

**PEOPLE FIRST
NEW ZEALAND**

10 YEAR

ANNIVERSARY

People First New Zealand, Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi

Annual Report

June 2012 - June 2013







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People First New Zealand
Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi

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Mission statement and Purpose

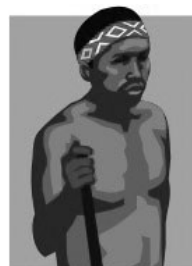
“People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi is here to empower and support people with a learning disability to be strong and valued individuals in New Zealand.”

Māori are the Tāngata Whenua and we will support the rights Māori have under the Treaty of Waitangi.

Whakatauki



Whaia he iti Kahurangi me ka tūohu
koe, ki he maunga teitei.



Strive to seek what is precious, if
you have to bend let it be to a lofty
mountain.



People First is here to:

- Make sure that people with learning disability can speak out and be heard on things that are important to them in services, in communities and in Government.
- Represent people with learning disability who cannot speak for themselves.
- Promote the rights of people with learning disability.
- Make sure people with learning disability are listened to.



Strategic Plan 2012-2015



The goals for People First New Zealand are:

1. More people know who People First is – nationally and internationally
2. Keep speaking up
3. Leadership by People First
4. Deliver more educational courses in the community
5. Become a bi-cultural organisation
6. People First is a strong organisation



The People First National Committee

National Chairperson:	Hamish Taverner
Northern Region President:	Raymond Thoumine
Midland Region President:	Jodie Turner
Central Region President:	Hamish Taverner
Top of the South Region President:	Michael Aldridge
Midsouth Region President:	Caroline Quick
Southern Region President:	Cheryl Wallace
Advisors:	Brigit Mirfin-Veitch and Gordon Boxall

The Committee meets 4 times each year to make decisions, report on the work of the National Chairperson, Regional Presidents and member representatives on Advisory boards. The Committee also invites guests from other organisations to keep up to date with what is happening within the Disability community and in Government.



This year the Committee have had the following guests:

Rachel Noble, Chief Executive of Disabled Persons Assembly

David Corner, IHC to talk about his self-advocacy work for Inclusion International

Vicki Wall, to talk about her research idea

Jac Lynch, Ministry of Health to talk about keeping people safe in services

Gordon Boxall, Ministry of Social Development, talked about the Enabling a Good Life Projects

Paul Gibson, Disability Commissioner, Human Rights Commissioner was the guest speaker at the 2012 Annual General Meeting.





People First members in memory



The National Committee would like to acknowledge the People First members, staff and volunteers who have passed away this year. We especially remember members Peter Stevens, Robyn Rainey, Amber Kennedy and Edward Wallace. It is important to remember those who have walked the path before us so that we can honour them into the future with our work.

People and organisations that we want to thank



Friends of People First New Zealand

The Ministry of Health for the Disability Information and Advisory Service contract

The Ministry of Social Development, Making a Difference fund

New Zealand Lottery Grants for funding towards national and regional activities

The Ministry of Health and Te Pou for funding for leadership development

Frozen Funds Charitable Trust for funding to run courses on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The Gitmans family for ongoing support and donation for the Start Up grants

G Preston-Thomas from Karori for your kind donation

IHC Foundation for funding to employ a Communications Coordinator

IHC NZ Inc. for 'in kind' donation to develop a new website, Facebook page and logo

COGS for funding many of the local groups of People First New Zealand

Tahi Design for reduced cost of services

Telecom New Zealand for low rates on our telephone and internet

Donations for 10 year anniversary celebrations:

- Donald Beasley Institute
- JR McKenzie Trust
- Alexia Garbutt
- Pam Shanks
- Joanna Curzon
- Community Care Trust
- IHC Foundation
- Donald Beasley Institute
- Tahi Design
- Progressive Enterprises Limited
- Positively Wellington Venues

Auckland City Council for project work

Christchurch City Council for project work

Hamilton City Council for Hamilton group

Canterbury Charitable Trust for project work

The Trust Community for project work

Blune Grass Holding Trust for a grant for equipment for Top of the South Region

Parent and Family Resources Centre for Auckland City Central group

DPA, BCNZ, Ngāti Kāpo o Aotearoa, Deaf Aotearoa, DeafBlind NZ, Balance NZ, Ngā Hau e Whā, Imagine Better, Workbridge NZ, Parent to Parent, SAMS, Donald Beasley Institute, NZ ASID, Human Rights Commission, Community Care Trust, Dunedin, IHC, CCS Disability Action, ASENZ, VASS, NZDSN, and The NZ Federation of Disability Information Centres for on-going collaborative relationships.





National Chairperson's report

Hamish Taverner

I am very proud to present my 2013 National Chairperson's annual report. This year has been another busy year for People First.

We have making great progress on our goals and have had lots of success.

In my role I have been to lots of meetings with different organisations and at many events and conferences. It's great to keep letting people know about People First and what we do.

Highlights for me have been: hosting three people from the Ministry of Health at the International Initiative Disability Leadership exchange and running the 'Let's talk' self-advocacy forum at the Australasian ASID conference in Wellington. It was great that past President Michael Aldridge went to Washington DC for Inclusion International's Congress and People First NZ became members of Inclusion International – thanks to IHC NZ for funding this trip.

