



Issue 14, November 2012

Waitemata DHB CALD Child Health & Disability Newsletter

Welcome to the Waitemata DHB CALD Child Health and Disability newsletter. CALD stands for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse. We're one of several Ministry of Health funded programmes that helps Auckland's three DHBs implement the Auckland Regional Settlement Strategy Migrant Health Action Plan.

Great turnout for South Asian Parent disability seminar



New ways to view disability: Susan Sherrard of CCS Disability Action talks about the social model of disability and the New Zealand Disability Strategy.

A very successful parent seminar on accessing disability services was held at Mt Albert's Fickling Centre on 30 October.

A diverse group of 33 families from Indian, Fiji Indian, Sri Lankan, Tamil, Chinese, Thai, Burmese, Pakistani, Nepalese and Indonesian backgrounds attended the day.

Representatives from the community and other organisations were also present.

Auckland DHB Child Development Team leader Madeleine Sands was pleased with the turnout "Getting information about what disability services are available and how to access them can be very challenging for these families. It's so good to see so many here getting good

information and sharing ideas with other families."

Among the seminar's presentations was a talk from Taikura Trust on the assessment process and information from Auckland DHB's Child Development Team on parenting strategies for children with disabilities.

Small group discussions held on the day also revealed that many cultural attitudes to disability are negative and that disability awareness and destigmatisation education for the wider CALD communities would help to reduce the social isolation of many families.

The seminar was hosted by Auckland DHB's Child Development Team with input from Counties Manukau and Waitemata DHBs' Child Development teams, the Parent and Family Resource Centre, the Ministry of Social Development's *Settling In* programme and the Regional Public Health Service. The feedback from parents was very positive, with many finding the information about accessing services very useful. They urged the organisers to continue to offer seminars.

Information tables were hosted by the Ministry of Education, Parent and Family Resource Centre, Ministry of Social Development including Work and Income, Family and Community and CYFS, The Asian Network (TANI), Auckland Disability Law, Disability Resource Centre, Auckland DHB and Safe Link. The ADHB Child Development Team is already planning their next parent seminar!



A busy time: Childcare was available for families with preschoolers.



Opportunities to speak about our work

We've recently been fortunate to have two opportunities to speak about disability and the work our programme does with CALD families.

In early October, at the invitation of Associate Professor Dr Elsie Ho, Im Soo Kim and Issa Yusuf gave a lecture on disability to Auckland University School of Population Health students enrolled in the paper *Health in Asian Communities*.

It was an opportunity to acquaint students with the policy framework for disability in New Zealand, including the Social Model of Disability, *The New Zealand Disability Strategy 2001* and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Disabled.

The lecture also included an overview of disability support in New Zealand, discussion of the issues CALD families face in accessing services and some of the approaches we've developed to help remove or overcome some of the barriers.

In late October we were also invited by Dr Ho to participate in a workshop on Migration and Transnational Family Care at the Pathways to Metropolis Conference at Massey University's Albany Campus.

Im Soo Kim and Sandy Latimer presented an overview of the approaches CALD families coping with disability use that draw on kinship obligations of family members in other countries.

Thanks to Dr Ho for these invitations!

Asian Family Autism Support Group supports Wilson Trust gala day

The Asian Autism Family Support Group was delighted to be part of the November 11 Wilson Trust gala and family day.

As the group holds its meetings at the centre, and many members' children attend Wilson School or participate in a holiday programme sponsored by the Wilson Trust, the families feel very much part of the Wilson Centre community.

They were pleased to have an opportunity to give something back by running a food stall to support the gala.

The menu included a Korean beef stir fry (bulgogi), a Chinese vegetarian curry and vegetarian spring rolls.

Cultural Caseworker Im Soo Kim was a Korean chef for the day.

"We were all so pleased to be able to support the Wilson Trust in this way. We got lots of compliments about our food and many people said they were pleased to have a vegetarian option. This is the first time an Asian group has participated in the gala, so we feel very honoured to have been involved."

For more information about the Asian Family Autism Support Group, contact Im Soo Kim, or group leader Karen Phang on 410-9503 or email: karenphang@gmail.com.



A gala day: Asian Family Autism Support Group members at the food stall.

CALD 9 – Working in a mental health context with CALD clients

This new CALD training module is an advanced course and is more specialised and comprehensive than other CALD courses. It is for anyone working in a mental health context in secondary care, primary care and mental health services and who is currently working with or anticipating working with CALD clients with mental health issues. CALD 9 is available as face-to-face training and a self-paced online course plus a web-based supplementary resource of additional culture-specific information. To learn more go to www.caldresources.org.nz.



Team training is tops!

On 31 October, 24 members of the West Child Development Service gathered for a training day.



Learning together: West Child Development Service team members at work on the CALD 8 module.

In the morning the group completed the CALD 8 training module, *Working with CALD families – disability awareness*.

Plans for the day were in place for several months and team members had worked hard to complete CALD 1 and CALD 2 or 3 prior to the session.

Team leader Susan Peters says it was great to be able to do the training together as a team.

“The session gave us a good opportunity to reflect on our current practice and reinforced the importance of cultural sensitivity in all environments. Everyone came with different experiences and these could be explored to a much greater depth in the group environment.”

Well done, West Child Development Service!

Chinese parents Christmas lunch

On 16 November, Im Soo Kim was an honorary Chinese parent at a lunch for Chinese parents of children with special needs.

This is the third year these parents have gathered at the Golden Jade Restaurant to share a meal before Christmas, so it's become a tradition.

With around 30 parents attending this year, the restaurant was full!

Organisers Danny Wu and Ming Zeng were happy with the event.

“It is very good for parents to get together and support each other. I would like to see us do more together in the future,” says Mr Wu.

A Chinese parent that Im Soo met at the Fickling Centre parent seminar, and who did not have any links with other parents, was able to attend the lunch and become part of the network.



Good food and good company at the Chinese parent's lunch.

Census 2013 is coming

Tuesday 5 March 2013 is census day.

Waitemata DHB senior epidemiologist and census advocate Dr Lifeng Zhou says it's really important that everyone in our CALD communities is informed about the census and completes a census questionnaire.

“Accurate population statistics from the census are very important for measuring population health and for planning and providing health services. As the majority of Asian, migrant and refugee people live in Auckland region, we need to encourage them to participate in the census.”

Statistics New Zealand publishes census information in 22 languages. This will be available the beginning of December.

For more information contact the team:

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- § Sandy Latimer, Programme Coordinator – 021 245 7785

Next issue:

Learn about the Middle Eastern parent seminar