

People First New Zealand, Nga Tangata Tuatahi

Annual Report

June 2011 | June 2012

CONTACT DETAILS

People First New Zealand
Nga Tangata Tuatahi

Street Address:

Level 4
173-175 Victoria Street,
Wellington 6011

Postal address:

PO Box 9199
Marion Square,
Wellington 6141

Phone:

04 381 3242,
0800 20 60 70 (National Office)

Fax:

04 381 3242

Email:

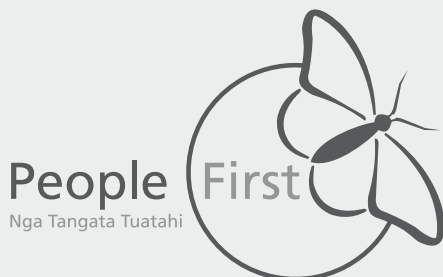
mail@peoplefirst.org.nz

Website:

www.peoplefirst.org.nz

Office hours:

8.30am-5.00pm,
Monday to Friday



Mission statement and Purpose

"People First New Zealand Nga Tangata Tuatahi is here to empower and support people with a learning disability to be strong and valued individuals in New Zealand."

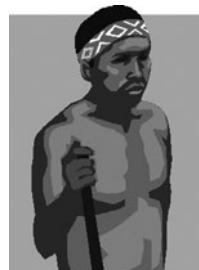
Maori are the Tangata Whenua and we will support the rights Maori have under the Treaty of Waitangi.

Whakatauki



Wahia 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



5. Become a bi-cultural organisation

The People First National Committee

National Chairperson:	Michael Aldridge
Northern Region President:	David Hughes
Midland Region President:	Rachel Trubnick
Central Region President:	Stephen Hallett
Top of the South Region President:	Michael Aldridge
Midsouth Region President:	Graeme Parish
Southern Region President:	Cheryl Wallace

Advisors: Lorna Sullivan and Brigit Mirfin-Veitch
Māori Advisor: Hare Arapere

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.

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

David Rutherford, Chief Human Rights Commissioner, was the guest speaker at the 2011 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. 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

Thanks to:



Friends of People First New Zealand

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

The Ministry of Social Development for the contract to set up and run a national employment advocacy service, Works4Us

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 start the People First in Partnership Keeping Safe, Feeling Safe project

Ministry of Social Development, Family and Community Services for funding towards the People First in Partnership Keeping Safe, Feeling Safe Project

Te Pou for sponsorship for the Disability Studies, NZDSN and Imagine Better conferences

Wanganui Community Foundation for funding for Local Assistant training

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 assist with the review of the Constitution and policies

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

Telecom New Zealand for low rates on our telephone and internet

Century City Tower for reduced rent on our office

DPA, Blind Citizens NZ, Imagine Better, Workbridge NZ, Parent to Parent, SAMS, Donald Beasley Institute, Human Rights Commission, IHC, CCS Disability Action, ASENZ, VASS, NZDSN, RNZFB and the NZ Federation of Disability Information Centres for on-going collaborative relationships.

National Chairperson's Report



Michael Aldridge

Kia ora, hello from the People First National Chairperson, Michael Aldridge.

I am very proud to present my 2012 National Chairperson's annual report. This year has been another busy year for People First.

We started 2012 by making new goals for the next three years. We will be working hard on these goals which will strengthen People First.

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

A highlight for me was travelling to Melbourne to work with the Self Advocacy Resource Unit (SARU) and present at their conference about People First and what we are involved in around the UN Convention.

The UN Convention has given us new opportunities to work closely with the other Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs) 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 more members have been able to learn 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 Work and Your Rights at Work, 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.

Thanks also to Hare Arapere, People First's Maori Advisor, who has been a great support for us, attending National Committee meetings and events. Hare is going to help us achieve our

goal of becoming a bi-cultural organisation. Thanks Hare for your commitment to People First.

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 People First have. 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.

People First's employment advocacy service, Works4Us had a great final year and the manager, Dave Wickham, and his team worked really hard to promote the great resources of People First and ended the contract with three forums around the country. Works4Us has left a great legacy and People First will continue to work hard to get more work opportunities for people with learning disability as we know having a job makes a big difference in people's lives.

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

Another big thank you goes to all the Local Assistants who work so hard at the grass-roots keeping the local groups going and spreading the word about People First. Your work is greatly appreciated.

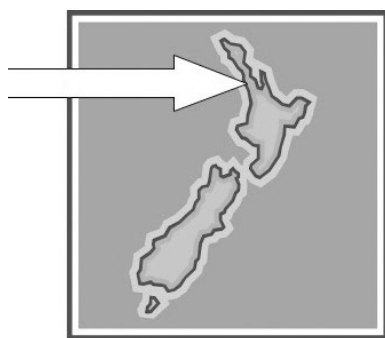
We continue to have great working relationships with the other DPOs through being a member of the UN Convention Coalition and working in other collaborative groups.

