

NGO Council Update from Chair – August 2015



Kia ora NGO Health and Disability Network members.

NGO National Forum – book now!

The date for our [National NGO Forum](#) has been set for Friday 18 September and bookings are now open for this free event in Wellington. The theme is *'Measurement, Evaluation & Outcomes: Ways to gauge your effectiveness'*.

Speakers who will help us collectively explore challenges related to demonstrating impact include:

- James Soligo, Productivity Commission
- Laura Black, Methodist Mission Southern
- Chai Chuah, Director-General of Health, Ministry of Health
- data specialist Phil Walker
- Veronica Bennett, STAND Children's Services
- evaluation specialist Rachael Trotman
- the Minister of Finance, the Hon. Bill English and more! *(additional speakers still being confirmed)*

This Forum will help you consider key questions such as:

- Do you really know which parts of your service make the biggest difference?
- Is it time to stop some activities and focus on key areas or try something new?
- As a government-funded NGO, can you show how your service contributes to achieving key outcomes government is seeking?
- How can we know what works if we haven't got good evidence and good data to know if we are doing the 'right' things?

The Forum will be facilitated by Fran Hoover of StratEDGY and promises to be an excellent opportunity for learning and networking, and making those important connections with fellow attendees. Any non-profit health or disability provider is welcome to attend – as are PHOs, DHBs, public servants and others who want to engage with NGOs.

The Forum starts at Wellington's Westpac Stadium at 9:00am (with arrivals from 8:30am) and will finish by 3:30pm, unless you want to stay on for the optional 'peer conversations' additional networking session, which runs through until 5:00pm – so arrange your travel accordingly.

Book now for the Forum: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/78BVG6K>

NGO Council meeting

Your NGO Council's recent meeting focused on our Work Plan for the year ahead – identifying two priority areas to focus on: [Workforce](#) and [Procurement/Contracting](#). We'll be shaping up our plans around these topics (and others) at our October meeting and will share more news with you then.

Also on our agenda was discussion about the [NZ Health Strategy](#) review and the news coming out from the Ministry about this. The latest update on the review proposes [seven focus areas](#) and you can see more feedback and reports on the review progress on the [Ministry's website](#).

We also had an update on the [Social Bonds initiative](#). This will initially see two pilots implemented and will not impact on most of us for some time, if at all – but it is raising some [interesting](#)

[questions about measuring outcomes](#) and attributing results – you can read more about progress with the [Social Bonds on the Ministry's website](#).

I hope to see many of you at the National Forum on 18 September, Mauri Ora.

Donna Matahaere-Atariki

Chair, NGO Health & Disability Council

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