

Faiva Ora

National Pacific Disability Plan



The Minister for Disability Issues, Hon Tariana Turia, launched the Ministry's National Pacific Disability Plan - *Faiva Ora* - on Monday 18 October at the Grand Hall in Parliament.

Faiva Ora sets out Government priority focus areas for Pacific disability in the next three years.

The event was opened by Latoa Halatau a member of *Faiva Ora Pacific Disability Leadership Group*. Lefauaitu Feala Afoa, National Manager Pacific Development Disability at the Ministry of Health spoke about the plan followed by Dr Monique Faleafa, National Manager of Le Va the organisation who are implementing the plan. After the Minister's speech, Rev Fitifti Lutua said the final words and gave the closing prayer.

As well as the plan, a Disability Support Services Pacific information guide, a Pacific disability workforce booklet and the *Faiva Ora* National Pacific Disability Leadership Group were also launched on the day.

More information about *Faiva Ora* can be found at <http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/disability-keyprojects-pacific>.

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It's been a very busy last couple of months. October 1 saw the new GST rates and tax changes come into force. This has meant some changes to rates of personal allowance for those in residential care and some changes to the thresholds for equipment and modifications. It has also meant a lot of work adjusting various rates.

The Human Rights case about paid family caregivers was in court in September and the courts also ruled in the case about sleepovers - more information about these are later in this newsletter.

On Monday 18 October Minister Turia launched Faiva Ora National Pasifika Disability Plan. This Plan sets out Government priority focus areas for Pacific disability in the next three years and looks at improving the training and career path for Pacific disability workers, ensuring support services meet the needs of Pacific disabled people and their families and increasing the number of services delivered locally in the community.

The launch was held in the Grand Hall at Parliament, and was a fantastic event, which saw many disabled Pacific people in attendance as well as information providers and mainstream disability support organisations. You will have seen some of the fantastic photos on the front page of the newsletter.

Your Guide to Individualised Funding and fact sheets for consumers, providers and NASC are available on our website and we hope to be able to announce the first of our newly contracted IF Host Providers very soon. Go to <http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/disability-key-projects-ifp> for more information.

In our last newsletter, we told you about the new model that DSS has been developing, and that we were planning to run a project to demonstrate how this model will work in one or two locations. We're very pleased to announce that the first location has been selected. More information is later in this newsletter.

The inaugural National Disability Conference, Making it easy to speak up, has been organised by the Health & Disability Commissioner's office for 6 December in Auckland and on 1 December DSS will be celebrating with the winners of the Attitude Awards. This year we have sponsored the Artistic Achievement Award and Director of the National Health Board, Chai Chuah will be presenting the award on the night.

As we start to head out of winter I am looking forward to a long weekend with Labour Day coming up shortly and although it seems impossible Christmas is apparently only 9 weeks away!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne O'Connell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministry of Health. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter, the Ministry of Health is not responsible for any omissions, inaccuracies or changes that may have taken place after publication.

Progress on the Ministry's new model for supporting disabled people

First Demonstration Region Selected

In our last newsletter, we told you about the new model that DSS has been developing and that we were planning to run a project to demonstrate how this model will work in one to two locations.

We are pleased to announce that Western Bay of Plenty/Tauranga is the first region selected for the demonstration.

The region has a diverse population including a relatively high proportion of younger people and a significant proportion of Maori. There are also some gaps in services in this region, which cause difficulties for disabled people and their families.

We will be visiting the area before the end of October and starting to get to know it better by meeting with key disability groups and individuals. We will be setting up a local working group to work with us in developing the model further and implementing, testing and evaluating its key components. We are also looking to contract with an implementation support organisation to help with the detailed planning and implementation.

We are continuing to discuss the development of the model with disability support groups such as the Disabled Person's Assembly and the Ministry of Health's Disability Consumer Consortium. We will also set up a National Reference Group for the Ministry of Health to

have high-level discussions with key groups and organisations about the overall direction of the new model/framework and the demonstration project.

About the New Model

The Ministry is currently developing proposals on how the new model could be implemented in the demonstration project. These proposals will be agreed with the local working group prior to being implemented.

The demonstration will include:

1. The introduction of Local Area Coordinators.
2. Introducing a self-assessment option, rather than only allowing assessment by professionals, and working towards allocating funding rather than type and level of services.
3. Expanding the existing Individualised Funding arrangements by extending the range of support that can be purchased and allowing a wider range of organisations to be Host Providers.
4. Developing new accountability arrangements and carrying out evaluations to guide the ongoing development of the new model.

Don't forget you can find a lot more detailed information about the new model and the demonstration project at <http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/disability-keyprojects-model>.

4 Provider Forums November 2010

Following on from the Provider Forums held in April 2010, Disability Support Services are holding the next round of Provider Forums in November.

These forums are aimed at Ministry of Health providers contracted through the Disability Support Services Group only and give us an opportunity to update providers on the work programme, to hear about issues, and for providers to communicate trends and innovations to us.

