

**ACROSS**  
TE KOTAHITANGA O TE WAIRUA

**ANNUAL REPORT 2010 - 11**



## FOREWORD

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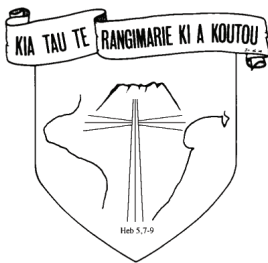


### **The Right Reverend Dr Thomas J Brown Bishop of Wellington**

In 2010 ACROSS celebrated 20 years of service in the local community and over the last year it has continued to provide a range of social services. We give thanks for what ACROSS does – their director and staff are a dedicated team who make a difference to people’s lives. The significant change has been the alteration to the way social services are funded and in the type of need for services in the community. The challenge has been to work out the best way of responding to those needs although I feel sure that can be achieved with on-going caring and generous support

+Tom  
Bishop of Wellington

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### **Diocese of Palmerston North**

Jesus said “the poor you will always have with you”. We might respectfully add: “those who want to help them will also always be there”. Why am I so sure? Because it is Christ who is there with them, working through those who would lend him their hearts and hands in the way that the staff, volunteers and supporters of ACROSS continue to do.

Thank you all for what you do, especially for families.

I wish you every blessing and the assurance of my support

P J Cullinane  
Bishop of Palmerston North

## CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

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It is with pleasure that I present the twentieth first Annual Report of ACROSS Te Kotahitanga O Te Wairua.

It is fitting to recognise the part of directors, volunteers and professionals who have tirelessly donated their time and skills to ensure that the work of ACROSS continues to succeed in fulfilling its mission and purpose.

The co-operation and support of both the Anglican and Catholic diocese and parishes and been fundamental in the ongoing success of the service.

I also acknowledge that throughout this time the many regular financial supporters who regularly contribute to the ACROSS Supporters Trust; their faithful support has enabled ACROSS to provide services in keeping with its vision that continue to make positive differences to the lives of many.

### **The Year in Review**

ACROSS continues to remain focused on providing positive outcomes during a period of social change by providing social work support, counselling and parenting programmes to parents and families and providing foster parenting support for children in care in accordance with Ministry of Social Development approval standards.

This year has seen an on-going commitment of continuing to provide services at the top of the cliff to improve the lives of parents children and families. The Triple P Positive Parenting Programme aims to prevent children development problems by enhancing parent's confidence and skills. The Incredible Years parenting programme, helping parents to develop strategies to build positive relationships with their children and to manage problem behaviours was held again this year.

In a new initiative ACROSS will act as lead co-ordinator of the continuing Strengthening Families Programme making services more readily available to families by bringing services offering support together. The core services of foster parenting, counselling and social work continue and for the second year ACROSS have conducted a programme to support those suffering post natal depression.

ACROSS continues to work closely with Birthright and Camellia House assisting with administration and support.

This year the board farewells board members Barry Stevenson, Anglican appointee of All Saints Parish and myself, Catholic appointee of St Patricks Parish. On behalf of the board I wish to thank Barry for his contribution of time and effort over seven years of service to ACROSS. I would also like to thank my fellow directors who have willingly donated their time and expertise to govern the agency, together with Peter Horgan who chairs the finance committee, Auditor Daryl Pinny, Grant O' Donnell, lawyer, Rose Comber minute secretary and Kevin Frost as a member of the policy committee.

It is fitting to once again acknowledge the generous support by the Anglican Care Network, Anglican Social Service and Community Development Board, Catholic Diocese of Palmerston

## **CHAIRPERSONS REPORT (continued)**

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North, the continued support by members of the ACROSS Supporters Trust, Milverton Trust, J R McKenzie Trust, PN Anglican Trust for Children, Dept Internal Affairs-COGS, NZ Lotteries Grants Board and the Ministry of Social Development.

It has been gratifying and heart-warming to witness the small team of ACROSS ably lead by director Graeme Munford and committed staff, continuing to provide professional social services based on Christian values by offering support programmes and assistance in a positive pre-emptive response to those in need from a diversified range of contract providers.

Regrettably this is my last report as Chairman, my six year duration has concluded and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you I've worked with over the years, and I wish ACROSS all the best for the future. It has been a privilege to have been a part of an unashamedly Christian social service providing professional services to these in need in a compassionate way. I will remain an ardent supporter and watch with interest the progress of the agency.

