

NASCA NOTICES

December 2015

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Executive Members

Christmas Greetings

Welcome to the final NASCA Notices for 2015. This has been a year full of challenges for NASCs, but hopefully we can all look back with satisfaction seeing people we have worked with progressing and living good lives in the community.

A highlight for me this year was another successful NASCA Forum when we were able to bring together a wide range of people to provide stimulating and

informative talks and workshops for members. Thank you to Susan Bowden and other organisers for a great event. We have begun thinking and planning for our next forum/conference – watch this space!

On behalf of the NASCA Executive I wish you the very best for the Christmas Season – safe travels, happy times with friends and family, and best wishes for all that 2016 holds in store for us.

Warmest regards
Mark Brown, Chairperson

NASCA December General Meeting

The General Meeting on 04 December in Christchurch was attended by 27 attendees (around 16 DSS, 8 HOP and 3 MH).

Available on the NASCA website are:

- [General Meeting Notes](#)
- Presentation: [EMS – Enable Equipment & Modification Services](#)

Financial Report - October 2015

- [Balance Sheet](#)
- [Profit & Loss](#)

General Meeting Evaluation

A total of 14 responses were received to the recent survey monkey evaluation of this meeting. Responses were mostly positive and as always your suggestions and

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feedback are much appreciated. Thank you to those who responded.

In summary, most found the executive updates and financial reports and the three presentations interesting and informative. The breakout sessions are appreciated and useful, and the venue was well received.

The Executive will consider and take into account for future planning the comments made regarding specific presentations, and the venue location. Thank you again to all who provided feedback.

Read the [Summary](#) of the evaluation here.

NASCA Executive - Nominations

At the December meeting Mark advised his intention to step down as the NASCA Chairperson. However there has since been a change of circumstances and Mark will now continue as Chairperson, with the Sonia Hawea will share the responsibilities of the Chairperson role within the Executive.

We are not therefore calling for nominations for the Chairperson role at this time.

There is currently one vacancy on the Executive due to Helene Dore's new role as National Practice Advisor. The Executive have decided to seek nominations to fill this

vacancy rather than making a secondment. The March 2016 meeting will include a brief Special General Meeting for election for this vacancy on the Executive.

Nominations are therefore sought for a member of NASCA Executive. Nominations must be made on the [NASCA Nomination Form](#). The Nominee, the Nominator and the Secunder must all be representatives from paid up Full Members of NSACA.

Nominations will close on **Wednesday 03 February 2016** with the [NASCA EA Judy Preston](#).

MoH Review of DIAS & NASC

This survey relates to the NASC and DIAS review being undertaken by Ministry of Health DSS. The MoH have contracted the consultancy company Sapere to undertake the review which is a two part process with a focus on:

1. The function of disability information, including the current arrangement through Disability Information Advisory Services (DIAS), to propose a disability information framework which ensures effectiveness of delivery, reduced duplication, value for money and best outcomes for disabled people, family, whanau.
2. The functions of assessment, coordination and budget management

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within the Ministry's contracted Needs Assessment Service Coordination (NASC) organisations and propose a framework for effective delivery of these functions with reduced duplication, value for money and best outcomes for disabled people, family, whanau.

NASCA is seeking views and comment from NASC Managers and practitioners which will help inform input NASCA has to the NASC - DIAS Review. The Review Sapere is undertaking is limited to review of DSS NASC but comment in this survey is welcome from any member of NASCA.

The [survey](#) will be open through to **Monday 25 January 2016**, and the Executive would appreciate your feedback and thoughts.

In addition to this feedback from NASCA Members the Executive are also seeking input from Simon Duffy an expert on disability system design from the UK with a view to writing a position paper for input into the Review.

We understand that the process Sapere intend to take is a period during February and early March of information gathering. They then envisage putting up for discussion a number of options, and seeking further comment and input from NASCA at that stage.

Explore Behaviour Support Service Review of Key Documents

Explore are in the process of reviewing their key documents, and have sought NASCA assistance as a key external stakeholder. Raewyn Cameron, Renee Delamare and Karen Bailey will represent NASCA in this review.

Dementia Booklets

Alzheimers NZ now have available a revised suite of information booklets about dementia.

The first booklet in the series About Dementia was released in June this year. About Dementia [here](#).

There are 6 booklets in the series - the working titles are:

- About Dementia
- Living well with dementia: a guide for people diagnosed with dementia
- Living well with dementia: a guide for family/whānau and friends
- Meeting the challenges of dementia to maximise wellbeing
- Transitioning to residential care: a guide for people caring for someone with dementia

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- The later stages of dementia and end of life care.

For further information: Anne Schumacher clinical@alzheimers.org.nz
www.alzheimers.org.nz

'Taking Action on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD): A Discussion Document

As signalled at the Christchurch General Meeting the MoH have released a discussion document and are seeking submissions on [Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder \(FASD\)](#).

FASD is caused by the consumption of alcohol during pregnancy. About half of all pregnancies are exposed to alcohol, and about 1% of the New Zealand population is estimated to have FASD as a result. FASD can be characterised by a range of problems such as intellectual and behavioural deficits, as well as irreversible damage to the brain and body.

This discussion document outlines the Government's proposed approach for addressing FASD. It outlines a series of key principles, high level outcomes and potential action areas for the action plan and seeks feedback and submissions either by email or post – details are in the link.

NGO Health and Disability Network

Update December 2015

For the latest information and update from the MOH NGO Council [Update](#). Topics include:

- NZ Health Strategy
- IT Systems
- Sector Strength

Copy of the NGO Council's submission on the NZ Health Strategy:

[NGO Council NZHS Submission](#)

Upcoming NASCA Meetings

At any time dates of upcoming meetings:
www.nznasca.co.nz/membership/news/

NASCA General Meetings 2016

- 03 March – Wellington
- 02 June – Auckland
- 01 Sept – Wellington
- 01 December – Christchurch

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Executive Members

Mark Brown

Chairperson

(Life Unlimited)

Don Sorrenson

Treasurer

(Support Net, Bay of Plenty)

Sonia Hawea

(Taikura Trust, Auckland)

Kym Park

(Capital Coast DHB)

Karen Bailey

(Nelson Marlborough DHB, Nelson)

Sandie Kirkman

(Northland DHB)

NASCA Executive Assistant

(Judy Preston – Life Unlimited)