

Kym Park

I am a comprehensively registered nurse with 27 years experience in the mental health sector in community and inpatient settings both in New Zealand and Australia. In the past 3 years I have been lucky enough to be able to take a project lead role in the development and implementation of new NGO support services in the CCDHB area – Te Ara Pai services. I am currently Team leader of the Mental Health NASC and the Porirua Community Mental Health Team.

I have now been a member of NASCA for the past 4 years and an active member of our Mental Health Regional NASC for the last 7 years. During this time I have become ever increasingly aware of the importance of collaboration between the three NASCs (Mental Health, Older People and Under 65 disability) in order to ensure that people needing services get the best that they can within the availability of publically funded resources to live as independently as they are able.

Bruce Green had the first role in NASCA executive representing mental health and did a huge amount of work to increase the profile of the mental health NASCs and thus support the improving collaboration and relationships. With his acceptance of his new role as Professional Lead for Social Work with the Hawkes Bay District Health Board and his subsequent resignation from NASC and NASCA I was seconded into the executive role. I am keen to continue this work to establish consistency in MH NASC provision across New Zealand and to work on addressing the service gaps that are evident between our three NASCs.