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.

Michael Aldridge
National Chairperson



Regional Updates

Northern Region

David Hughes



This year has been a busy and exciting year for both for me and the Northern Region People First members. We now have a really positive and valued role within the Auckland disability sector as leaders for people with learning disability. Members continue to grow and gain new experiences, skills and contribute to community meetings confidently and we are being listened to.

I am still in the Advisory group for Auckland Disability Law, CCS Disability Action, Citizens Advocacy and the Disability Advisory Group for Auckland City Council. These advisory groups have been challenging but I have learnt lots and the people there have also learnt a number of things about learning disability, especially about accessible information.

The highlight for the year for me that came as a great shock was being awarded the "Person who made a difference" award in my local community. I know that being a member of People First has given me all these great opportunities.

Northern region has two new groups in Auckland: WOW West and City Central Group; both of which are going well. South is still going strong. We plan to have more groups in Auckland and Whangarei up and running by next year and we are always looking for volunteers.

The community meetings we have been involved with have been varied and interesting. Auckland Transport has been listening to two of our members who have been attending bi-monthly meetings and telling them just how hard it can be for people to get around Auckland. We need an easier ticketing system and an announcement system to tell us where there right bus stop is.

We have also been attending meetings run by different cultures in Auckland. We are working with some Maori and Pacific Island providers to get the word out for people to come to their local meeting. We have also been attending the Asia Network's meetings to make sure that Asian people with disabilities know about People First.

Auckland people have been talking and going to Hui which are about violence, abuse, bullying and how to keep safe.

Some People First Northern members have become Keeping Safe, Feeling Safe Trainers as People First has been putting together a kit for teaching people how to keep and feel safe and trialling it in Auckland.

It has been great going to Expos and talking about People First. We love being at the stall giving out brochures, getting new members and families to sign up. This year we have been at The Big Event, The Transition Expo, Know How Expo, and Inclusive Education Expo.

We have given out lots of pamphlets, newsletter membership forms, DVDs, and friends of People First forms.

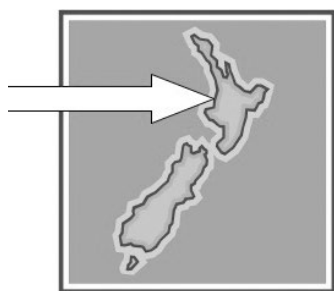
Under the Works4Us banner we attended a number of community meetings around employment, minimum wage exemption permits and the Union and disability.

Members have been involved in a fire safety seminar, what to do in case of a fire, and have visited disability support providers and vocational services to tell them about People First.

We have done a lot this year and we still want to do so much more. I will be standing down at the beginning of next year as my time is up. I have loved my role and I am sad that it is ending, but I accept that other people want a turn. I will be there for the next President and will stay involved with People First.

Thanks so much to Kaeti who is so passionate for us all of us to succeed and have a life that we lead and love and to all our committed volunteers and the Auckland disability community who has made it so easy for us to be us.

Midland Region



Rachel Trubnick



Rainus Baker

The Midland region goes from Whakatane on the East Coast to Taranaki on the West Coast.

This year we have had some changes in our region. Mary Barnett resigned as Regional Coordinator and Debi Haydon started in March this year. Also, Rachael Trubnick has been unwell so Rainus Baker, Regional Vice President, has been attending the National Meetings.

The Rotorua and New Plymouth groups have been working well and Tauranga and Hamilton are being restarted.

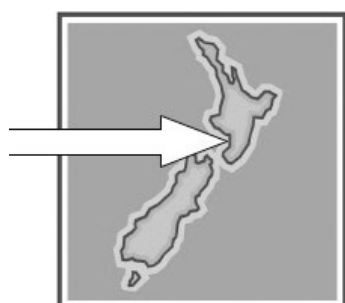
Joan Mills, the local Assistant from Hamilton has resigned after supporting People First Hamilton for many years. Thank you Joan for your great contribution to self-advocacy.

The region is looking for more local volunteers to restart groups around the region.

During the year Rainus has attended the Maori Disability Plan Leadership group meetings. Members attended the Enabling Good Lives meeting in Hamilton, Works4Us meeting in Auckland, the Health & Disability Conference in Auckland. We also did a presentation in Hamilton for service providers and people interested in self-advocacy.

We are looking forward to the Regional Meeting coming up in September, the national leadership forum and hosting the AGM in our region later in the year.

