

• Andrea's report •

Welcome to the first issue for 2005. Last year we started four big projects and they are all due to be completed during this year. The projects are the new CorporateCitizens database that was featured in our December issue, the University of Auckland scholarships program at their website, FundView and website revamp and the completion of our internal administration database so that it holds all stakeholder information.

We're proud of our databases and related services and we're committed to achieving our mission of making information about funding accessible. We're always keen and interested to get your feedback on how we're doing so if you've got some comment please email us at andrea@fis.org.nz

This month I was in Hamilton and had the pleasure of some visits to stakeholders in the area. I visited Social Services Waikato and Arts Waikato and had a good catch up on issues for the community through their eyes. Sustainable funding is an ongoing issue as is training in governance and management of voluntary sector organisations. With the departure of Community Adviser Hope Simonsen (Hope's on our Board) to work at Housing NZ Corporation, Social Services Waikato is working with stakeholders in the Hauraki area to establish a new position to work with communities there.

I visited Charles Flanagan at the City Council – see the story of the Funding Guide and Funding Expos and I also visited the scholarships officers at the University and the Electronic Resources staff in the Library at Te Wananga o Aotearoa. These visits help to keep me in touch and give me an opportunity to share our interests and concerns.

● Community Sector Taskforce

Some people have been wondering what's happened to the Community Sector Taskforce! Well it's working to get whole of sector communications and networking established and to get a Trust established to ensure the work continues.

The development managers started work at the beginning of February and their contracts run until June 2005. We're fortunate to have great people - Tony Spelman, Iris Pahau and Barbara MacLennan and welcome them to the job which is to set up the Trust, communicate with the sector and establish effective communications and networking for the future.

Once the Trust is established then the 'two house' model with Tangata Tiriti and Tangata Whenua will be able to realise its potential and a way of working

in our sector that builds on the strength of community sector and of whanau, hapu and iwi Maori organisations.

The Trust will be an important part of getting the voluntary/community sector recognised as vital to the operating of a healthy and developing society. The Value Added by Voluntary Agencies (VAVA) research can play a part in that recognition and in changing perceptions and over the next few years there will be increasing recognition of our place beside the business and government sectors.

Funding is being provided by the Ministry of Social Development Office for the Community & Voluntary Sector (OCVS) and the NZ Federation of Voluntary Welfare Organisations is the host agency working with the Co-chairs of the Taskforce to provide accounting services, contacts and reporting. For more information contact , barbara.maclennan@xtra.co.nz.



Tony Spelman



Iris Pahau



Barbara MacLennan

Check out www.allaboutfunding.org.nz

• FundView and Breakout Stats •

FundView and BreakOut Information Collectors are constantly looking for new records to list on our databases. Recent additions are:

FUNDVIEW

There are now 603 published records on FundView. New schemes added since the last newsletter include:

The Youth Development Programmes (Ministry of Youth Development), The Ashburton District Council Annual Grants, School Holiday Programmes and Major Community Projects Schemes, The Heretaunga National Community & Sports Trust, The Community Initiatives Fund (CIF), The SPARC Rural Travel Fund (Kaipara), The Kindred Sharp Childrens Trust, and, The Primary Schools Literacy Project

Spotlight on The Hapu Development fund

• The Hapu Development fund was established for the long-term benefit and development of Ngapuhi hapu and marae. It funds up to \$5,000 for planning cultural, social and economic development projects that are directed and managed by marae, hapu trust or takiwa within Te Whare Tapu O Ngapuhi.

BREAKOUT

There are 15 new records on BreakOut bringing the published total to 2,204. The new records come from the **Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind, University of Otago, The University of Auckland, Arts Waikato and the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology.**

Spotlight on The Arts Waikato Scholarship

• The Arts Waikato Scholarship aims to increase educational opportunities within the Waikato art community, support creative industries career development, strengthen Waikato arts organisations by increasing knowledge and skills, encourage tertiary study in the arts and encourage youth participation in the arts. Applications close on the 31st of March. Full details are available on BreakOut.

