

NASCA NOTICES

29 SEPTEMBER 2015

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NASCA Forum 2015

The NASCA Forum held at Rydges Hotel, Wellington on 02 - 03 September was attended by 92 people representing all NASC streams and managers from the MoH.

Copies of [presentations to the 2015 Forum](#) are now available on the website.

A survey seeking feedback from Forum attendees has been circulated. To date we have received 35 responses with some very positive comments on all aspects of the Forum. The survey will close this coming Friday 02 October, and we encourage Forum attendees to take 5 minutes to complete the survey to assist with planning future events.

[link to survey](#)

NASCA AGM

The NASCA AGM was held in Wellington on 02 September 2015 with 29 people in attendance. Available on the NASCA website are:

[Minutes](#) of the AGM

[Financial Accounts](#) 2014-15 – Log into the Members section of the website

NASCA Executive 2015-2016

A warm welcome to members elected to the NASCA Executive: Sonia Hawea re-elected, and Kym Park elected following her secondment in June 2015.

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Thank you to Susan Bowden for her service to the Executive over the last 3 years, and particularly her leadership in organising the Forum this year.

Thank you also to the willingness of other people who stood for the Executive.

The Executive for this year is:

- Mark Brown (Chairperson)
- Don Sorrenson (Treasurer)
- Sonia Hawea
- Karen Bailey
- Helene Dore
- Sandie Kirkman
- Kym Park

NASCA Membership Renewals

Membership remains strong with similar numbers to last year – there are currently 27 Principal members, and 14 Associate members. A number of new mental health NASC members have joined this year.

DSS - National Practice Advisor

The Ministry of Health DSS has approved funding for a National Practice Advisor (NPA) Role which will lead and be responsible for the implementation of a range of projects in the NASCA 2015-16 Workplan. This role is a joint undertaking between DSS and NASCA.

Advertisements have been circulated with closing date Wednesday 30 September.

Here are links to the [Role Description](#) and the draft [NASCA 2015-16 Workplan](#).

Mental Health Law Conference 2015

Presented by Claro, New Zealand's specialist health sector law firm and the NZ Association of Psychiatry, Psychology and Law (ANZAPPL), this year's theme is the impact of alcohol, drugs and addictions on mental health.

The full day conference will be presented in five main centres:

- Friday 30 October – Wellington
- Thursday 05 Nov – Dunedin
- Friday 06 Nov – Christchurch
- Thursday 12 Nov – Hamilton
- Friday 13 Nov – Auckland

For more information please access the link for [topics and speakers](#) and to [register](#).

The Office for Senior Citizens

The Office for Senior Citizens leads, monitors and promotes the New Zealand Positive Ageing Strategy, provides information and support for seniors, and advice and support to the Minister for Senior Citizens, Maggie Barry.

Recently a new website has been launched – check out: [SuperSeniors](#)

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IRP Panel

Jil Coutts, has resigned from Life Unlimited NASC, and from the role as joint NASCA representative on the IRP Panel.

NASCA wishes to acknowledge and thank Jil for her expertise and commitment to this role over the last year. Karen Mora (Options Hawkes Bay) as the other joint representative continues as the NASCA representative on the IRP Panel.

NASCA Working Groups

In Between Travel – HBSS Workers

Susan Bowden, Helene Dore and Karen Mora have at various times over the past months represented NASCA at meetings regarding the implementation of In Between Travel.

The MoH are still deciding on how many bands / variations for different areas and reasons for travel.

The intention of MoH is to not require pre approval for exceptional IBT, so that NASCs will not be involved on a day to day basis. The MoH will develop a process for auditing exceptional travel approvals after the event.

DSS Workforce Reference Group

Sonia Hawea represents NASCA on this group. Helene Dore attended the recent meeting last week.

CareerForce - L2 and L3 training is now available to the market; Level 4 is being developed and planned to be ready for first quarter 2016. They expect to have L5 (Diploma level) ready for release next year. This includes competencies described as relevant to Navigator type roles.

NASCA will be interested to see how this qualification develops in practice, but certainly questions whether the content will be extensive enough alone to prepare someone for NASC roles.