Thanks to Debi, and all the Local Assistants for their commitment to the groups and the region.



Central Region

Stephen Hallett

Central region covers a big area that goes from South Taranaki over to Hawkes Bay and down to Wellington. There are seven active groups in the region.

This year we have been very busy. A group of six members completed the Work and Your Rights at Work training at People First National Office. Then the employment advocates took the course around the region and presented it in ten different places.



Speaking Up courses have been held in both Whanganui and Porirua, and this has led to a new People First group starting up in the Mana area.

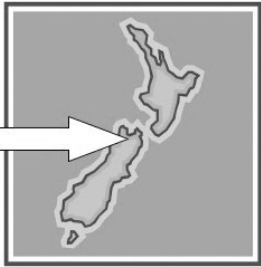
The region also decided that it was important to make a regional newsletter and share the good things that groups and members have been doing. The newsletter is called 'Tuituia' – this refers to different strands of flax, coming together to make something strong. Thank you to Hare Arapere, People First Maori Cultural Advisor, for his help with the name. The Hutt Valley People First group are making the newsletter.

Members have been involved in a lot of events this year, such as the 2011 National AGM and Leadership Forum; the NZ Disability Support Network conference; Whanganui MAY Day; COGS public meetings around the region; Arts for All workshops; a United Nations Convention Coalition forum; the Big A Awards at Parliament; the Works4Us Forum in Wellington and giving talks about People First to both Weltec students and Disability service providers.

The regional meetings and AGM in Palmerston North have all gone well with members coming from all the groups. We have talked about rights and the name change to the benefit. We talked about the new goals for People First NZ and how we can honour our long-standing members. We have also been looking at what the roles of the committee members in our groups are and

how to make sure that people have the support they need to be able to do these jobs.

Thanks to Alexia and all the local Assistants in the Central region for all their hard work. We have had a great year and are looking forward to another great year!



Top of the South Region

Michael Aldridge

Top of the South continues to get new members. People First has five new members throughout the region.



Francis Rae has left as Nelson's Local Assistant and Julie Townshend is the new Assistant. She will also be the Assistant for Motueka.

Members all signed a card for Francis and gave her a fruit tree as a present for leaving.

Kaikoura group are going to do a Speaking up course with funding from the Local Council and we are looking at having courses in Nelson and Blenheim also.

People First were invited to hold a stall at the Waimea College Transition market day. Members from Nelson and Blenheim manned the stall and gave out information and talked to people about People First. The stall went well with lots of good responses.

We had a regional meeting in Blenheim in July and Nelson in March. We broke into 4 groups and discussed setting a budget for spending, paying rent and what money means. Our next one will be in Kaikoura where members will stay overnight at Dusky Lodge backpackers. Members are all very excited about the Kaikoura trip.

Don Neal did a great presentation from People First about Real Work, Real Pay and the benefit at the Green Party Roadshow in Nelson about low incomes.

The leadership group are working on making a course to help other people with learning disability have more control of their money. They will present this to the Top of the South group and the members will give their thoughts and ideas about the course.

The members talked about the new name for the Invalid Benefit and sent their ideas to national office.

Members from across the region went to the Works4Us forum in Wellington and reported back to the groups. Top of South would like to thank Dave Wickham for all of his hard work.

We are looking forward to sending five members to the 2012 Leadership Forum and AGM in Rotorua in November.



Midsouth Region

Graeme Parish

The Midsouth Region covers Ashburton, Rangiora and Christchurch.

We have been very busy this year with running our meetings and attending community events – especially Earthquake Recovery projects. We have several members in working groups, having their say about how to make Christchurch a new accessible city. Our members are also learning more in our leadership training projects and courses.

We offered a Speaking Up Course again this year in Christchurch, which was very popular and also a Works4Us Course so people could learn more about their rights at work. We have plans to have a Speaking Up Course in Rangiora next year so we can reactivate the group there, and we will have another Works4Us Course in Christchurch.

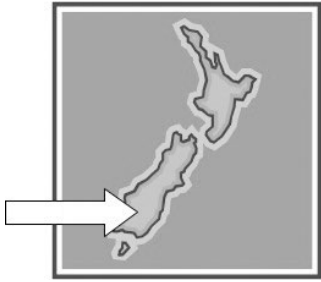
The Christchurch Group numbers have increased and we have a lot of younger members now. In May we had our Midsouth 2-day meeting at Flockhill Lodge high up in the mountains. Everyone enjoyed staying overnight, socialising and having lots of time for our meeting.

The 4 members who work in the Southern Office in Christchurch are still busy helping to run People First in the Midsouth. We are very grateful for the strong core group of leaders we have, who generously give their time and skills to People First – always ready to attend meetings and forums, represent people with learning disability in our region in advisory groups and conferences. I am proud of them!