Subscriber ID

As part of our administration procedures, we issue every Subscriber with an 'ID' number. You will find this number on the bottom right hand corner of your invoice and it will be noted on all our correspondence to you.

We have changed some of our systems at the Funding Information Service recently and would appreciate you quoting your 'Org ID' each time you communicate with us. Thank you.

CorporateCitizens research on a roll.

Saints Information Ltd is pleased to report that the research on top 200 New Zealand companies for the CorporateCitizens database is proceeding extremely well – in fact, much better than expected.

Managing Director Louise Parkin says that market research before the project commenced still indicated that many companies would hesitate to list their corporate community involvement policies on a searchable database.

"However, the expertise that both Saints and the Funding Information Service bring to the project has reassured them that the database will provide an excellent tool to help them in the daily work of dealing with the many hundreds of requests from fundseekers" says Louise.

By providing a "first port of call" for the necessary research to be carried out, the big result for the companies will be that the number of inappropriate requests will be reduced, and the overall quality of the ones they do receive will be improved. And for the charities and community groups, they will at last have guidance on how to approach business in New Zealand that will be more cost effective and strategic than the current "scatter gun" approach.

So far 30 companies have met with us to discuss their listing on the database and 15 have already signed off their records. The same number again are welcoming meetings in the next few months.

"We should easily reach our target of 80 companies by the launch in June" says Louise and that number includes one record for Saints Information – such is Louise's confidence in this database"

• Funder Survey •

The last Funding Information Service survey of funders was in 2002 and we responded to that by developing services and it is time to seek some feedback.

An innovation with this year's survey is that it is online, which makes it very easy to use and quick to respond to. It also will save us a lot of analysis work and therefore results will be ready earlier.

This year we are teaming up with Philanthropy New Zealand. "This definitely makes sense to us as it means we obtain the opinions of as much of the funder sector as possible" says Robyn Scott, Philanthropy New Zealand.

"We are always looking at ways to improve. We get a lot of feedback through Kevin's road trips but we are looking to get a more comprehensive view on these particular areas of question" says Andrea Goble, Funding Information Service.

Each funder will receive a card in the post in March with their personal FunderNet password and username that will let them fill in the survey online at www.fundernet.org.nz. FunderNet is the Funding Information Service's site specifically for funders where you can use your password and username to edit your own records, read the quarterly e-newsletter, view events and news in funding and more.

Review of the Financial Reporting Act

Subscribers will be aware that the Ministry of Economic Development has been instrumental in reviewing the Financial Reporting Act. Part 1 of the Review was released in March 2004 and was greeted with much debate and discussion by all interested parties and stakeholders. Submissions were received and debated by the Ministry.

The main results of the Part 1 Review included the reconsidering of the obligations to report; the questioning of sector neutrality and the move away from entity neutrality.

In December 2004 Part 2 of the Review was released for discussion with a request for submissions to be lodged in late February 2005.

Part 2 of the Discussion paper covers all of the issues that had not been previously considered as well as a revised set of proposals for determining the entities that should be required to produce and file financial reports.

In terms of the Community and Voluntary Sector, there would appear to be some quite major shifts in determining how the sector reports its financial information.

The Discussion document proposes that the Financial Reporting Act would only determine the content and the manner of required reporting. The issue of who and what is required to be reported would be managed within other specific legislation such as the proposed Charities Act, the Companies Act and the Securities Act.

There is a chapter specifically addressing the proposed changes to our sector eg for registered Charities the Review proposes a three tier framework according to the levels of income.

Income	Possible reporting requirements	Audit requirements
Small	Less than \$100,000 Receipts and Payments	None
Medium	From \$100,000 to \$2,500,00 Accrual accounting	Indepen Review
Large	Greater than \$2,500,000 Requirements based on IFRS	Full Audit

For those who are interested in reading more about this Review you are able to request a copy of the Discussion Paper from the Ministry of Economic Development either by telephone 04 470 2313 or from their website . Your Accountant and/or Auditor would also be happy to answer your queries on this Review as well.