The UN Convention has given us new opportunities to work closely with the other Disabled Persons Organisations and this will increase as we work together to make sure all Disabled people in New Zealand get their rights.

People First continues to develop current leaders and new leaders in the regions. We have received funding to do this and this has meant that many more members have been able to learn more about being a leader and have the opportunity to represent People First at meetings and events across the country. It also means People First will remain strong in the future.

I am very pleased that People First continues to have new younger members joining up. Through our courses such as Speaking up and the UN Convention, young people are learning about their rights and joining their local People First group.

A lot of people are involved with People First: members, advisors, volunteers and staff and everyone does their bit to make the organisation work well.

I would like to thank the National Committee for their great work and also People First's Advisors Lorna Sullivan and Bridget Mirfin-Veitch for their commitment to our organisation. Lorna has resigned due to her move to Australia and we will miss her.

I am pleased to let you know that Gordon Boxall has agreed to become an Advisor for People First. Thank you Gordon and we look forward to having you join us.

Thanks also to Hare Arapere, People First's past Māori advisor, who has been a great support for us, attending National Committee meetings and events. Sadly, Hare resigned from this position this year.

Thank you to Cindy Johns, the National Manager and Crystal Fang, the National Office and Finance Manager for all their hard work.

The national office is a busy place and the staff look after the people who work and volunteer for People First. They deliver and report on contracts that People First has. They make meeting arrangements and organise projects and money.

The People First National Disability Information and Advisory Service is also run out of national office and the phone is busy with lots of people seeking information.

Thanks also to Janet Doughty and Alexia Garbutt for their work with the website and newsletter and on the easy read translations. This service is getting busier and busier and it is a skill to write in easy read. It is really great that more people are making their information so people with learning disability can read it.

A big thanks to People First's Team Leaders, Pam Shanks and Kaeti Rigarsford and the Regional Coordinators past and present: Alexia Garbutt, Debi Hayden, Nicolina Newcombe, Darlene Purdie and Gerry O'Farrell. Your hard work keeps People First strong.

Another big thanks goes to all the Local Assistants who work so hard at the grassroots – keeping the local groups going and spreading the word about People First. Your work is greatly appreciated.

We continue to have great working relationships with the other Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs) by being a member of the Convention Coalition and working in other collaborative groups.

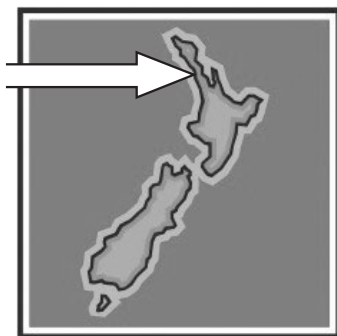
Once again, we have had wonderful support from and close working relations with many organisations and have many supportive networks in the disability community.

We look forward to continuing our great relationships in the future as working together helps all of us move forward.

I look forward to the year ahead with People First growing even stronger and more members becoming leaders and having their say.



Hamish Taverner
National Chairperson
People First New Zealand Inc. Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi



Regional Updates

Northern Region

Raymond Thoumine

Kia Ora, tena koutou katoa. I am pleased to present to you my first annual report for the Northern Region. The Northern region covers Auckland and Northland.

What a year, so many exciting things and wonderful opportunities this year. Our members in Auckland now have 4 local groups to go to and work is happening to set up more.

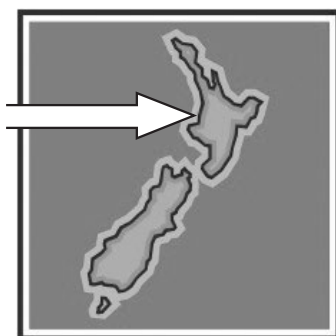
The community are getting to hear us as we are part of many community meetings and advisory groups, including: the advisory group for 'The New Model'; the Health and Wellbeing Action Group; the Living Wage Campaign; and the Auckland City Council Disability Strategic Advisory Group.

Six members from our region took part in the Human Rights Commission's 'Taku Manawa Human Rights Facilitation Programme' and now have a NZQA qualification. Three of our members got certificates when they attended the Auckland Disability Law 8-week course on our rights in the law. We have also learnt about the Periodic Review and the Constitution Conversation. It's great that members are keen to speak up about these issues and attend lectures on these subjects.

We have been working with the Network Against Violence to make sure our issues are heard when we speak up and out about zero tolerance to abuse and bullying. We are continuing to run Keeping Safe Feeling Safe Courses when we get funding as well. Way Out West local members have been working with Henderson Police on community safe shops, to make telephone communication accessible, to make an accessible reporting template and a personal Keeping Safe card.

We had a stall at the Big Event again this year. We are one of the regulars now. It's a great place to be able to talk to people about People First. Other issues we are talking about are: making Auckland Transport more accessible; and Pacific Island Youth and Disability.

Last but not least, I would like to say thank you to Kaeti for all her hard work she has done with and for our members this year, for helping us lead a good life and for being there for us.



Midland Region

Jodie Turner

The Midland Region goes from Whakatane on the East Coast to Taranaki on the West Coast, and has 7 local groups.

