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March 2010

Message from the Chief Executive

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2010. We have certainly had an exciting start to the New Year.

In January we had two days Results Based Accountability training with Carl Pascoe from Creative Training Network. We all enjoyed the training and our organisation is excited to be implementing this way of evaluating our services by July this year.

In February Sue and I attended the New Zealander of the Year Awards in Auckland. Flight from Christchurch, to the Backpackers in Auckland, a quick change into the glad rags then to the Hyatt Regency. Flight back to Christchurch the next day (on grab-a-seat). It was an amazing experience. We met lots of people and had an interesting conversation with the Prime Minister John Key. Oh, we also received a certificate!!

I am currently involved in the Social Workers in Schools Results Based Accountability Project working with CYF National Office staff and four providers three of which are from the North Island. Also organising a South Island hui for provider organisations in Christchurch in June. Working with the Social Workers in Schools service is a very rewarding experience.

Our business consultant, Peter Macdonald facilitated a workshop with the operations staff in March. We found the workshop enlightening and the outcome will enable us to strengthen the operations within Homebuilders.

We welcome Macy, born to Nikki & Mark Diskin in February. She is absolutely gorgeous along with her sisters Jessie, Shayla & Amelia.

With my very best regards
 Lorraine Scanlon



Homebuilders West Coast Trust would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to:

The Trust Charitable Foundation for the donation of two car seats and two booster seats for transporting children in our Homebuilders cars.

Lion Foundation for their grant of \$2000 towards a new electronic White Board for our Greymouth Office.

Welcome To Our New Staff

Te Rito Family Violence Network Co-ordinator

Hello

My name is Jade and I am the Buller Te Rito Family Violence Network Co-ordinator. I live in Westport with my partner and two sons.

Jade

I hold diplomas in Psychology and Health & Human Behaviour. I am currently studying towards my diploma in Child & Adolescent Psychology, and my Bachelor of Applied Science in Psychology.

In my role I am motivated by the urgency surrounding the issue of Family Violence.

Family Violence affects many members of our own community and can have such devastating effects, not only for individuals and families, but for the whole community.

While acknowledging the complexity of the issue, I do feel as a community we hold the power to overcome it. This is my hope.

I look forward to helping strengthen the lives of our children, our families and our community.

Social Worker in Schools GREYMOUTH

Kia ora,

I am Keri Ansley and I have joined the Homebuilders Team as the Social Worker in Schools for the Greymouth District.

Keri

Since having a capacity to enable and support children and their whanau. I've worked with Youth Line, Child Helpline and The Support Network for Caregivers of Sexually Abused Children based in Christchurch. I have a degree from the University of Canterbury where I focused on childhood around education and learning and the Psychology of Behaviour. I have trained in the Treaty of Waitangi, Youth at Risk workshops and also participated in training opportunities in counselling and sexual abuse.

Research shows family and social problems impact on an ability to learn with diminished future outcomes. The SWIS role is an opportunity to create positive change and I am very excited about enhancing children's wellbeing. I have moved from Christchurch with three children 12, 14 and 16yrs. I love the West Coast and I am grateful for the caring and friendly welcome that Homebuilders has given me. I will continue the professional service with the wonderful community in Greymouth.

Ground Maintenance

Hi

My name is Sam Keeley and I am employed at Homebuilders to keep the lawns and gardens tidy. I am a 6th form student at Buller High School. I enjoy playing rugby and will be playing for Stars in the under 18 grade this year.

Sam

FAREWELL TO STAFF IN GREYMOUTH



Since the last newsletter we have farewelled three of our staff members from our Greymouth Office.

Jacqui Wastney left our Home based service in January.

Desma Reedy left Social Workers in Schools in January and Jose Timmerman left Social Workers in Schools in February.

We acknowledge and appreciate the efforts and commitment from Jose and Desma to the children, the schools and to Homebuilders. While we will miss Jose and Desma we take this opportunity to wish them all the very best in the future and we look forward to continuing to work with them in our community.



**social workers
in schools**



Sue

It's busy in the school at present. Lots of camps, swimming and athletic activities. The children all look fit and healthy. I'm not looking forward to winter!! It was great to get the Variety Club money which has gone towards games and safety gear for gifting to families to encourage family time and keeping safe.

It's a pleasure to have Keri Ansley joining the staff as our new Social Worker in Schools in Greymouth.

I am looking forward to the Swis Hui later this year and meeting other new Social Workers in Schools from around the South Island.

The hui will be held in Hanmer later this year.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Buller

COOK OFF

On the 26th November we held an evening with adults and young people engaging in a Cook Off competition. Mentors and their young person were given options to choose from different menus for the task.

We sourced the recipes from “Quick Easy Healthy Eating” by Community Public Health and “The Great Little Cook Book” by Work and Income. The Food & Technology teacher Helen Millen also put forward some recipes for consideration.

We had seven matches take the challenge; it was evident that there were competitors who hadn't cooked a meal before. This posed a real challenge, but with great gusto, everyone set about their task.

The evening comprised of the competitors learning how to prepare a meal, how to present a meal, work as a team and most importantly how to clean up afterwards. This was all to be completed in a 2 hour period. It turned out to be a huge success, with the food being eatable and scrumptious.

Everyone got the chance to try each others dishes.

The two young people who won were chosen by Lyn, the owner of the Yellow House Café. They were awarded a gift voucher each, donated by Dennis Bookshop.

The evening was a great success and we are looking to hold more competitions.



Ony