The Midsouth members are looking forward to another exciting year in 2013. Thanks to our Assistants - Marg and Pam in Christchurch, and Kath and Sue in Ashburton, and Justine in Timaru for their help.



Midsouth members



Southern Region

Cheryl Wallace

It has been a busy time for me as Southern Regional Chairperson since our last Annual General Meeting.



We had some sadness in our region over the past year with the deaths of Avis Hunter, Peter Stevens and Marigold Riddle. Three great supporters and advocates for People First. They are sadly missed. We are grateful for all the work and support they have given us.

We were very proud when Rosemary Scully was presented with the Leona Gitmans Award at the Imagine Better Conference in Hamilton. A well-deserved award for Rosemary. She has been and continues to be a tremendous advocate for People First. While at the conference the Dunedin group were able to show the “Passport to Life” game show and again it was a big hit.

At the start of the year we had two planning days to help us focus on what we wanted from the year. Several organisations have contacted us to find out where we can help them in their planning and development of services. It is great that people are recognising the value of People First NZ.

Earlier in the year we hosted a Works4Us forum where we celebrated all that has been achieved by Works4Us in employment for people with disabilities. We wish Dave Wickham well in Nelson and thank him for all he has done for us.

Over the last few months we have met with politicians and have been having conversations with local government. This has been an important learning step for us and it is important for government to hear how what they do affects all our lives. Access, transport, safety, employment and building community are issues that often come up in our conversations with them.

Trips to Oamaru have been great to meet with the local group and we thank Mike for all the support he has given to the group there. Recent trips to Alexandra and the warm welcome from Living Options have helped keep the link with People First members there since Marigold passed away.

Our thanks to Felicity Sim, Lisa Ward and Ros Morrell for their great support of the Dunedin group. Thank you also to Cindy, Crystal and Sue from National Office for all their support. Thanks to Gerry and all the staff, volunteers and Friends of People First who work hard in the region.

Looking forward to another great year ahead.



Māori Advisor Report

Māori Adviser – Hare Arapere

He aha te mea nui o te ao? Māku e ki atu, He tangata, he tangata, he tangata!

Kei nga hau e whā, kei aku nui, kei aku rahi, kei ngā marae maha huri noa te motu tēnā koutou. Ka rere nga mihi ki a koutou me nga āhuetanga maha e kawea ake nei e koutou. Koutou te hunga wairua, haere e moe ki ou moengaroa.

Well another year has come and gone and People First and its amazing staff continue to carry out its duties in a professional and helpful manner. My deepest congratulations go out to all who are involved in the activities of People First. I know the hard work that is done by Cindy Johns and the team she has around her. Congratulations to the regional committees and to everyone involved in People First NZ – Nga Tangata Tuatahi, I acknowledge you.

Michael and National Committee, thanks for deciding to move toward becoming a more bi-cultural and bi-lingual organisation. I look forward to being involved in helping to develop an approach, strategy and timeline for this move. I believe there are a number of Māori/ Iwi providers who would be willing to develop a relationship with People First NZ – Nga Tangata Tuatahi in the coming years.

Heoi anō.

Mā te atua koutou hei manaaki hei arataki i nga wā katoa.
na

Hare R Arapere
October 2012



National Advisors



Lorna Sullivan and Brigit Mirfin-Veitch



Once again, People First New Zealand can be proud of the huge amount of work that has been achieved during the past year. As New Zealand's only Disabled Person's Organisation in the area of learning disability, People First is a very important organisation. The disability sector is changing so that disabled people are able to have more control over their own lives. This is something that People First members have been saying needs to happen for many years. The fact that members have been part of a large number of government level reference groups shows that other people have recognised the important role that people with learning disabilities have in influencing change.

Another strength shown by People First is the organisation's commitment to developing the skills and experience of all people who have a learning disability. This focus on building leadership within People First helps new leaders to emerge so that there are a large group of members who can represent the organisation. It also makes sure that all the issues that may affect People First members are raised, and can be talked about. The leadership forums that are now held around the time of the People First AGM are a fantastic way for members to develop their own leadership skills, and to learn from other leaders involved in the disability sector.

As Advisors to the People First National Committee we once again pay tribute to the commitment of National Committee members, and all of the People First staff. Having the opportunity to be involved with this busy and progressive organisation constantly challenges and informs our respective work in the disability field.

Lorna Sullivan and Brigit Mirfin-Veitch

National Manager



Cindy Johns

It is a great privilege and pleasure to work alongside the members of People First and undertake work on their behalf. This year has been another exciting and busy year.

