



## Waitemata DHB Child Disability CALD Project

Issue 4, October 2010

Welcome to the fourth Waitemata DHB Child Disability CALD Project newsletter. CALD stands for **Culturally and Linguistically Diverse**. We're one of several projects funded by the Ministry of Health to help the three Auckland DHBs to implement the Auckland Regional Settlement Strategy. Our project runs until June 2011.

### Welcome Issa Yusuf, our new CALD cultural caseworker

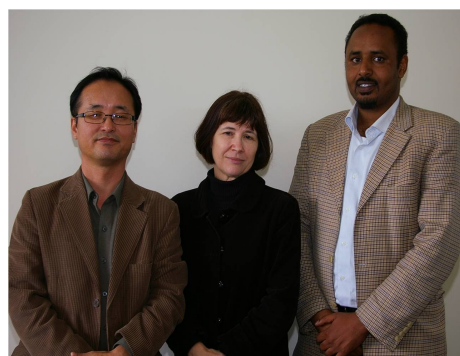
A new CALD cultural caseworker has joined our project team! Issa Yusuf has recently joined the Child Development team West, based at Waitakere Hospital. He replaces Abdi Musse, who left the project to take up a position with CCS Disability Action.

Issa is looking forward to working with staff, children and families in the community to support access to health services. "Helping families and communities is a passion for me" he says.

Team Leader Susan Peters says, "We have had a number of very good outcomes for clients since we've had a CALD cultural caseworker on the team, and we look forward to achieving further successful results with Issa."

Im Soo Kim continues in his CALD cultural caseworker role. He is based with the Child Development team North in Albany. However, both Im Soo and Issa work across the district. Im Soo has many talents and is also the photographer for our newsletter!

We were very sorry to say farewell to Abdi, but we're pleased that he is still our colleague in the network of child disability support providers in his role as Intensive Community Support Worker on the Care and Protection team at CCS Disability Action.



**PROJECT TEAM:** *Cultural caseworker Im Soo Kim, project leader Sandy Latimer and cultural caseworker Issa Yusuf.*

### Meet our new CALD cultural caseworker



#### Issa Yusuf

Issa has a Somali and Muslim background and is a member of the Somali community. He has a degree from Massey University (Wellington). Issa has worked with schools in central Auckland as a bilingual tutor and with children and youth with disabilities and their families. He has also worked on Ministry of Social Development *Settling In* projects, including family violence prevention and healthy eating. Issa is based at Waitakere with the Child Development team West

### Home Care for Kids & Paediatrics can now use the CALD cultural caseworkers

*Now that the CALD cultural caseworker role is more fully developed and the service is 'up and running' the referral criteria has been broadened.* Until recently, the CALD cultural caseworkers were only able to receive referrals from Child Development Service, Out of Home Respite and Child Rehabilitation Services. In August this was expanded to also include **Home Care for Kids** and **Paediatrics**. Referrals for Im Soo and Issa should be sent to the Child Development Service (north or west, depending on where the child lives). Im Soo and Issa both work across the district and work together whenever it is helpful to do so.



## Better outcomes for families through networking

To provide a quality service to children and families, we need to know what services other agencies offer, and be able to work with them or make referrals whenever it's needed. In September, Jennifer



**SCHOOL CHALLENGES:** *Abraham Mamer (standing) and Adele Salmanzadeh (seated on left) presenting to the inter-agency meeting in Albany about their work with CALD families and schools.*

Janif from the Ministry of Social Development gave a presentation to the Child Development team West about the *Settling In* project and an overview of the Islamic faith. Team Leader Susan Peters reports: "The presentation provided the team with a good foundation for their work with Muslim clients. This resulted in a number of the staff expressing an interest in attending the CALD training. It was also an opportunity to learn more about what is available for the Muslim mothers with whom we work, informing us of relevant community groups and services."

In October, the Child Development team North hosted an inter-agency meeting of early intervention providers on the North Shore, including CCS Disability Action, Ministry of Education Special Education, Ohomairangi and Blennz. They received a presentation from the

migrant and refugee education coordinators from the Ministry of Education. Abraham Mamer and Adele Salmanzadeh work with various ethnic communities to help children prosper in the New Zealand education system. They presented an overview of their service and shared their experiences of working with migrant and refugee students. Team Leader Shirley Campbell says: "The presentation gave us insight into the particular challenges the New Zealand school system can pose for our CALD families, and this was reinforced by Im Soo's supporting comments. It helps to understand what families are coping with, and know how to provide support."

## Our evaluators have been hard at work



**Evaluator**  
*Stella Black*

Researchers Stella Black and Lucy Dunbar from the Clinical Research and Resource Centre (CRRC) have been hard at work. Stella has completed 25 key informant interviews and has begun interviewing the case study families. She has also observed us at work in focus groups, inter-agency meetings and with clients. The main focus for the evaluation is the development of the cultural caseworker model. We expect the preliminary findings to be available in March 2011, and we look forward to sharing them with you then.

### Did you know.....

The second CALD cultural competency course is now available as an on line self-paced, accredited course. *CALD 2 Working with Migrant Patients* and its prerequisite, *CALD 1 Culture and Cultural Competency*, are now available as face to face training, or in the convenient on-line format. Staff can access these course at [www.caldresources.org.nz](http://www.caldresources.org.nz).

### For project information contact the project team:

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### Next issue:

Learn about our Chinese and Korean parent seminars and meet the members of Evaluation Taskforce