

**Presenter** Nellie Harris

**Title** Choice in Community Living

**Abstract**

Choice in Community Living is an alternative to residential services and is about opening up opportunities for disabled people and their family to have more choice and control about where they live, who they live with and how they are supported. Choice in Community Living is being demonstrated in Auckland and Waikato over the next 18 months for up to 150 people

**Biography**

I trained and became a registered nurse at Middlemore hospital from 1969 to 1975. I left nursing to get married and started a family. My disability experience began when I returned to nursing in 1988 and worked as a registered nurse at Tokanui hospital for 10 years before it closed in 1998. I then managed residential services for NZ Care group in Te Awamutu and Cambridge for 13 years before I took a position with Disability Support Link as a Needs Assessor Service Coordinator in 2011. Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren, family, friends, indoor bowling and aqua aerobics.