While this year saw some staff changes, People First continues to have a strong team of dedicated and committed staff and volunteers.

People First continues to attract new members and Friends from all over New Zealand.

This year started with the creation of new 3-year strategic goals and we have already started working towards achieving these. It was wonderful for People First to be asked to travel to Melbourne, Australia earlier this year to work with SARU (Self Advocacy Resource Unit) and present at their conference. This is a great step towards the new strategic goal of more people knowing about People First nationally and internationally.

People First are well on the way to having an educational arm where courses are created by members about things they want to learn about. People First members are then trained to deliver the courses to others with a learning disability. This is a proven way to deliver information and provide role models and valued social roles.

The dedicated leadership work has provided many leaders and emerging leaders with a range of experiences and this work is building strong future leadership for the organisation.

The Works4Us employment service contract finished in June, however the great work of Dave Wickham and the team has left a strong legacy which came through in the three forums that Works4Us hosted around the country.

People First continues to run a busy Disability Information and Advisory Service receiving lots of enquires, distributing information and creating many resources.

The reputation of the Easy Read Translation Service continues to grow, with requests coming from all over New Zealand. We have been involved in creating a range of Easy Read information from discussion documents, research summaries and information about the United Nations Convention. It is great that it is becoming the usual process for summaries of government reports related to Disabled people to be produced in Easy Read.

Members from People First continued to be involved in many advisory groups and committees and requests for members to participate continue.

People First has strong connections with other Disabled Persons Organisations and others in the disability sector and our on-going involvement with the UN Convention Coalition and collaborative groups such as the Disability Employment Forum has been rewarding.

People First has been involved in many conferences, expos and seminars and members have spoken up on a range of topics. A highlight has been the People First presentation 'Who wants a passport to life?' at both the Disability Studies and Imagine Better conferences.

I wish to thank all the people that make People First the great organisation it is: the members, advisors, 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 staff working from Wellington, Auckland and Dunedin.



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 newsletter, the Butterfly Express.

Nina Fox has been assisting Phyllis and together they are a great team.

Big thanks to both Phyllis and Nina for their hard work.



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 in the Easy Read Translation Service and has great skills with formatting documents to a very professional standard. Thank you very much Crystal for your excellent work keeping People First a strong organisation.



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.

Thanks Cindy for all your hard work.



Dave Wickham, Works4Us Manager

2011/ 2012 has seen Works4Us, People First's employment advocacy service continue to achieve great things.

The Advisory Board did a great job of steering the work and a big thank you goes to all the Advisory Board members for their commitment to the service.

Works4Us developed another film in the series, 'A job just like anyone else' – this time based on a person who has a minimum wage exemption. This film is still being finalised. These films are aimed at giving information to Disabled people about work situations, support at work, employment law and what to do if things go wrong at work.

The 'Work and Your Rights in New Zealand' training initiative has been delivered in a number of locations including Supported Employment Providers, Vocational services and Transition classes for Disabled students.

People First are not aware of any other employment advocacy service for Disabled workers in the world, so this much needed service is ground breaking. The new resources have been promoted at various conferences and events around the world and have attracted great praise.

The Works4Us team have attended many conferences and expos and made presentations about the service and given out lots of resources.

With the completion of the contract happening in June, Works4Us hosted three forums around New Zealand to profile Works4Us resources and get organisations interested in employment and employment issues talking and looking at future actions.

At the forums it was clear the strong legacy Works4Us was leaving:

- Unions are now more informed about employment issues that Disabled people experience
- There is a great training course 'Work and Your Rights in New Zealand' that is available and delivered by People First members
- The two films in the series 'A job just like anyone else' are great resources to inspire people with learning disability and to train staff and employers
- More people know about the minimum wage exemption and there is a groundswell of interest in looking at other ways of paying people
- The Easy Read Individual Employment Agreement is being widely used and is also getting international attention as an example of good practice

A huge thank you to Dave and the team of Advocates and Advocacy Coordinators for all of your hard work.



Janet Doughty and Sue Hobbs - Project Coordinators

This year saw Janet head off on maternity leave and Sue Hobbs pick up the role. Both Janet and Sue have worked very hard to deliver a very professional Easy Read Translation Service. There is a lot of skill involved in writing in Easy Read and translating complex government and organisational reports, and demand for this service is growing all the time. This role also has the task of finding funding opportunities and making applications for all levels of People First across New Zealand. Thanks Janet and Sue, your work is much appreciated.



‘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 2011-2012 to maintain and build the regions and local groups of People First. Debi Haydon has come on board as the new Regional Coordinator for the Midland Region. A big thank you goes out to all the team, past and present, for their continued support for the members to have a voice in their communities. This couldn't be done without you.