This year has been busy with a lot of changes and groups coming out of recess. It is a great opportunity to be able to help more people and let them have a say and speak up more. Whakatane, Hamilton, and Cambridge have come out of recess. Te Puke is a new group that has started as well.



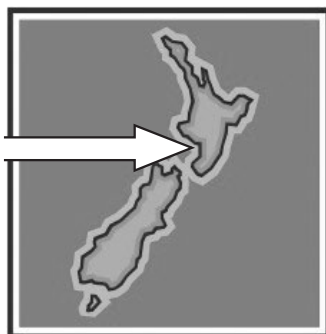
I would like to thank Rainus Baker for the great job he did as Vice President – stepping up this year when Rachel Trubnick, the previous President, was unable to. We had our AGM at Otorohanga and elected a new committee with myself as President, Duane Porter as Vice President, Christina Crawford as Secretary and Rainus Baker as Treasurer.

Debi Haydon has left as Regional Coordinator, she was a great Coordinator and I would like to thank her for her great work. Nicolina Newcombe is the new Regional Coordinator. I hope that she enjoys her new role and we can get things done together.

Members represented People First at lots of different meetings and events. Some of them were: the Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights, Access for All, Living Wage Aotearoa, Hamilton City Council Operations Committee, Health and Disability Expo AGM, Western Bay of Plenty Council, and Stand Up for Hamilton.

Groups have had guest speakers from local councils, the Police, the Health and Disability Commission and Epilepsy Waikato. We have also had Speaking Up courses in Hamilton, Tauranga and New Plymouth. I co-facilitated in Tauranga and it was really fun and interesting and it gave me a lot of confidence.

We had a great year. Thanks to all the staff and volunteers.



Central Region

Hamish Taverner

Kia Ora from the Central Region.

We are a busy region which goes from South Taranaki down to Wellington and across to Bay of Plenty, with 7 active local groups and 13 Local Assistants.



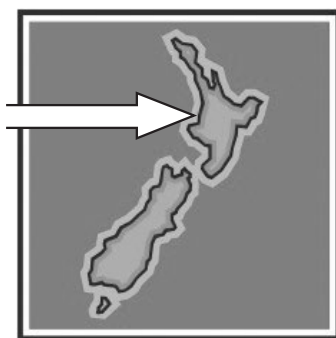
Three big things that have happened for our region in the last year are: we elected a new Regional Committee; we have a new regional office which is based in Lower Hutt; and we held a 2-day training course for most of our Local Assistants – this was a first for People First!

In the last year Central Region members have been to many events and meetings. We have spoken up about disability issues to local councils; the 'False Economy meetings' hosted by the Green Party; disability service provider forums; the Banking Association of New Zealand; to regional District Health Boards and at a Human Rights Commission and Changemakers meeting about refugees with disabilities in New Zealand.

Members have gone on a CCS Leadership Course about understanding the UN Disability Convention; the People First self-advocacy forum 'Let's Talk' at the New Zealand ASID Conference; and are part of the People First website development team. We have also had good opportunities to talk to people about People First at the 2012 Wellington Transition Expo and Weltec – where a member goes every term to speak to students who are training to become disability support workers.

Finally, there have been four Speaking Up courses in our region this year in Wellington, Lower Hutt, Levin and Palmerston North. These courses were for people in NZCare and IHC services.

It has been a good year for our region. Many thanks to Alexia Garbutt, our Central Regional Coordinator and the Local Assistants, who help our local groups.



Top of the South

Michael Aldridge

We have had another busy year! The Top of the South region covers all the top of the South island. We have had new members and we made our first regional newsletter called “Get Real”.

We had a regional Hui at Omaka Marae. We used our Māori word of the month and learned a karakia to open meetings. We also had a meeting in Kaikoura. We all went on a bus from Nelson and the group stayed the night.

At our meetings members have talked about what bus drivers need to know when learning their job, what their dreams are for Aotearoa and how to behave as People First members.

We have had lots of learning with Speaking Up and UN Convention courses. The Speaking Up courses were in Nelson, Blenheim and Kaikoura. Blenheim also did a UN course and had a great article in the paper about it.

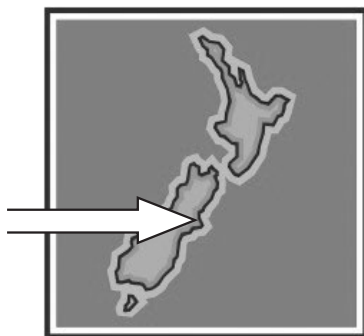
Members have gone to access and mobility meetings at the Council and attended community workers forums. The Kaikoura group had a great visit to the Coast Guard. Blenheim invited NZCare to tell them about their new service coming to Blenheim. Members told them what makes a good support worker.

For this year’s Leadership forum and AGM, the Top of the South region will send Ben Leslie (Blenheim), Mark Browning (Nelson), Clare Ladd (Motueka) and Roger Eaton (Kaikoura).

I would like to thank Julie Townshend – the Local Assistant from Nelson, Marilyn Garlick – the Local Assistant from Kaikoura and Darlene Purdie our Regional Coordinator for their hard work this year!

Our region is getting better all the time.





Midsouth Region

Caroline Quick

This year has been another busy and productive year. The Midsouth regions covers Christchurch, down to Timaru and North Canterbury.

