



# ACROSS

## Te Kotahitanga O te Wairua

### NEWSLETTER

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### 18 years + at ACROSS

The Board and staff recently farewelled Heather Mansell, our office Administrator, who began work at ACROSS in the days when we were still part of Catholic Social Services. Heather had seen many changes over that time and we thank her for her dedication and hard work.



### What's in a name...?

ACROSS started out life as a combined Anglican and Catholic Social Services. Translated, the 'A' and the 'C' stand for Anglican and Catholic and 'S' for social services; the 'R' represented Rangitane who as local iwi ACROSS worked together with when we were first set up.

Many people are interested in the work we do and we have listed below a summary of our services and programmes; on page 2 we have included a sample of some 'stories' of our work... we should stress that while we are predominantly supported by our Anglican and Catholic churches we work with all sections of the community and have done so since ACROSS was formed in 1990.

### Getting out there...

For some time we have been visiting and talking with other community groups about the sort of work we do and developing closer working relationships. There are many groups doing many things in support of people in our community; the recent Government announcements about more money for community organisations is good news for places like ACROSS who have worked hard over many years to respond to social need.

### A summary of our services...

- Counselling (adults, couples, families and children).
- Family support, (including information and advice

to parents).

- Crisis work with families under stress (including emergency care for children).
- Support groups (including suicide bereavement) and children's programmes.

We have staff, both counsellors and social workers trained and qualified to provide support to the over 80 families we are working with at any one time.

### ACROSS Supporters Trust

Many people choose to support ACROSS because it is a local community organisation and it puts the financial support it receives straight back into the community.

Many people also generously choose to support ACROSS by automatic payment each month; this Trust started up when ACROSS began and was for people who wanted to make regular donations. Known as the ACROSS Supporters' Trust, we are now re-launching the Trust with the belief that many people may choose to give in this way.

If you would like support ACROSS by regular automatic donations please contact one of our office staff on 3567486 to arrange setting up an automatic payment or complete the tear off slip below and return to ACROSS.

### Thank You ...

We would like to thank the following organisations who have provided us generous support: Anglican Care Network (Tindall Foundation), Anglican Social Service & Community Development Board, Catholic Diocese of Palmerston North, The W Milverton Trust, JBS Dudding Trust, N.Z. Lottery Grants Board, J R McKenzie Trust, COGS, TG Macarthy Trust, United Way New Zealand and P.N. Community Services Council.

**The big picture...**

We are fortunate to be part of a wide network of social service providers working in local communities throughout the country; among these are Social Service Providers Aotearoa, NZ Council of Christian Social Services, The Anglican Care Network and also Catholic Social Service agencies with whom we met recently to discuss common issues and concerns. (pictured below Catholic Social Service Directors at a recent meeting in Wellington).

*L-R Barbara Gilray, Wellington; Graeme Munford, Palmerston North; Jon Brian, Christchurch; Eric Allan, Auckland; Ian Donnelly, Dunedin; Carole Fleming, Hamilton.*



My name is Beth. I found myself living on my own without a job and didn't know who to turn to. I didn't know what to do until I spoke to ACROSS who put me in contact with a lot of people who could help me.

When my mate Dan died I felt angry and depressed. A Bereaved by Suicide Support group run by ACROSS is helping me get my head around how I feel and talk about stuff I felt I could not talk to anyone about.

My name is James. I don't live with my own family anymore because of lots of things that were happening with me and my brothers. I have a social worker who picked me up and took me to a foster family where I am going to stay until things are sorted out in my own family. I feel safe here and know that people are doing their best for me.

My name is William and I go and stay most weekends and sometimes in the school holidays with foster parents because my dad has been having problems and my mum is sick and they aren't able to spend much time with me. This is helping my mum and dad because they aren't arguing so much.

My name is Jane and I go to the after school programme run by ACROSS. We do lots of cool things and I have learned how to make friends. I used to think other people didn't like me but I have learned that you have to like yourself too.

If you know someone or a family who could be helped by ACROSS we are at 294A Church Street, Palmerston North, telephone 356 7486 or email [across@inspire.net.nz](mailto:across@inspire.net.nz) or find out more about them by visiting their website at [www.across.org.nz](http://www.across.org.nz)

**Our stories...**

**Recently we put together a sample of some of the stories of our work here at ACROSS.**

**While they are not actual cases, they do mirror the type of support we provide... these are the some of the stories...**

My name is Anna. When my daughter, who was at her wits end with her own children went to ACROSS social services and was helped with her parenting skills by a social worker and counsellor who her to understand what she was going through.

**Your support...**

Thank you to all those who continue to send us donations. Your commitment to the work of ACROSS is very much appreciated. If you would like to join the ACROSS Supporters' Trust please complete the details below or make a one off donation.

- I / we enclose a gift of \$ ..... towards your work
- I / we would like to join the ACROSS Supporters' Trust, please send me a form to arrange for automatic payments.

NAME: ..... Signature: .....

ADDRESS: ..... .Date: .....

**Send to: THE DIRECTOR, ACROSS Social Services, PO Box 1140, Palmerston North 4440**