Team Leader North Island:
Kaeti Rigarlsford



Central Region:
Alexia Garbutt



Team Leader South Island:
Pam Shanks



Top of the South:
Darlene Purdie



Northern:
Kaeti Rigarlsford



Midsouth:
Pam Shanks



Midland Region:
Debi Haydon



Southern:
Gerry O'Farrell

Local Group Assistants



People First NZ Inc. 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 we would not be able to continue the grassroots of People First without you. Thank you for all the time and energy that you give to People First and the members.

Speaking up in New Zealand

Minister for Disability Issues and various Ministries

Disabled Persons Organisations Coalition for Monitoring the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Graeme Parish - This Coalition is overseeing a project which is looking at if Disabled people living in New Zealand think they are getting their human rights.



Going Digital

Graeme Parish - this advisory group assists the Going Digital team to ensure that 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 Consumer Consortium works to increase the involvement of Disabled people and family/ whanau into the Directorate's activities.

New Zealand Bankers Association

JP Edwards - 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 meetings the banks report to the group about their progress.

Workbridge Council

Rosemary Scully - 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 set up to get the recommendations from the “Accessible Journey” report from the Human Rights Commission implemented. It writes submissions and comments to the Ministry about transport issues for Disabled people.

Ministry of Health Audit and Evaluation work

Simon Atkinson, JP Edwards, Andrew Wallace - The Ministry of Health set up three separate advisory short term groups which looked at different elements of the audit and evaluation.

Disability Coalition Against Violence

Linda Harwood – This Coalition was set up in acknowledgment that violence is a big issue for Disabled people. The collation works on a range of solutions to the issue.

Speaking up 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 conferences and forum organising committees. Thank you for the opportunity for people to speak up and have their say.

Trusts

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 Kaumatua, 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.

At the Imagine Better conference in June 2012 the award was presented to founding People First member Rosemary Scully from Dunedin. Rosemary has been the Southern President



and a most valued member of the People First National Committee. She has represented People First locally, regionally and nationally in many roles such as People First representative on Workbridge NZ's Council of Disabled people

Rosemary has been very involved in research about people with learning disability, having been part of many research advisory groups for over 20 years.

She is currently on research advisory groups for both the Donald Beasley Institute and the University of Otago.

She has been a keynote speaker at previous Donald Beasley Institute conferences and co-presented at the New Zealand Psychological Society Conference.

Rosemary is passionate about women's health issues and she was involved as a co-researcher on an action research project called "Identifying and Addressing General Life Concerns of Women with Intellectual Disabilities".

In 1997 this project was awarded a Commonwealth Award for Excellence in Women's Health, for being a model of good practice. The award was presented to all the women involved by Hon. Bill English, the then Minister of Health.

Her work with People First, DPA, Workbridge, IDEA Services and researchers has had a profound influence on many people; giving talks to staff, students, teachers, service providers and the wider disability community.

Her friends have described her as a woman who is honest, reliable, trustworthy, thoughtful, caring, very perceptive and a superb advocate for people with learning disabilities.

START UP GRANT

With an additional donation from the Gitmans family People First, through the Leona Gitmans Te Aranga Trust, was able to offer 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.



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 enquiries 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.



People First Courses

People First is developing an education arm 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 in New Zealand

Look out for new courses about money and keeping safe in the new few months.

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 forums 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 theme for the 2011 forum in Nelson was 'Leading People First - Past, Present and Future'. At the 2012 national forum in Rotorua (planned for November) the focus will be on being a Disabled Persons Organisation (DPO), the UN Convention and becoming more bi-cultural. People First hopes to have the opportunity to undertake continue leadership development in the future.

Easy Read translations



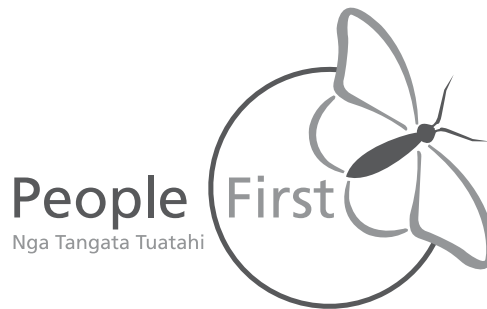
This year People First has continued to get requests to do translations of information into Easy Read. This is great as it means that organisations are thinking about access issues and working at providing accessible information to people with learning disability.

Examples from this year are:

- The Easy Read Summary of the Report on Human Rights 'Disability Rights in Aotearoa New Zealand'
- Documents for both the Office for Disability Issues and the Human Rights Commission about having your say into the reports to the United Nations on Disabled People's Rights in New Zealand
- Auckland City Council information about having a say on their draft local board plan.
- Office for Disability Issues: Being able to have a good life. A report to the Minister for Disability Issues
- Ministry of Health: Whaia Te Ao Marama The Maori Disability Action Plan For Disability Support Services 2012-2017 Summary.