**Roger Clark**  
**Chairperson**

## DIRECTORS REPORT

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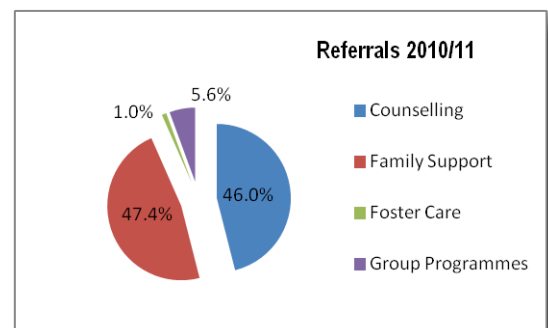
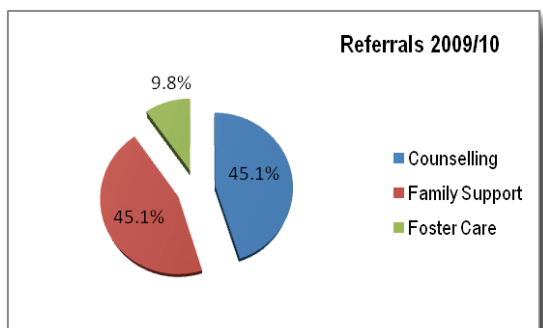
After celebrating 20 years of work in the local community last year we move into a new phase now building on the services we have provided over that time. There have been some significant changes to the way social services are funded and some of that change has reflected changes in the level of need in the community.

In a brief profile of social services in Palmerston North in a survey of several community organisations completed by ACROSS last year it was apparent that there were a range of services available for people in the community. The challenge was more about the way people could access those services and how those providing those services were able to work together; the nature of the way some services are funded does not always lend itself to that. We know however those community organisations that work across the whole community are more likely to be in a better position to access a range of services for people. In effect, good community development means working with others to find the best support for those with whom they work, good engagement is crucial and positive working relationships across the whole community sector is essential. Examples this year have been our continued association with Birthright and an arrangement we now have with Camellia House to provide administration support.

More specifically, ACROSS has made a deliberate effort over the last 12 months to look for opportunities to target where the need is for services (and what that need looks like) and work more closely with other service providers. The result of those efforts will most likely be seen over the next year with new roles for our staff in programmes such as Strengthening Families and parenting programmes such as Triple P.

Our 'core business' remains family support, counselling and foster care. Both family support and counselling have seen similar demand to last year. Family support in practical terms involves home visiting and helping families identify the type of support that will have the most benefit for them. Much of that support is short term and for many people that is all that is needed. Where those needs are greater we are able to offer other programmes and services, including counselling, and more recently group programmes such as post natal depression and parenting support through the Incredible Years Parent programme. Both these programmes focus on early intervention, a theme which we have carried through in our work this year.

Over the last year we had over 300 referrals to our services. Some of the increase in the type of referrals (which include a greater number of people seeking counselling and practical assistance such as budgeting) has no doubt been in part a result of the impact of the economic situation over that time.



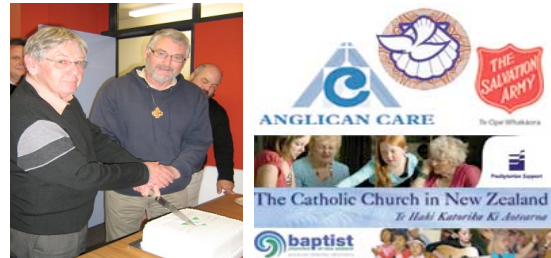
## DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)

We have supported the work of other groups such as NZ Council for Christian Social Services in raising awareness around those issues and their effect on people's lives.



We also work closely with other providers through a number of other networks of which we belong; one of our aims over the next 12 months is again to invite churches to work more closely with us.

We were able to mark the occasion of our 20 year anniversary by inviting a number of the parishes who had supported us over that time to celebrate with us.



Over the last year we have also continued to have active involvement in other wider church networks.

### Pushing into deeper water

With both social workers and counsellors on its staff ACROSS is in a unique position to offer a range of support to people; some of that support continues to include respite care for families where it is needed, although the challenge remains finding foster parents. We are however in a position now to increase some of the options we have in providing support to families – in the last part of the year we were successful in gaining a contract through the MidCentral District Health Board to manage the Triple P Parenting Programme throughout the region.