Meeting with Minister for Disability Issues – Nicki Wagner

The Executive met with Nicki Wagner several weeks ago for a productive 30 minute conversation and introduction. We took the opportunity to introduce the Minister to the scope of NASCA as an organisation, and our willingness to engage and provide information and comment on any matters associated with NASC.

She was interested to discuss with us how people get the information they need to find their way through the system and the NASC role in this. There was useful discussion regarding the wider directions in the sector and it has set the scene for a further a meeting in due course.

MSD Repeal of s141 and s142 – Out of Home Placement of Children

Karen Mora has volunteered as the NASCA representative on this working group. Sonia Hawea and Angela Te Whaiti, and

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Anne Simpson will also provide support as required.

The group will support the development of options to go to the Ministers in regard to amendments to legislation for out of home placements of children.

Anne Simpson attended the first meeting last week, which involved initial high level discussion around principles for other options for children when the current sections of the Act are repealed.

ASD Training Needs Analysis – Te Pou

Sonia Hawea and Mark Brown have provided information on behalf of NASCA to the Te Pou training needs analysis.

A priority for this work will be to first gather information to understand what the needs are for this type of training.

The aim being to ensure a high standard of Autism training is available for DSS providers and for families who want to use their IF to purchase Autism training.

DSS – NASC Information Gathering and Provision Survey

The MoH DSS (David Darling) and NASCA recently circulated a survey to clarify what:

- information NASCs have available for disabled people and their families who enquire about their service, or services available in the community where they live

- information NASCs make available to people should they wish to raise a complaint about a NASC function

Responses were received from 9 of 12 NASCs, and a [summary of the results](#) of the survey are available here. The outcome of this survey will also feed into the DIAS/NASC Review and the NASC Development Programme.

Practice Guideline: Interface Between NASC and Equipment and Modification Service Assessors

and an updated process for:

Equipment & Modification Services for People with Challenging Behaviour

For all NASCs: DSS, HOP and Mental Health

The Ministry of Health (Ministry) has reviewed the process when assessing for and recommending Ministry funded Equipment and Modification Services (EMS) to support people with challenging behaviour.

The review was in response to feedback received from Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists (EMS Assessors), Needs Assessment and Service Coordination organisations, Behavioural Support Services and EMS Providers. All stakeholders have been involved in the development of the revised process and have provided valuable feedback during its design.

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The revised process is detailed in the amended; *Practice Guideline: Interface Between Needs Assessment and Service Coordination and Equipment and Modification Service Assessors and Providers September 2015*".

This revised process can be implemented immediately and no later than **01 November 2015** and replaces the September 2010 version.

The key difference with the process is that where the EMS Assessor identifies a solution that will reduce any potential harm and minimise long term risk and where that solution is not used as a restraint, there is now an abbreviated pathway where the EMS Assessor can make an advice request for that EMS solution.

Please note that any EMS Assessor submitting service requests for people with challenging behaviour must have read and understood the Health and Disability Services (Restraint Minimisation and Safe Practice) Standards NZS8134.2:2008.

Thank you to all parties who have contributed to the development of the new document.

Kathryn Hall, Development Manager
Service Access Team, Disability Support Services

[Updated Practice Guideline](#)

[EMS and NASC Joint Report Template](#)

Imagine Better Assemblies

Imagine Better has run an annual conference for some years. This year, as an alternative and in an effort to improve accessibility for people, they are holding three regional Assemblies in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch in November.

The theme - Connections, Community, Citizenship: How can we increase our community connections and gain the most value from them?

To register and see more [about the events here](#)

NGO Health and Disability Network

This latest report outlines achievements over the past year and the type of activities NGO Council members are involved in.

It also aims to provide an understanding of what the NGO Council does to represent NGO sector views.

NGO Network [Annual Report](#) 2014-2015.

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Upcoming NASCA Meetings

At any time for dates of upcoming meetings go to:

www.nznasca.co.nz/membership/news/

DSS National Operations Meeting

Thurs 12 Nov - Date TBC

- Quality Hotel
Cuba Street, Wellington

NASCA General Meeting

Thurs 04 Dec - Confirmed

- Commodore Hotel
Christchurch Airport

NASCA General Meeting

Thurs 03 March - TBC

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)

Helene Dore

(Focus Wairarapa DHB)

NASCA Executive Assistant

(Judy Preston – Life Unlimited)