People First New Zealand are proud to use the Writemark symbol on all translations as they were joint winners in 2013 with the Office for Disability Issues for Best Project



People First New Zealand Incorporated

Financial Statements
For the Year ended 30 June 2012

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

Annual Report

For the year ended 30 June 2012

Contents

Audit Report	27
Society Directory	28
Statement of Financial Performance	29
Statement of Financial Position	30
Statement of Movement in Equity	31
Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements	32



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 2012

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 2012, 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 2012, and of its financial performance for then ended.

ACCOUNTING FOR CHARITIES TRUST (Members of NZICA & MNZIM)
17th of August 2012.
Wellington, NZ.

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

SOCIETY DIRECTORY AS AT 30TH JUNE 2012

National Committee Members

Michael Aldridge (Chairperson)
David Hughes
Rachel Trubnick
Stephen Hallett
Graeme Parish
Cheryl Wallace
Lorna Sullivan
Brigit Mirfin-Veitch
Hare Arapere

National Committee Manager

Cindy Johns

Banker

Kiwibank	Westpac
PO Box 39 888	53 Galway St
Wellington 6141	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
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 2012

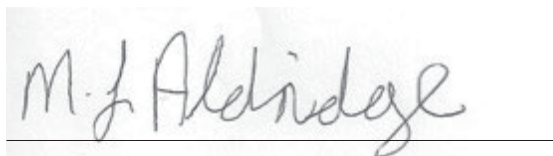
2011	Income	Note	2012
21,903	Donations	5	33,121
25,202	Fees/Consultancy		8,224
559,723	Funding	4	612,689
130,076	Grants	4	139,887
35,145	Interest Received		32,951
4,811	Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		452
759	Resources		265
777,619			827,589
	Less Expenses		
1,962	Accident Compensation/ACC		1,825
5,274	Administration General		7,723
320	Advertising		360
6,726	Audit fee		4,200
-	Bad Debt		10
522	Bank Fees & Interest Expense		448
2,100	Computer Expenses		3,195
8,682	Conference Expenses		7,938
-	Consultancy		12,176
7,177	Depreciation/Write-off	6	6,214
-	Develop Appropriate Employment		22,123
7,551	DIAS Develop Print		17,078
3,387	Equipment Rent		100
255	ESCT		823
2,149	Gifts & Donations		5,134
-	Group Funding		2,287
1,844	Insurance		1,826
6,802	Kiwisaver Contribution		9,080
-	Legal Fees		1,050
19,512	Meeting Allowances		34,753
1,012	Meeting Cost		5,377
96	Miscellaneous		-
1,152	Membership Fees		503
1,096	Office Supplies		252
6,556	Postage & Freight		4,498
19,203	Printing & Reproduction		5,178
33,754	Rent/Venue Hire		39,210
10,685	Stationery		13,376
6,678	Tea Coffee Catering		3,125
12,965	Telecommunication		12,339
136,908	Travel & Accommodation		151,211
15,296	Training		15,911
104	Video & Booklet		617
2,505	Volunteer Costs		3,217
382,211	Wages		415,367
704,484			808,524
73,135	Surplus (Deficit) for the Year		19,065

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

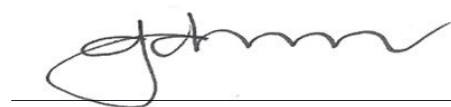
PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH JUNE 2012

2011	Accumulated Funds	Note	2012
877,068	General Funds		683,641
8,534	Gitman Trust		7,632
885,602			691,273
	Represented by -		
	Current Assets		
	National Bank Accounts:		
787,492	KiwiBank Operational Saving Account-01		488
-	KiwiBank Operational Account-00		(15)
165,308	KiwiBank Rainy Day Account-04		-
-	Westpac Cheque Account - 00		184,956
-	Westpac Saving Account - 01		581,838
-	Westpac Term Deposit - 86		174,230
320	Petty Cash		450
953,120	Total National Bank Accounts:		941,947
29,946	Local Group Bank Accounts:		48,904
6,980	Regional Bank Accounts:		9,914
28,007	Accounts Receivable		33,990
2,810	Income Accrual		-
1,020,863			1,034,755
7,612	Fixed Assets	6	8,560
1,028,475	Total Assets		1,043,315
	Current Liabilities		
76,431	Income in Advance	4	78,939
54,269	Sundry Accruals		12,293
6,006	PF Credit Card		5,743
-	"Provision for MSD Project Repayment"	9	220,000
6,167	Accounts payable		35,067
142,873	Total Liabilities		352,042
885,602	Net Assets		691,273

