



Waitemata DHB Child Disability CALD Project

Issue 6, February 2011

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

Special education teachers from South Korea visit Wilson Centre

In early January 20 special education teachers from South Korea visited New Zealand. The teachers came at their own expense to run a holiday programme for disabled Korean children during the first week of January, followed by some sightseeing in Auckland and Rotorua. On 12 January the teachers visited the Wilson Centre campus. They were able to see Wilson School and met with principal Jan Kennington. Jan shared how the centre is collaborating with other countries such as in the UK, Australia and Canada. The Korean teachers were also very keen to learn about the New Zealand special education system.

Julia Kipling, the social worker for Waitemata DHB Child Rehabilitation Service, gave an overview of the service. The teachers were also able to see the Out of Home Respite Service and to talk with parents using the service. The teachers were impressed with the beautiful grounds, the staff's warm hospitality and said it had been an extraordinary experience for them.



Touring Wilson Centre: Social Worker Julia Kipling and the Korean special education teachers tour the Waitemata DHB Child Rehabilitation Service.

Interpreter services in primary care

Primary Health Interpreting Services are being funded by the Northern DHB Support Agency. It is part of the Auckland Regional Settlement Strategy Health Action Plan to improve access to health services for communities from non-English speaking backgrounds. Interpreting services are funded in the Auckland region for health providers such as GP practices, all PHO services, community radiology and laboratory services and pharmacy services. We were delighted to learn that recent extension to the programme means the service is now available to the Parent and Family Resource Centre which works with parents and families of children and young people with disabilities.

For more information about primary care interpreting services in the Waitemata district and a complete list of health agencies that can use the service visit: <http://watis.org.nz/info/Primaryservice.php>

Did you know...

The Ministry of Health conducts Disability Support Service Consumer Forums as part of its programme to improve consumer participation and communications between consumers and the Ministry. The forum is an opportunity to hear about this year's work programme and to give your view. One of this year's forums is at the YES Disability Resource Centre in Albany on March 16th. For more information or to register, check out the web site at www.moh.govt.nz/disability.



Support and networking group for health sector cross cultural workers



Support group members (L-R): (standing) Im Soo Kim, Patrick Saw, Santino Deng, Hashem Slaimankhel, (seated) Sadiqa Hajee, Ailsa Wilson, Issa Yusuf
Missing: Mahad Warsame

As there are now a number of workers employed to work with refugee and vulnerable migrant communities, a need was identified for support and networking opportunities for these cross cultural workers and advocates.

Ailsa Wilson, Health Promoter (Refugee & Vulnerable Migrant Communities) with the Auckland Regional Public Health Service has taken this on board, and an inaugural meeting was held in January.

The meeting provided an opportunity to share information about roles and service developments, and to discuss the strengths people brought to their jobs and the areas they would like to develop. The group adopted a working title of Multi Ethnic Health Network. Areas that the network could support include, a forum for discussing common issues or topics of interest, identifying opportunities for

collaboration, building a network with other agencies to support families, and providing a combined voice that can be used to advocate, increase public awareness and the continued development of services and service providers.

The network will meet quarterly, and the next task of the group is to develop a Terms of Reference and establish membership. The Auckland Regional Public Health Service will act as a coordinator for the group.

New CALD training resource on working with disability – results of the staff survey

As we reported in our last newsletter, our project is funding the development of a new CALD training module on working with people with disabilities. As was the case with the current CALD training courses, it is being developed by Waitemata DHB Asian Health Support Services and will become part of the suite of CALD training modules.

To help inform the design of this resource, a questionnaire about working with CALD clients with disabilities was completed by stakeholders both within Waitemata DHB and in other agencies, including anyone who has completed the CALD 1 Culture and Cultural Competency course, plus specific service groups.

Over one hundred and forty health sector staff completed the questionnaire in November and early December. While not all respondents work with disabled clients, the results show both a need and a desire for up-skilling in this area. Fewer than half of respondents felt competent to work with CALD clients with intellectual disabilities or developmental needs, although this increased to 63% for physical disabilities. Seventy-one per cent of respondents did not know how different cultures regard and manage family members with disabilities, and a similar percentage said they would like more information about this for Asian, Indian, African, and Middle Eastern cultures.

Seventy per cent of respondents agreed that cultural factors impact on the development of care plans and use of respite services, and 65% did not know how to access resources and support for CALD patients who have a disability.



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Next issue:

Learn about the findings of the evaluation of our project.