Thanks to – NZ Federation of Voluntary Welfare Organisations, The Ministry of Economic Development, Grant Thornton, and the NZ Institute of Chartered Accountants for background material and information.

Postcards from the Far North - Kevin Haunui, Sales and Liaison Manager, Funding Information Service.



Kaikohe - Tanya Wihongi (Take Ngakau Project Team) with members of the community listening to feedback on Kevin's Maori Organisation Funding Report.

Whangarei - Demonstrating FundView to Department of Internal Affairs community Advisors.

Lisa Kidwell, Kevin Haunui, Jodie Findlay.



Leaping into 2005

Sales and Liaison visits

Kanohi ki te kanohi – face to face.

This is a wonderful expression for commitment to people.

For us it means endeavouring to keep in physical contact with all our stakeholders, whether potential, current or past.

So you will likely see me and also other staff from Funding Information Service at meetings, festivals, funding expos and conferences all around the country.

And this is how 2005 has begun for us - from attending the Te Matatini festival (formerly the National Aotearoa Maori Traditional Performing Arts Festival) in Palmerston North to the Western Institute of Technology Student Orientation Week in New Plymouth, funding expos all over the country mixed in with visits to customers.

However, endeavouring to be in as many places as economically possible, has resulted in some changes to my travelling itinerary which follows;

April 18-22 South Taranaki, Stratford, Ruapehu, Taupo, Kawerau, Whakatane, Opotiki, Gisborne, Wairoa

May 23-27 - Southland, Central Otago, Balclutha, Waitaki, Waimate, MacKenzie, Timaru, Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough

June No visits scheduled – annual business planning

July 4-8 - Wanganui, Rangitikei, Manawatu, Palmerston North, Tararua, Central Hawkes Bay, Hastings, Napier

See you soon, Kevin.



Dion Hobson, Radio Announcer for Te Reo Irirangi o Te Hiku o Te Ika of Kaitiaia recording an interview with Kevin on Maori organisations and their funding needs.



Setting up or seeking funds for a community recreation or arts group? Looking for new ways of assessing resources? Come to a FREE roadshow and find out more.

9 March - Porirua

16 March - Kilbirnie, Wellington

23 March - Kapiti

More details at www.wellington.govt.nz. Phone 04 499-4444.

The Funding Access Roadshow is brought to you by your local Council, the Funding Information Service and the Department of Internal Affairs.

Survey of Funding Expos

At this time of the year there are a number of funding expos being held throughout the country.

Auckland City Council staged its expo in early February and Christchurch begins a busy round March 2; Waikato Regional Funding Expos in Hamilton 3 March, Tokoroa 10 March and Paeroa 17 March; Wellington Funding Access Roadshows in Porirua 9 March, Wellington 16 March and Otaki 23 March and Dargaville also hosts an expo for the Kaipara District on 24 March.

These types of expos are very important for Funding Information Service.

They provide an opportunity for us to present ourselves to the community and also to gauge our products' effectiveness for the community. This feedback informs our decision making and for these reasons we attempt to participate in as many funding expo's as possible.

But why are funding expos organised? What is the purpose? Our experience is that community responses to these events are very good, but funder participation does not match expectations.

These lines of enquiry form the basis of a survey which Funding Information Service will conduct with funding expo organisers.

We expect that a collective picture of regional experiences of funding expos will emerge, which will assist with informed decision making by organisers and participants.



**Te Ratonga Whakamārama Pūtea
Funding Information Service**

PO BOX 1521, Wellington, New Zealand Phone: +64 4 499 4090

Fax: +64 4 472 5367 Website: www.allaboutfunding.org.nz

• Funding Guide • for Hamilton

At Funding Information Service we often hear of funding guides being produced by local authorities or other agencies.