We are also now hosting the Strengthening Families programme and have two coordinators working on that programme – the programme involves bringing services together in support of families who are referred as result of the need for multiple supports.



### Support for Christchurch

In February ACROSS responded to a call for volunteers to help out in Christchurch— two of our staff travelled down there for a week to help out the Salvation Army and others with the recovery effort.



Feiona Fraser (on left) Bee Dodunski (right)

### Board members standing down

We have been extremely fortunate to have a supportive Board and experienced people behind the work we do; this year Roger Clark and Barry Stevenson stand down from the Board and we thank them for their time and energy over the last six years.



(Roger Clark-on left, and Barry Stevenson)

## DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)

### 5x5 challenge

Over the last 12 months we have been running our 5 by 5 challenge through our regular newsletters – the idea behind it is that people who are supporting our work through donations can see the difference their support can make - the examples have been;

5 by a \$2 donation will help buy bread and milk for a family

5 by a \$5 donation will help pay for school costs for a family

5 by a \$10 will help pay petrol costs for a family

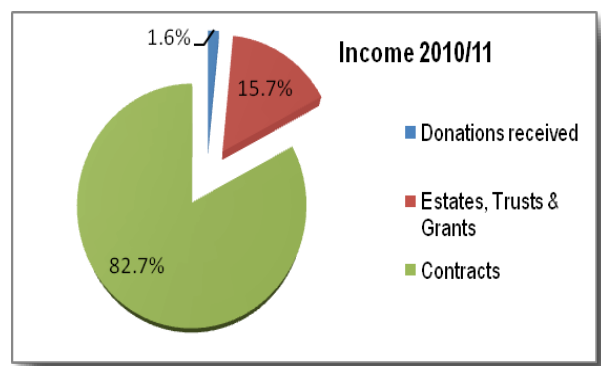
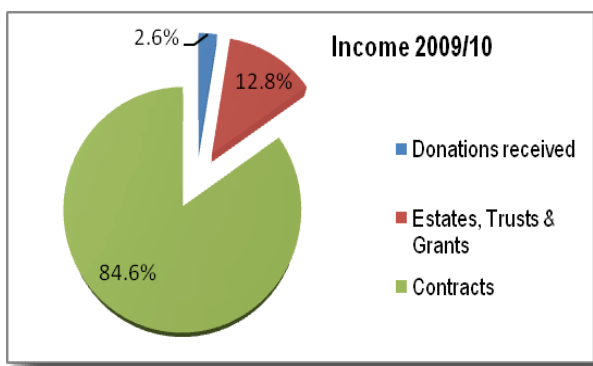
5 by a \$20 will help pay for counselling

5 by a \$50 will help pay for groceries for a family

5 by a \$100 will help pay for attending a parenting programme

### Funding

We continue to benefit from the many trusts and charitable organisations who support our work; while we have a significant percentage of funding that comes from funding contracts the degree of support we can rely on from others is at the heart of our work – we are continually grateful to those who belong to our Supporters Trust and regularly contribute financially to ACROSS.



### Are we there yet?

We acknowledge the work of ACROSS staff (and those who we farewelled this year – Sharon Elkington retired during the year after many years of working at ACROSS)

We continue to offer placements to students, Kelly Bennett has joined us this year, completing a counselling programme through Bethlehem College – Caitlin Davies from Massey University is also at ACROSS completing a social work placement.

Given the changes over the last year in the way we are providing services, not the least of which in the way those services are offered -whether through group programmes, counselling or home visiting, requires an all agency approach to the way those services are provided, being more purposeful about putting into action what our mission statement states - enabling people to better their lives is critical to our success – recognising that the need to work closely with other community organisations and groups applies equally to us.