We now have 105 members in the region! We have restarted up the North Canterbury group and we have also set a date to go to Timaru and interview someone for the Assistant role and to give a People First presentation there.

Our Assistants, Marg and Pam, have been really busy in the office. Four members come to the Southern Office to help with typing up the minutes, doing mail outs and answering emails.

Our members have continued to take part in many national and local projects, regularly attend community events and give presentations about People First. Midsouth members were part of a Panel discussion and put on a People First presentation at the Disability Education Conference in Christchurch. The team was then invited to give the presentations again at the Ministry of Education in Wellington! We have also done People First presentations to nurse trainees.

We gave another Speaking Up course and a course to learn about the United Nations Convention. We have also invited 3 of our newest members to take part in the 2013 leadership project. The subject will be "Our school experiences and hopes for the future".

Finally, I have been representing People First New Zealand in 'The Enabling Good Lives Project'. We are hoping that the changes that will come from this will enable disabled people to do everyday things in everyday places.

Thanks to Pam, Marg and the Local Assistants throughout the region.





Southern Region

Cheryl Wallace

The Southern region covers all of the bottom of the South Island. It has been a busy time for me as Southern Regional Chairperson since our last Annual General Meeting. After last year's AGM we continued our conversations with MPs, local Councillors and officials. Access, transport, safety, employment and building community are issues that often come up. It has been a great opportunity for members to display their leadership skills, have people in power listening and recognising the value of People First NZ and self-advocates.



We have had some sadness in our region over the past year with the death of Edward Walker who was our Vice President and a very proud member of People First. He is sadly missed. We are grateful for all the work and support he gave us.

At the start of the year we had many learning opportunities with Reihana Haggie from the Human Rights Commission teaching us about our rights and Gillian Adams from the Health and Disability Advocacy Service teaching us about the Code of Rights and how to make a complaint.

Together with other community groups, we presented 2 workshops on the 'False Economy' highlighting the need for a 'Living Wage' and employment opportunities for people with learning disabilities. Running 2 Speaking Up Courses this year really gave some members a chance to show their presentation and leadership skills. Speaking Up courses are a great way of learning together and a valuable introduction to People First for new members.

Working with Disabled Persons Assembly (DPA) and some service providers, we are continuing to talk about a 'New Way' of 'Enabling Good Lives'. This is an exciting project in Otago as it is being led by DPA and People First.

Our thanks to Felicity Sim, Lisa Ward and Ros Morrell for their great support of the Dunedin group and Mike Hackman in Oamaru. Thank you also to Cindy, Crystal and Janet from National Office for all their support.



National Advisors

Brigit Mirfin-Veitch and Lorna Sullivan:



It is now ten years since People First became an independent organisation, governed by and for people with learning disabilities. Over the past decade People First members have taken on a great deal of responsibility and have been committed to learning the skills required to ensure that the organisation continues to meet the needs of its members. The fact that People First now has an important and valued role within the disability sector is testimony to this hard work and commitment.



A key factor in the success of People First has been its strong, committed leadership which has supported members to build confidence in their own abilities and provided every opportunity for the competency of people to be demonstrated. It has also been very strategic in its work and activities and has taken a broad national perspective on issues and not become bogged down by local or personal concerns. As a result, the organisation has built a network of people with learning disabilities across NZ who are able to address substantive issues in their local communities.

People First has been courageous in taking on initiatives and projects which have required engagement and collaboration with people and agencies outside of the organisation. This has resulted in the establishment of strong networks of support for its work and for the promotion of the social value and contribution of people with a learning disability.

Over the past year the National Committee have worked toward achieving the strategic goals of the organisation. These goals have been set as a way of making sure that People First will be a strong Disabled Persons Organisation in the future. Invitations to join working groups and committees are frequent and provide the opportunity for People First members to contribute to decisions that affect them.

Speaking out about issues that impact on the lives of people with learning disability is perhaps the most important role undertaken by People First. Speaking out takes confidence and we continue to be inspired by how the National Committee, staff and People First members support each other to develop the skills required to advocate effectively.

It is an honour and a privilege to be an Advisor to People First and we believe the organisation is well-positioned to continue its important work over the next ten years. Ongoing education and advocacy by People First will ensure that New Zealand meets its obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and that people with learning disability are respected and included within their communities.



National Manager

Cindy Johns

It continues to be a great privilege and pleasure to serve the members of People First. This year has been another exciting and busy year.

We have made great progress on the 6 goals the National Committee chose. More people know about People First nationally and internationally through a range of activities such as presenting at national conference and talking about People First in local communities. This year has seen a big focus on having a new website and a Facebook page which will greatly improve our online presence. Thanks very much to IHC for making this possible.

People First continues to speak up on important issues and this year's issue included the benefit changes, name of the new benefit and payment to family carers.

People First is a member of the UN Convention Coalition finding out if disabled people in New Zealand are getting their rights and is proud to have been part of producing the Article 33 reports.

We are working with the other Disabled Persons Organisations and Government to put Article 4.3 of the convention into reality in New Zealand. This is very exciting work and is setting up a new ways of doing things for the future.