These forums are not formal decision-making meetings but will be held twice a year, in November and April, at five locations around the country, and the agenda will focus on different service streams each round.

9.30-11.30 the Family and Community Support Team will be presenting on:

- Child and Youth
- Respite & Carer Support
- Opportunity for providers to talk about their service innovations

11.30-12 - Workforce update

12-1 - lunch & DSS update

1-2 - Quality update & Annual Report

2-4 the Community Living Team will be presenting on:

- Residential Review
- Community Living Team update

2-4 the Service Access Team will be presenting on:

- DIAS update
- DIAS and new model
- DIAS open forum

these will be simultaneous in a separate room

Where	When	RSVP by:	Location
Auckland	4 November	Thursday 21 October	SPCA Auditorium, 50 Westney Road, Mangere South
Rotorua	10 November	Wednesday 22 October	Rotorua Convention Centre, West Room, 1170 Fenton Street
Palmerston North	12 November	Friday 29 October	The Convention Centre, Conference Room, 354 Main Street
Dunedin	23 November	Tuesday 9 November	Mercure Hotel, Chancellor Room, 310 Princes Street
Christchurch	24 November	Wednesday 10 November	Copthorne Hotel, Victoria Room, 776 Colombo Street

RSVP to either:

Jay Typoco, (09) 580 9022, jay_typoco@moh.govt.nz, or
Moetu Te Hau, (04) 496 2374, moetu_tehau@moh.govt.nz.



THE HEALTH AND DISABILITY COMMISSIONER INVITES YOU TO

MAKING IT **EASY** TO **SPEAK UP**

NATIONAL DISABILITY CONFERENCE 2010

Monday 6 December 2010

Waipuna Hotel & Conference Centre, Auckland

As “Champions of Consumer Rights” we are having this conference to promote the rights of the consumers of disability services in New Zealand

A CONFERENCE LIKE NEVER BEFORE

This conference offers a unique opportunity to listen to speakers from various government and non-government agencies that play a vital role in delivering disability services and/or supporting the users of those services.

You will hear from:

- Government agencies that fund disability support services
- Crown entities that protect people’s rights
- National consumer organisations that support people along the way
(see the attached programme for more details)

TO REGISTER

Complete the attached Registration Form; or visit:
[http://www.hdc.org.nz/about-us/disability/events###National Disability Conference](http://www.hdc.org.nz/about-us/disability/events###National%20Disability%20Conference)

OTHER CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Hear the Honourable Tariana Turia, Minister for Disability Issues, open the conference
- Join many of the country’s leaders in the disability sector
- Meet new people, catch up with friends and colleagues, share ideas
- Visit an exhibition of disability aids, equipment and services
- Be inspired by Touch Compass dancers
- Learn useful tips on fire safety for disabled people
- Socialise at the conference dinner with fine food, music and comedy
- Be in for the ‘Lucky Draw’ and much more....

6 Updates

Sleepovers & IDEA Services

As you may be aware, there have been two cases before the employment court about sleepovers. Sleepovers are where a support worker sleeps in a room in a residential setting overnight, so they are available to support disabled people in the home if needed. Support workers who sleep over are paid a set amount for this time.

The employment court ruled that sleepovers are work under the Minimum Wage Act 1983. In one of the cases involving IDEA Services they ruled that the support worker concerned should be paid an hourly rate. IDEA are appealing this decision.

What does this mean?

It means that if sleepovers are paid an hourly rate rather than a set amount, the cost for

providing residential services will increase. Support workers may also be able to get back pay for up to six years.

Under the current employment court decision, IDEA Services, have decided that they have a significant financial risk and so asked to be put under statutory management. This will help make sure that the services they provide can continue.

Where can I get more information?

You can look online under Latest News on www.moh.govt.nz/disability. Information is also available on www.ihc.org.nz.

Paid Family Caregivers case

The Solicitor-General, David Collins QC filed an appeal on January 22, 2010. The statement can be found at http://www.crownlaw.govt.nz/art-man/docs/cat_index_12.asp.

The appeal was heard in the High Court in September 2010. The Court has reserved its decision. Because of the complexities of the issues involved in this case it may be some time before a decision is issued.

In the interim, the Human Rights Review Tribunal has issued orders suspending the effect of its earlier decision, which means the Ministry of Health can continue to operate its current policy in respect of Paid Family Caregivers. It also means that there will be no immediate change in practice so disability support services will not be significantly disrupted in the interim.

For more information look under Latest News at <http://www.moh.govt.nz/disability>.

2010 Tax changes - Information for Residential Services Providers

From 1 October 2010, personal income tax rates reduce, GST increases from 12.5% to 15%, and a temporary additional payment to some groups will be made to compensate for the increase in GST.

Payments made to clients after 1 October 2010 will include the new Temporary GST Assistance payment and their Personal Allowance.

The Personal Allowance rates are:

- \$92.53 - Physical
- \$54.59 - Psychiatric/Intellectual Drug or Alcohol
- \$35.55 - Age Related

For more information go to <http://www.moh.govt.nz/assettesting>.