### Graeme Munford

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – TO 30 JUNE 2011

| <b>INCOME</b>                                    | <b>2011</b>    | <b>2010</b>    |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Across Holdings Limited – Dividend               | 41,500         | 41,500         |
| ACROSS Supporters' Trust                         | -              | 14,382         |
| Birthright Palmerston North Incorporated         | -              | 13,000         |
| Counselling Contributions                        | 3,992          | 3,307          |
| CY&F Bednight Contracts                          | 125,275        | 218,627        |
| CY&F Family Counselling                          | 31,736         | 31,737         |
| CY&F NDOE Support                                | 148,449        | 145,611        |
| CY&F PES 308660                                  | 39,577         | 29,965         |
| CY&F Service Units                               | 129,000        | 101,235        |
| Estate Ann De Roo                                | 33,188         | -              |
| Estates, Trusts & Grants                         | 16,159         | 11,700         |
| Interest   | 19,284         | 17,581         |
| Invoiced Services                                | 12,056         | 9,676          |
| MidCentral Health Carer Relief                   | -              | 900            |
| MidCentral Health Support Group                  | 18,305         | 18,305         |
| MidCentral Post Natal Support                    | -              | 1,000          |
| MOE Incredible Years Parent Programme            | 19,400         | -              |
| MSD Community Response                           | 28,400         | 24,100         |
| MSD Strengthening Families Contract              | 8,372          | 6,180          |
| NZ Lottery Grants Board                          | 41,600         | 58,400         |
| Palmerston North Anglican Trust for Children     | 1,250          | 5,000          |
| Palmerston North Catholic Diocese                | 12,000         | 12,000         |
| Sundry Income                                    | 7,690          | 4,175          |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                              | <b>737,233</b> | <b>768,379</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                  | <b>2011</b>    | <b>2010</b>    |
| ACC Levy   | 2,278          | 1,869          |
| Advertising                                      | 1,457          | 2,607          |
| After School Programme                           | 1,077          | 765            |
| Annual Report & AGM Expenses                     | 633            | 228            |
| Audit Fee  | 1,900          | 1,700          |
| Books & Resources                                | 76             | -              |
| CDDF Loan – Interest                             | 4,351          | 6,038          |
| Computer Expenses                                | 4,767          | 10,623         |
| Computer Replacement                             | 187            | 333            |
| Conference & Travel                              | 2,267          | 1,902          |
| CY&F Bed night Board Payments                    | 49,787         | 78,466         |
| CY&F Expenses & PES                              | 18,237         | 66,410         |
| CY&F SW Support NDOE 305499                      | 5,541          | 7,226          |
| CY&F Service Units                               | 32,801         | 2,828          |
| Depreciation                                     | 14,242         | 14,478         |
| Insurance  | 1,688          | 4,382          |
| Interest & Bank Fees                             | 628            | 421            |
| MCH BBS Support 308496                           | 4,639          | 5,468          |
| MCH Carer Relief Payments                        | -              | 450            |
| MCH Post Natal Support 308496                    | -              | 6              |
| MOE Incredible Years Parent Programme – Expenses | 211            | -              |
| Motor Vehicle Expenses                           | 31,865         | 16,002         |

|   |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Newsletters                                     | 292            | 379            |
| Office Equipment                                | 1,433          | 767            |
| Operating Costs including Repairs & Maintenance | 6,781          | 10,418         |
| Power   | 4,072          | 3,909          |
| Printing, Postage & Stationery                  | 9,330          | 8,994          |
| Professional Services                           | -              | 1,260          |
| Rates 294A Church Street                        | 475            | 338            |
| Rent 294A Church Street                         | 41,500         | 41,500         |
| Salaries  | 450,761        | 426,267        |
| Salaries – KiwiSaver – Employer Contributions   | 7,026          | 5,662          |
| Staff Professional Association Membership       | 1,464          | 1,454          |
| Staff Professional Supervision                  | 6,290          | 4,925          |
| Staff Training                                  | 1,134          | 5,648          |
| Subscriptions                                   | 396            | 441            |
| Sundry Expenses                                 | 4,511          | 5,784          |
| Telephone, Tolls & Internet                     | 7,495          | 7,542          |
| Volunteer Expenses                              | -              | 89             |
| Loss on sale of fixed assets                    | 19             | -              |
| Loss on scrapping of fixed assets               | 69             | -              |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                           | <b>721,680</b> | <b>747,579</b> |
| <b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>                 | <b>15,553</b>  | <b>20,800</b>  |

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge support of the following groups and organisations:

NZ Lottery Grants Board  
 J R McKenzie Trust  
 Kingdom Foundation  
 Palmerston North Community Services Council  
 Palmerston North Anglican Trust for Children  
 Palmerston North Catholic Diocese  
 Fenix Foundation  
 Milverton Trust  
 Tindall Foundation – Anglican Care Network  
 The Page Trust  
 T G McCarthy Trust  
 COGS





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