People First has many members speaking up on local and national advisory committee and boards and what they say makes a difference. This year we are pleased to have been involved in a range of Committees including: Enabling a good life, Christchurch; Choices in Community Living and Going Digital.

People First remains focused on leadership development and this year we have continued the regional and national leadership work. The leadership work gives emerging leaders opportunities to learn new skills and have new experiences which will assist them into the future.

The LearnWithUs arm is going well with courses for people with learning disability happening around the country and members have lots of ideas for new courses for the future. LearnWithUs also educates professionals so they can work for people with learning disability better.

People First has a goal of becoming more bicultural and we this year has seen the start of small steps towards this goal. Each month Whakatane Member Rainus Baker chooses the Māori word of the month which then gets sent to all 32 local groups for the members to learn. We have also started learning the People First song as a Waiata and some regions have held meetings on their local Marae.

People First is kept strong by having a great team of staff and volunteers who understand self advocacy and work hard for the members.

I wish to thank all the people that make People First the great organisation it is: the members, Friends, the staff and volunteers, allied organisations and the funders. I look forward to People First continuing its great work in the year ahead.



National Office

People First national office has 5 staff working from Wellington, Auckland and Dunedin and we thank them for all their hard work to keep People First NZ strong.



Phyllis McPherson, Member Database Coordinator – Dunedin

Phyllis McPherson has been working hard this year to keep in touch with the People First groups across the country to keep our membership database up-to-date with the right information. She also sends out the People First national newsletter, the Butterfly Express.



Janet Doughty – Project Coordinator / Communications Manager and Easy Read Translator

Janet has 3 roles in People First - finding and getting money for People First, making easy read information and managing People First communications such as the website and Butterfly Express. This year she has had a big focus on the website and logo review.



Alexia Garbutt – Communications Manager and Easy Read Translator

Alexia shares the Communications Manager role with Janet and she has been working hard on writing the 10 year edition of the Butterfly Express which will be full of the highlights of People First since 2003. Alexia is also adding to the People First team who are able to write in easy read. There is a lot of skill to writing in easy read and translating complex government and organisational reports and demand for this service is growing all the time.



Crystal Fang, National Finance and Office Manager – Auckland

Crystal looks after the money for People First and does a great job of making sure there is enough money to do all the work and that all the accounts are looked after. She organises all the staff and members' travel requirements and makes sure everyone who orders resources from People First receives them. She is involved the easy read translation service and is skilled at formatting documents to a very professional standard.



Cindy Johns, National Manager – Wellington

Cindy works closely with the National Chairperson and National Committee who lead People First. Cindy manages the day-to-day running of People First and her work includes looking after all the work that happens in People First including the contracts, projects and staff. She is also involved with assisting members to present on a range of topics at various conferences and seminars throughout New Zealand.

‘Na to toutou, na taku rourou, ka ora ai te iwi’

With your food basket, and my food basket, the people will thrive.’

Team Leaders and Regional Coordinators

The team has worked very hard through 2012 - 2013 to maintain and build the regions and grassroots of People First. This year has seen Nicolina Newcombe join the team as the Midland Regional Coordinator. A big thank you goes out to all the team for their continued support for the members to have a voice in their communities.



**Team Leader North Island Region:
Kaeti Rigarlsford**



**Central Region Coordinator:
Alexia Garbutt**



**Team Leader South Island
and Midsouth Region:
Pam Shanks**



**Top of the South Region
Coordinator:
Darlene Purdie**



**Midland Region Coordinator:
Nicolina Newcombe**



**Southern Region Coordinator:
Gerry O'Farrell**



Local Group Assistants



People First NZ has many volunteers and part time staff who assist the local groups across New Zealand. This is such an important role as they assist the members to keep the local groups functioning and the grassroots of People First strong. Thank you for all the time and energy that you give to People First and the members.

Speaking up in New Zealand

Members speak up in many different national advisory groups:



New Zealand Convention Coalition Monitoring Group: Graeme Parish -

The Coalition looks at whether Disabled people living in New Zealand think they are getting their human rights. Each year they write a report called Article 33.



Going Digital: Graeme Parish - This advisory group assists the Going Digital team to ensure Disabled people are thought about and accommodated as New Zealand television goes digital.



Ministry of Health, Disability Services Directorate

Consumer Consortium: Phyllis McPherson and Robert

Martin - The aim of the Consumer Consortium is to increase the involvement of Disabled people and family/ whānau into the Directorate's activities.



New Zealand Bankers Association: Melissa Blackmore - This group looks at banking issues for Disabled and elder people. The group has developed guidelines for banks to help them accommodate the needs of their Disabled and elder customers. At the meetings the banks report to the group about their progress.



Workbridge Council: Don Neal - The Council, which is made up of Disabled people, gives advice to the Board of Workbridge NZ.



Donald Beasley Institute Advisory Group: Phyllis McPherson and Rosemary Scully - The Advisory Group has 10 members and they give ideas and advice to the research staff.



ATAC (Accessible Transport Action Coalition): Simon Atkinson - This group was set up to implement the recommendations from the “Accessible Journey” report from the Human Rights Commission. It writes submissions and comments to the Ministry about transport issues for Disabled people.