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



National Chairperson
Date: 16 August 2012



National Committee Manager
Date: 16 August 2012

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 2012

2011			2012
784,830	Accumulated Funds at the start of the year		885,602
73,135	Surplus(Deficit) for the year		19,065
-	MSD Project Repayment		(220,000)
27,637	Regional and Group Funds Introduced		6,606
885,602	Accumulated Funds at the end of the year		691,273
774,682	General Funds at the start of the year		877,068
73,135	Surplus(Deficit) for the year		19,065
1,614	Transfer Gitman Trust		902
27,637	Regional and Group Funds Introduced		6,606
-	MSD Project Repayment		(220,000)
877,068	General Funds at the end of the year		683,641
10,148	Gitman Trust Funds at start of the year		8,534
(1,614)	Reductions during the year		(902)
8,534	Balance of Funds at the end of the year		7,632

PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2012

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 Charity 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. 21 groups are Ashburton, Blenheim, Central/City Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Horowhenua, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Mana, Manawatu, Nelson, North Canterbury, North Taranaki, Oamaru, Rotorua, South Auckland, Tauranga, Wanganui, Wellington, West Auckland and Whakatane. All the active regions and local groups have been included in financial statements for the year ending June 2012.

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 2012

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 (2011: 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"	"2012 Funds Disbursed"	"Carried Forward"
Funding for Projects	\$	\$	\$	\$
Ihc Foundation	4,534	-	4,534	-
MOH Speakingup 2011	18,191	-	18,191	-
TePou Consumer Leadership 2011	41,525	24,782	66,307	-
TePou Consumer Leadership 2012	-	85,217	27,437	57,780
TePou SpeakingUp 2011	10,555	-	10,555	-
TePou United National Convention	1,626	1,734	3,360	-
Employment Advocacy Service(4Yrs)	-	168,000	168,000	-
Disability Information and Advisory Service from MOH	-	291,305	291,305	-
Family and Community Services (MSD)for UK "Keep Safe" Training	-	20,000	20,000	-
SAM for "Project Search"	-	3,000	3,000	-
Total Funding for Projects	76,431	594,038	612,689	57,780
Grants				
New Zealand Lottery Grant	-	97,000	97,000	-
New Zealand Lottery Minister's Discretion 2011	-	-	-	-
Christchurch City Council for PF Christchurch Group-CCC	-	18,500	18,340	160
Canterbury Community Trust for PF Christchurch Group-CCT	-	18,000	5,841	12,159
COGS	-	21,546	18,706	2,840
Trust Community for PF Midsouth Region	-	5,000	-	5,000
Whanganui Community Foundaiton	-	1,000	-	1,000
Total Grants	-	161,046	139,887	21,159
Grant Total - Funding & Grants	76,431	755,084	752,576	78,939

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

5. DONATIONS

	2011	2012
	\$	\$
Miscellaneous Donations	330	6,541
Gitman Trust	375	1,500
Frozen Funds for PF Wanganui Group	7,550	-
Frozen Funds for Keep Safe	-	5,000
Sisters of St Joseph for PF Wanganui Group	648	-
TePou Donation for Conference	-	3,480
Todd Foundation for Midsouth	1,300	16,600
Total Donations:	10,203	33,121

6. FIXED ASSETS

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

2012	Cost	Depreciation	"Accumulatd Depreciation"	Book Value
Computer Equipment	34,765	5,889	28,331	6,434
Video Camera Equipment	3,457	601	3,019	438
Office Equipment	4,371	687	3,631	740
	42,593	7,177	34,981	7,612

7. OPERATING LEASE AND CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There were no significant operating lease or capital commitments at balance date (2011: Nil)

8. POST BALANCE DATE EVENTS

There were no adjustable or nonadjustable 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 will be made in the early part of the 2013 financial year.



Midsouth members at Flockhill



Works4Us Advisory Committee
L to R: Michael Aldridge, Susan Bagley, Anna Kenny, Beryl Kirk, Dave Wickham and Cindy Johns (Kerry Davies was not at this meeting)



People First at Imagine Better conference Hamilton, 2012
L to R: Cindy Johns, Andrew Wallace, Phyllis McPherson, Michael Aldridge and Rosemary Scully



Christchurch Group meeting



Rainus Baker (Midland Region), receiving his Queens Service Medal



New Central Region Committee Members:
L to R: Cathy Boyle (Treasurer); Fiona McDonald (Secretary); Hamish Taverner (President); Paul Holmes (Vice-President)

www.peoplefirst.org.nz