

**Minutes of Tairawhiti Community Voice Network Meeting  
held at BNZ Partners, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016, 12.30pm**

**Present Executive Committee:**

Gillian Creach (Tairawhiti Community Law Centre), Christine West (Independent), Liz Graham (St John), Jenny Greaves (Gisborne Volunteer Centre)

**Present Members**

Leslyne Jackson, (MSD, SST), Rata Nepe (Inland Revenue), Marg Price (Health & Disability Advocacy), Barb Baillie (CAB), Glenda Stokes (Sunrise Foundation), Trudel McKeown (DPA), Jon Davies (Idea Services), David McEwen (Salvation Army), MJ Bloem, (Life Unlimited), Adam Tapsell, (Workbridge), Robin Briant (Gisborne Budget Advisory Service), Jenny Puanaki (TCLC), Nicole West (Autism NZ, Community Fruit Harvest, TCV)

**Apologies:**

Linda Coulston (SuperGrans)

**Guest Speaker:**

Leslyne Jackson – MSD Social Sector Trials

Tairawhiti was one of 16 Social Sector Trials around the country. The trials end June 30<sup>th</sup> and will then be supported to transition to a locally-led model by 31 December 2016. Please see attached Fact Sheet. One of the positive outcomes from the Social Sector Trials showed improved attendance at local High Schools due to fully funded bus fares for Kaiti students during the trial period. After discussion, all those present today agreed that Gillian writes to GDC in support of the recommendation that GDC fully fund the bus fares for students living in Kaiti on the basis that improved attendance rates in High School lead to improved educational outcome for students which also leads to better life chances of these students and therefore this is something worth investing in.

Nicky Solomon – Plastic Bag Free Tairawhiti

100,000 plastic bags go to landfill every week in Gisborne. Our aspiration is that our beautiful region eliminates single-use plastic bags. Why? Because our planet, and particularly our oceans, are becoming cluttered with plastic debris. We have been extremely fortunate to have Morley Design group create a fabulous 'Flag the Bag' brand for us, and we are printing our logo on reusable bags which we will be making available for a koha, which will be reinvested into more bags. The bags serve two purposes – raising awareness of our kaupapa and providing a funky practical alternative to plastic carry bags.

**Minutes of previous meeting:**

Minutes of previous meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record: Moved by Christine West 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gillian Creach.

**Matters arising from previous minutes:** Nil

**General Business:**

- Housing Crisis in Tairawhiti – Discussion around Paula Bennett's inaccuracy of housing figures. When liaising with WINZ re: a housing assessment insist on a face-to-face assessment.

**Catch Up Round:**

**IRD – Rata Nepe**

Remember tax returns can be done online, using an agents means you lose 10% of your refund, make an appointment to come in and see us and we can show you how to do it .

**Liz Graham – St John**

We will be at the Home & Lifestyle Expo June 25 & 26 at the Showgrounds.

**Glenda Stokes – Sunrise Foundation**

Our first round of funding opens July 1<sup>st</sup> and closes August 19. Details are on our website:

<http://www.sunrisefoundation.org.nz/grants/how-to-apply/>

**Jenny Greaves – Gisborne Volunteer Centre**

Workshops coming up:

*Best Practice in Volunteer Management*, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 10am-2pm, Salvation Army Hall, Facilitator – Scott Miller, CEO VNZ

*Health & Safety for Governance & Management*, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 6pm-7.30pm, Facilitator – Louis Leong, Tairāwhiti Community Law Centre.

*Managing Organisational Transitions*, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 9am-3pm, Salvation Army, Facilitator – Judith M<sup>c</sup>Morland and Hazel Hodgkin

**Barb Baillie – CAB**

We have three new trainees starting with us.

We specialise in migrant assistance.

**Marg Price – Health & Disability Advocacy**

If you have any doubt remember you are entitled to a second opinion.

**Robyn Briant - GBAS**

Unfortunately GloBug is not offered to new clients any more. For those people who do have it, when you move house you are unable to take it with you.

**David McEwen – Salvation Army**

Our Prisoner reintegration programme has started.

**Nicole West – Autism NZ**

We have an evening support group, held on the third Monday of every month, 7.30pm to 8.30pm at the Plunket Rooms, 2 Crawford Rd, above Soho. This is in addition to our lunchtime support group which meets on the first Monday of every Month at Barnardos at 12pm.

Our FANZ two day workshop is fully booked.

**Gillian Creach - Tairāwhiti Community Law Centre**

TCLC hosted the Office of the Privacy Commissioner, their website has excellent tools and resources

<https://www.privacy.org.nz/> .

Network Meeting ajourned 2.15pm.

Next Tairāwhiti Community Voice Meeting will be **June 12<sup>th</sup> 2016**, 12.30pm at BNZ Partners Centre