Disability Coalition Against Violence: Linda Harwood - This Coalition was set up in acknowledgment that violence is a big issue for Disabled people. The coalition works on a range of solutions to the issue.

Speaking up regionally and locally



There are a lot of People First members actively involved in speaking up in their communities: in city and regional council advisory committees, University research advisory committees, hospital committees and also at conference and forum organising committees. Thank you for the opportunity for people to speak up and have their say.

The Leona Gitmans Te Aranga Trust



Leona was a person who was passionate about people with learning disability knowing about self advocacy. When Leona passed away her parents asked her family and friends to make donations to People First rather than bring flowers to her service.

The Leona Gitmans Trust was set up by People First in 2004. In 2008 our Kaumātua, Arapeta Amai added the words Te Aranga to the name of the Trust, so it became the Leona Gitmans Te Aranga Trust.

The National Committee decided that they would award a person with learning disability who has been a strong leader in self advocacy for people with learning disability in New Zealand. The award is usually presented at Imagine Better conferences, however the next award will be presented at the 10 year celebrations in Parliament on 16th October 2013.



Start Up grant

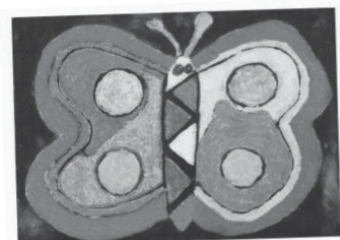
With an additional donation from the Gitmans family, People First offers a small grant for a person or people with learning disability to set up their own small business, called the Start Up grant. People First thinks it is important to make sure people with learning disability have all the opportunities possible to follow their dreams. This year People First assisted two people with their businesses.



Card of the year



This year People First chose the art work for the 2013 card of the year from Auckland artist Katie Robertson. Katie uses her bright butterfly on cards and t-shirts, which are available to buy. The butterfly is an important symbol for People First as it represents being sheltered in a cocoon and then flying free. Each year People First is going to have an art competition where artists with learning disability can send in their art work using a butterfly image. The National Committee will choose the art work which will get a prize and it will be made into the card of the year.



Disability Information and Advisory Service

This is a contract that People First has with the Ministry of Health to provide good information and advice about learning disability for New Zealanders.

The number of enquires we have keeps increasing and the requests for information come from a wide range of people and services.

Information to people with learning disability is provided in a number of ways including through meetings, presentations, events, courses and newsletters.



LearnWithUs

People First has developed an education arm called LearnWithUs where courses are made and delivered by members to others with a learning disability. Current courses available are:

- Speaking Up
- The UN Convention
- Work and your rights at work.



We are working on new courses about money, making decisions and keeping safe. LearnWithUs also presents to professionals about working better for people with learning disability.

Consumer Leadership Development



Once again People First has received funding from Te Pou for leadership development. Over the last few years People First has created a very successful 2-stage model with ongoing leadership development in the regions and a national forum at the end of the year to cement the learning.

This has meant that many more members have had opportunities to learn, develop and represent People First at meetings and events around the country. At the forum 30 members from across the six regions meet to learn and discuss topics such as 'being a leader' and sharing what leadership development has been happening in the regions. The 2012 national forum was held in Rotorua and the focus was on being a Disabled Persons Organisation (DPO), the UN Convention and becoming more bicultural. People First looks forward to the 2013 regional leadership work and national forum.





Make it easy - Easy Read translation service

This year People First has continued to get requests to translation information into easy read. This is great as it means that organisations are thinking about access issues and working on providing accessible information to people with learning disability. These are some of the translations that People First has done:



- Information about the changes to the benefit for Work and Income, Ministry of Social Development
- Constitution Conversation, Ministry of Justice
- Article 33 Report: Media, New Zealand Convention Coalition Monitoring Group
- Disability Complaints booklet, Human Rights Commission
- A questionnaire about services that support disabled people into work, Ministry of Social Development
- I am here, Article 19, CCS Disability in Action
- Thriving Communities, Auckland City Council
- Information about the 2013 local elections, NZ Electoral Commission



People First New Zealand are proud to use the Writemark symbol on all translations as we were joint winners in 2011 with the Office for Disability Issues for Best Project



People First New Zealand Incorporated

Financial Statements
For the Year ended 30 June 2013



PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

Annual Report

For the year ended 30 June 2013

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Accounting For Charities Trust

*"Empowering Charities with the knowledge and skills to
effectively manage their finances with confidence"*

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

To the members of People First New Zealand Incorporated

We have audited the financial statements of People First New Zealand Incorporated on pages 5 to 10, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2013, Statement of Financial Performance and Statement of Movements in Equity for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Executive's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Executive are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express to you an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand). Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, People First New Zealand Incorporated.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand, and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the People First New Zealand Incorporated as at 30 June 2013, and of its financial performance for then ended.

ACCOUNTING FOR CHARITIES TRUST
16th of August 2013.
Wellington, NZ.

