



Waitemata DHB Child Disability CALD Project

Issue 9, December 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 Auckland's three DHBs implement the Auckland Regional Settlement Strategy.

Interpreted seminar on individualised funding

In November, we supported the Parent and Family Resource Centre to offer the *Individualised funding (IF) seminar for speakers of other languages*.

The seminar aimed to make information about IF more accessible to parents of children and young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Though interpreters were provided, most parents felt comfortable without them, and were happy attending an event where a high level of English comprehension was not assumed.

The five Auckland region IF agencies (Coactive, Lifecare NZ, Lifewise, Manawanui in Charge and Vision West) staffed information tables at the seminar and were available to talk with families and answer their questions.

Ministry of Health development manager Karen Smith, who is responsible for implementing IF in the Auckland region, gave the main IF presentation.



Presenting the facts: Karen Smith, Ministry of Health, explains IF to seminar attendees



A parent discusses options with Janette Third from Lifewise

The Parent and Family Resource Centre's Lisa Martin was pleased with the seminar.

"It was a pleasure to see so many parents in attendance, gaining information and asking questions.

"Individualised funding can be confusing for parents, but the five Auckland agencies and Karen Smith were really helpful. We hope IF can offer other Auckland communities opportunities to access more suitable supports for their loved one with a disability".

The Parent and Family Resource Centre is a Disability Information and Advisory Service (DIAS) funded by the Ministry of Health and directed towards parents and family/whanau of children and young people with disabilities.

They were able to access interpreter services for the seminar through the Primary Care Interpreter Programme.

Lisa says they are considering offering more interpreted seminars next year.

CALD7: Working with religious diversity

This new CALD training module is available as face-to-face training and a self-paced online course plus a web-based supplementary resource of additional culture-specific information. Prerequisites will be CALD1 – Culture and cultural competency and CALD2 – Working with migrants (Asian). Staff can access these courses at www.caldresources.org.nz.



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The Chai Support Group for Tamil mothers

A new support group has been established for Tamil mothers who have children with impairments.

CALD cultural caseworker Issa Yusuf has been working with Harriet Xavier, a family worker with Lifewise Family Services, to establish the group. Beginning as a short programme of meetings, the group held its first gathering in early October. Since then, members have developed their commitment to, and vision for, the group; have chosen the name *Chai Support Group*, and plan to continue meeting next year. The programme will include a variety of activities, including inviting expert speakers from the disability sector, improving their English, learning crafts like cooking and stitching and helping some members to get their restricted driver licenses.

For more information, contact Issa Yusuf on 837 6624 ext. 6199 or Harriet Xavier on 818-0205.



Offering support: *Constable Wells Albert explained the role of the Community Liaison Officer.*

Asian Network offers workshop for parents



The Asian Network Inc (TANI) has been conducting a series of disability awareness workshops.

In November we were delighted to support them when they offered *Empowering parents and supporting their family members with disabilities*.

This very successful workshop included three sessions for parents: Behaviour support and coping skills for challenging behaviour; Developing caregivers personal strengths, and Disability models and community accessibility.

These sessions were presented, respectively, by Idea Services'

Jing Xu, a communication and behaviour specialist and registered psychologist; Auckland DHB's WonKon Bong, a social worker with that DHB's Community Child and Disability Service, and Auckland Council's Martine Abel, a Community and Cultural Policy analyst.

Chinese, Korean and Japanese language interpreters were available.

The workshop addressed parents' needs as identified through consultation with stakeholders, health professionals and parents, and through feedback from Chinese and Korean parents who attended last year's seminars on *Navigating Disability Service*.

Our CALD cultural caseworkers, Issa Yusuf and Im Soo Kim, were impressed with the quality of the workshop's content.

"As a parent who has a teen boy with a disability, I found the core strategies I learned in the seminar were very informative and practical in coping with my son's behavioural issues," Im Soo says. "The Asian parents in the seminar really enjoyed networking with other parents from various communities and I think it was a great opportunity for the parents to get to know and support each other."



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Next issue:

Learn about our new work programme and the CALD 8 training resource.