The guides are usually in print form and frequently based on information read in FundView. We have long had an aversion to printed guides as they go out of date very quickly, even before they come back from the printers!

But we do understand that sometimes a paper document can get information out to people in a way that on-screen search services may not. So when we hear that someone is looking at producing such a guide, we try to work with them to make that information as good as possible.

Our work with Hamilton City Council Community Support Unit is a perfect example. Years ago they asked for an extract from FundView containing all the funders for the Waikato region, and from this they made their annual Funding Guide. Since then we have seen a copy each year but were able to see that the information in it had not necessarily been updated. This year we approached them and offered a service whereby we allow them to go through the Waikato region funders on FundView and pick out those schemes they wanted to include in their Guide.

They could then download that information so that they could format and print it. This would save the Council from having to update the information in the guide, and would make sure the information being circulated was as up to date as possible.

The project worked well and the Guide has now been produced. Since it was sent to the printers, however, we found we had accidentally included information about a funder that was not supposed to have been made public! This had been reproduced in the Guide and we were horrified at our mistake!

The funder alerted us to the problem and made the point that we had not obtained their permission to do this. This kind of mistake had not been made before and hit us hard, and we had missed the point about asking permission, but we looked at our processes and put an important step into place so that it doesn't happen again. Phew!

FUNDERnet

"easy to use"

"follow your nose"

"fantastic"

"great"

These are what we are hearing from funders who have stepped up and gone online to edit their funding records using FunderNet.

Susannah Goble, Funding Information Service, Information Collector, says "It was really good to see all the new edits come in after our recent request for updates. This way funders can make the edits immediately without having to mail them back to us"

For more information about FunderNet please email info@fis.org.nz or call Susannah or Dylan on 04 499-4090.

• Logo Update •

We have recently updated our logo to fit with the new branding of FundView, BreakOut, FunderNet and CorporateCitizens.

There are portrait and landscape versions. If you want to use our logo on your website, in any funding publication, or promotional material on funding please contact natasha@fis.org.nz for a copy.



Te Ratonga Whakamārama Pūtea
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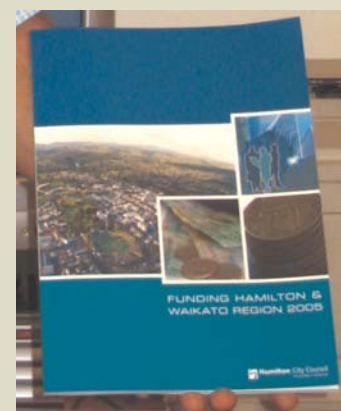


Te Ratonga Whakamārama Pūtea
Funding Information Service



Left: Charles Flannagan, Hamilton City Council, with a very impressive display of funding information.

Right: The funding guide "Funding Hamilton and Waikato Region"



• New look for the FundView Database •

We have been working with a focus group to look at FundView and how it should be improved. Whilst we continue to receive good feedback about FundView from new and old users alike, we and they know that there is always something that could be done better, especially as we learn to expect more and more from the computer resources that we use.

One major change will be the search page on FundView. We will still have four questions to answer, but we will lose one and gain another. The question about group vs. individual funding will disappear, as FundView does not have good information about funding for individuals and we feel keeping this option misleads people as to what their opportunities might be.

We are adding a question by separating demographic style search terms out from the "purposes/kaupapa" group - eg "women", "Maori", "Pacific Island" - so that you can define the population you serve demographically as well as/instead of by purpose.

Another change for users of the Internet edition is that we will allow subscribers to store default choices of search terms or funders that they want to track, so

that when you log into FundView these choices are made for you automatically. You will of course be able to adjust them but people who run the same searches each time will find this beneficial. You will also be able to see your "favourite" funders in the Calendar and in your searches.

As well as working on the "Other stuff" - to be renamed "How-to guides" - and introducing real-life examples of successful grants, one of the more evident changes to the Internet edition will be its look - incorporating our new image for FundView.

We hope you like it and that you find FundView easier to read and use as a result.

The new look