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

SOCIETY DIRECTORY AS AT 30TH JUNE 2013

National Committee Members

Hamish Taverner (Chairperson)
Raymond Thoumine
Jodie Turner
Hamish Taverner
Michael Aldridge
Caroline Quick
Cheryl Wallace
Brigit Mirfin-Veitch
Hare Arapere/Gordon Boxall

National Committee Manager

Cindy Johns

Banker

Westpac
53 Galway St
CBD, Auckland CBD, Auckland

Date of Formation

14th April 2003

Registered Office

Level 4, Century City Towers
173-175 Victoria Street
Wellington 6011

Accountant

Crystal Fang
People First New Zealand
PO Box 128653, Remuera
Auckland 1541

Auditor

Accounting for Charities Trust
PO Box 31-134
Lower Hutt 5040

Nature of Business

Membership advocacy organisation
Disability information & advisory
service provider



PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

2012	Income	Note	2013
33,121	Donations	5	14,570
8,224	Fees/Consultancy		41,586
612,689	Funding for Projects	4	381,413
139,887	Grants	4	180,805
32,951	Interest Received		23,811
452	Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		24
265	Resources		204
827,589			642,413
	Less Expenses		
1,825	Accident Compensation/ACC		1,605
7,723	Administration General		2,994
360	Advertising		-
4,200	Audit fee		4,200
10	Bad Debt		9
448	Bank Fees & Interest Expense		459
3,195	Computer Expenses		554
7,938	Conference Expenses		8,636
12,176	Consultancy		4,046
6,214	Depreciation/Write-off	6	5,328
22,123	Develop Appropriate Employment		-
17,078	DIAS Develop Print		7,469
100	Equipment Rent		-
823	ESCT		2,435
5,134	Gifts & Donations		2,129
2,287	Group Funding		7
1,826	Insurance		1,823
9,080	Kiwisaver Contribution		7,438
1,050	Legal Fees		-
34,753	Meeting Allowances		18,375
5,377	Meeting Cost		555
503	Membership Fees		2,487
252	Office Supplies		-
4,498	Postage & Freight		2,893
5,178	Printing & Reproduction		4,435
39,210	Rent/Venue Hire		34,301
13,376	Stationery		14,366
3,125	Tea Coffee Catering		1,799
12,339	Telecommunication		13,727
151,211	Travel & Accommodation		110,461
15,911	Training		5,043
617	Video & Booklet		52
3,217	Volunteer Costs		5,846
415,367	Wages		370,871
808,524			634,343
19,065	Surplus (Deficit) for the Year		8,070

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH JUNE 2013

2012	Accumulated Funds	Note	2013
683,641	General Funds		694,210
7,632	Leona Gitmans Trust		5,477
691,273			699,687
	Represented by -		
	Current Assets		
	National Bank Accounts:		
488	KiwiBank Operational Saving Account-01		-
(15)	KiwiBank Operational Account-00		-
-	KiwiBank Rainy Day Account-04		-
184,956	Westpac Cheque Account - 00		46,286
581,838	Westpac Saving Account - 01		547,380
174,230	Westpac Term Deposit - 86		181,722
450	Petty Cash		303
941,947	Total National Bank Accounts:		775,691
48,904	Local Group Bank Accounts:		43,925
9,914	Regional Bank Accounts:		6,488
33,990	Accounts Receivable		37,407
-	Income Accrual		-
1,034,755			863,511
8,560	Fixed Assets	6	4,937
1,043,315	Total Assets		868,448
	Current Liabilities		
78,939	Income in Advance	4	97,938
12,293	Sundry Accruals		25,451
5,743	PF Credit Card		327
220,000	Provision for MSD Project Repayment	9	4,000
35,067	Accounts payable		41,045
352,042	Total Liabilities		168,761
691,273	Net Assets		699,687

Approved for release by the National Committee of People First New Zealand Incorporated:

HSL Takerner

National Chairperson
Date: 16 August 2013

John

National Committee Manager
Date: 16 August 2013

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements



PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

877,068	General Funds at the start of the year	683,641
19,065	Surplus(Deficit) for the year	8,070
902	Transfer Leona Gitmans Trust	2,155
6,606	Regional and Group Funds Introduced	4,344
(220,000)	MSD Project Repayment	(4,000)
683,641	General Funds at the end of the year	694,210
8,534	Leona Gitmans Trust Funds at start of the year	7,632
(902)	Reductions during the year	(2,155)
7,632	Balance of Funds at the end of the year	5,477
691,273	Total Accumulated Funds	699,687

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

REPORTING ENTITY

People First New Zealand Inc. is a charitable organisation incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, and is registered as a charity with the Charities Commission (CC11244)

These financial statements are for the National operations of People First Inc. and include the following regional and group results for the first time: 4 regions are Central, Midsouth, Northern and Top of South. 28 groups are Ashburton, Blenheim, Central/City Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, East Auckland, Hamilton East, Hamilton, Horowhenua, Hutt Valley, Kaikorua, Kapiti, Mana, Manawatu, Motueka, Nelson, North Canterbury, North Shore, North Taranaki, Oamaru, Rotorua, South Auckland, Tauranga, Wanganui, Wellington, West Auckland, Whakatane and Whangarei. All the active regions and local groups have been included in financial statements for the year ending June 2013.

GENERAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are a General Purpose Financial Report as defined in the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants Statement of Concepts and have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice as defined in that Statement.

People First New Zealand Inc. qualifies for differential reporting because it is not publicly accountable and is not large. The entity has taken advantage of all differential reporting exemptions.

