerBe Oasis, Kai-bosh and signing up for Shave for a Cure. The students were amazed at the range of volunteer roles available with our member organisations.

Residents at Victoria University's newest hostel, Capital Hall in Willis St, were keen to volunteer in their neighbourhood. A team of students



Wellington College students building steps under the guidance of their teacher

worked alongside regular volunteers with Upstream – Friends of Central Park. The conservation-focused project gave students an insight to an inner city park and the work being done to preserve the native plants. After a positive volunteering experience the students have been invited back to continue working on the conservation project.

Thank you to our community members who hosted the enthusiastic students during Student Volunteer Week ensuring they had fun and a positive experience. Whittakers came to the party providing the students with a delicious energy booster to tackle their physical volunteering activities!



Victoria students grappling with the weeds around native trees

The power of peer support

The Hutt Managers of Volunteers Peer Support group, led by Paula Connolly from Victim Support, has been of great value to the 15+ managers of volunteers who regularly attend. It provides valuable support and encouragement and the sharing of ideas and resources. Amongst the issues they have identified as discussion topics are training needs for themselves and their agencies, how to raise brand awareness of their organisation, how to have an effective volunteer application process and relevant role description, and making best use of volunteers with IT skills.

As well as responding to their professional needs, several of the managers have said how much difference this group makes to them personally as they often feel isolated in their work. A great camaraderie has built up amongst the group. Although they all work in quite different agencies, they all share similar experiences and challenges.

To find out more about the Hutt peer support group email Katie Terris managerhuut@volunteerwellington.nz

Calling all mentors and mentees!

Are you looking for a mentor to help you build skills in your role; or are you able to spend time with someone and as a mentor, help them grow in their role?

Volunteer Wellington's mentoring programme links community managers/coordinators with experienced practitioners in the community and voluntary sector. The aim of the programme is to further develop capability, share ideas and encourage professional development.

'The mentoring programme gave me the chance to take a step back from my work; I think I've grown professionally and personally with my mentor's support.'

'The mentoring exceeded my expectations! The mentor was prepared to tailor things to what I needed and sends me resources that are relevant when he comes across them.'

If you're keen to find out more, please contact Aileen at Volunteer Wellington by emailing aileen@volunteerwellington.nz or by phoning 499 4572.

➤ FRIENDS OF VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON

BUSINESS MEMBER FRIENDS: ACC; ANZ National Bank; BNP Paribas; The Commerce Commission; Chorus; Contact Energy; DAC Beachcroft; IAG New Zealand; IBM New Zealand; Kiwibank; KPMC; Massey University College of Creative Arts; Mercer Ltd; Ministry of Business Innovation and Enterprise; New Zealand Post Group; Parliamentary Counsel Office; The Treasury, Thomson Reuters; Z Energy **INDIVIDUAL FRIENDS:** Sue Hine, Sue Hobbs, Ann Hodson, Pat Lakeman, Robert Limb, David Loveridge, Helen Middleton, Raewyn Sinclair, Chris Streatfield, Olwen Taylor, Celia Wade-Brown

Stories of diversity

Pathways to diversity and inclusion have been part of **Volunteer Wellington's** strategic actions for more than a decade. In the past year the number of volunteer seekers who were new migrants was 586 with a further 85 who were people with refugee backgrounds.

To celebrate and acknowledge the impact of volunteering for new migrants and the value of their work, **Volunteer Wellington** published a small book called *Volunteer Connect – migrants volunteering in the community*. The stories in the book are taken from the criteria questions answered when nominations were received for last year's Volunteer Connect awards for new migrants. They are nominated by the managers of volunteers from our community members; and last year a record number came forward. A grand total of 30 representing 18 different nationalities.

A celebratory launch of the booklet was held at the National Library with Diane Solomon from the Office of Ethnic Communities and Mayor Justin Lester as guest speakers. Both talked about the

invaluable work done by new migrants; and the connections made through volunteering ... all made possible via **Volunteer Wellington's** recruitment and referral services.

'These services, that bring so many people and organisations together, are a vital contribution to the social capital of Wellington,' said Mayor Justin.

Another speaker, volunteer writer Pauline Harper, congratulated **Volunteer Wellington** for maintaining the strong infrastructure and strategic direction which made such exciting diversity happen.

'I realised as I was doing this volunteering that I was also developing new skills and gaining happiness. I felt as though I could call myself a citizen.' Pengbo Jiang from China, volunteer trustee and committee member.

'I felt more connected to the community by being part of it ... I developed a good network of friends from the staff and other business partners.' Moutasem Khalifah



MALCOLM WOOD

Grant Robertson MP, volunteer Edwin Alvarado and Major Justin Lester enjoying the booklet launch

from Jordon, volunteered as a teacher aid at MCLASS.

Thank you to Trust House Community Enterprise for funding the booklet; Thomson Reuters Wellington for their editing and printing additional copies; The Office of Ethnic Communities for providing the launch venue; Marteen Quivoos for writing the Foreword; graphic designer Sue Hobbs for her design skills; Emma Goma for managing the project; Pauline Harper who's idea it was to turn the new migrant's inspiring stories into a booklet; photographer Eva Kaprinay; Cafe 93, Dusted & Delicious, and English Language Partners for providing catering.

If you would like to obtain copies of *Volunteer Connect – migrants volunteering in the community* ring 499 4572 or email aileen@volunteerwellington.nz

2017 Volunteer Connect Awards for new migrants

A large number of new migrants and refugees come through our service each year, a recognition that volunteering plays a key role in their first chapter of getting to know and understand their new home. Many will now be part of your volunteer programme adding diversity and capability while in turn experiencing a sense of belonging to their new community. We recently sent out a nomination form for our annual Volunteer Connect Award for new migrants which we run annually in partnership with CAB Wellington and English Language Partners. The information from the 2016 nomination forms inspired us to collect the migrant stories that we have recently published in our booklet *Volunteer Connect – migrants volunteering in the community*. We want to find out from the new migrants who are part of your volunteer team what a difference volunteering has made to their lives. The certificate presentations will be held on Monday 10th July at the Southern Cross Hotel.



CAROLINA HENRIQUEZ

If you would like to nominate a new migrant from your team please contact aileen@volunteerwellington.nz

THANK YOU FOR FUNDING AND SUPPORT

Betty Campbell Trust; COGS; Department of Internal Affairs Support for Volunteering Fund; First Sovereign Trust; Four Winds Foundation; Holcim New Zealand Ltd; Hutt City Council Community Development Fund; Hutt Mana Charitable Trust; Infinity Foundation; John Ilott Charitable Trust; *Kapi-Mana News*; Lion Foundation; Lottery Community; Nikau Foundation; NZ Community Trust; Pelorus Trust; Porirua City Council Community Outcomes Fund; Pub Charity; St John's in the City Presbyterian Church; T G McCarthy Trust; The Tindall Foundation; Trust House; Upper Hutt City Council; Wellington City Council; Wellington Community Trust

PREMIER SUPPORTERS: ANZ Bank; CCM Architects; Havana Coffee Works, Tai Shan Foundation

UPDATE: VOLUNTEER PORIRUA HAS MOVED DOWN ONE FLOOR TO LEVEL 3 IN PEMBER HOUSE.

CONTACT US



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