The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost. Accrual accounting is used to recognise expenses and revenue when they occur.

PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounts Receivable - Accounts receivable are stated at expected realisable value. No provision has been made for doubtful debts as none is considered necessary.

Fixed Assets - Fixed assets are stated at cost less aggregate depreciation. Depreciation has been provided on a straight line basis so as to allocate the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Computer Equipment	36%
Video Camera Equipment	28.80%
Office Equipment	18-63.5%

Income Tax - The Entity is exempt from income tax as it is registered with the Charities Commission.

Goods & Services Tax - These Financial Statements have been prepared on a Goods and Services Tax exclusive basis

Income Recognition - Funding received for the performance of agreed activities is recognised as income upon delivery, where there is partial delivery of contractual obligations, income is recognised to match costs incurred.

CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All policies have been applied on bases consistent with those used in the previous period.



PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

2. STOCKS

The stocks of video tapes and other items available for sale or disposition have not been valued as future returns are doubtful.

3. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At balance date there are no known contingent liabilities (2012: Nil). The entity has not granted any securities in respect of liabilities payable by it or any other party.

4. FUNDING & GRANTS ANALYSIS

Funding for projects and grants received are recognised in operating revenue, unless specific conditions attach to a project or grant and repayment of the funding or grant is required where these conditions are not met. In these cases, the project funding or grant is treated as a liability until the conditions are met. At balance date, the following were the unspent balances of the project accounts and grants:

	Brought Forward	Funds Received	2013 Funds Disbursed	Carried Forward
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Funding for Projects				
Auckland City Council-Safe Project	-	2,000	-	2,000
Hamilton City Council	-	1,000	-	1,000
TePou Consumer Leadership 2012	57,780	-	57,780	-
TePou Consumer Leadership 2013	-	69,565	2,810	66,755
Idea Service-Speakup Active	-	2,818	2,818	-
Ihc Speaking Up	-	13,200	13,200	-
NZ Care Speaking Up	-	10,500	10,500	-
Disability Information and Advisory Service from MOH	-	291,305	291,305	-
SAM for "Project Search"	-	3,000	3,000	-
Total Funding for Projects	57,780	393,388	381,413	69,755
Grants				
Auckland City Council-Community Wellbeing		1,600	750	850
New Zealand Lottery Grant	-	111,000	111,000	-
Website Review-Ihc Foundation	-	20,000	11,644	8,356
Christchurch City Council for PF Christchurch Group-CCC	160	18,041	18,082	119
Canterbury Community Trust for PF Christchurch Group-CCT	12,159	8,448	11,628	8,979
COGS	2,840	23,012	21,327	4,525
Public Trust-Frozen Funds	-	729	-	729
Trust Community for PF Midsouth Region	5,000	5,000	5,374	4,626
Whanganui Community Foundation	1,000	-	1,000	-
Total Grants	21,159	187,830	180,805	28,184
Grant Total - Funding & Grants	78,939	581,218	562,218	97,938

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2012

5. DONATIONS

	2012	2013
	\$	\$
Miscellaneous Donations	6,541	2,298
Gitman Trust	1,500	-
Frozen Funds	-	7,272
Frozen Funds for Keep Safe	5,000	-
Blune Grass Holding Trust	-	1,000
TePou Donation for Conference	3,480	-
Donald Besley Institute	-	250
JR McKenzie	-	2,500
Parent and Family Resources Ctr	-	250
Dunedin Community Care Trust	-	1,000
Todd Foundation for Midsouth	16,600	-
Total Donations:	33,121	14,570

6. FIXED ASSETS

2013	Cost	Depreciation	Accumulatd Depreciation	Book Value
Computer Equipment	39,881	5,049	35,059	4,822
Video Camera Equipment	2,346	133	2,231	115
Office Equipment	4,371	146	4,371	-
	46,598	5,328	41,661	4,937

2012	Cost	Depreciation	Accumulatd Depreciation	Book Value
Computer Equipment	38,176	5,430	30,010	8,166
Video Camera Equipment	2,346	190	2,098	248
Office Equipment	4,371	594	4,225	146
	44,893	6,214	36,333	8,560

7. OPERATING LEASE AND CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There were no significant operating lease or capital commitments at balance date (2012: Nil)

8. POST BALANCE DATE EVENTS

There were no adjustable or non-adjustable events that occurred between balance date and the completion of these financial statements.

9. PROVISION FOR MSD PROJECT REPAYMENT

The Advisory Committee of People First Inc. decided to end the Ministry of Social Development contract to provide an Employment Advocacy Service for people with disabilities, and return surpluses to Ministry of Social Development. The repayment was made in the early part of the 2013 financial year.



'Think Differently' Workshop in Hanmer Springs (Midsouth Region)



Central Local Assistant Training



Central Region Newsletter team



Raymond Thoumine (Northern Region President) at his successful presentation at 'Imaging a solution to abuse' conference in Wellington



The Kaikoura group at their trip to the coast guard in Kaikoura



The Midsouth office holders



Midland President, Jodie Turner



Cheryl Wallace, Southern President



Central Region, Ake and Allyson (Hutt Valley) at the Big A Awards





**PEOPLE FIRST
NEW ZEALAND**

10 YEAR

ANNIVERSARY