



**People First New Zealand, Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi**

# **Annual Report**

**July 2013 - June 2014**





# Contact details

## People First New Zealand Inc. – Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi

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8.30am- 5.00pm  
Monday to Friday



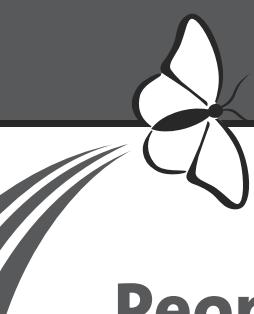
## Mission statement and Purpose

“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.”

## People First's commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi – the Treaty of Waitangi

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





# People First New Zealand 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.

# Goals for 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



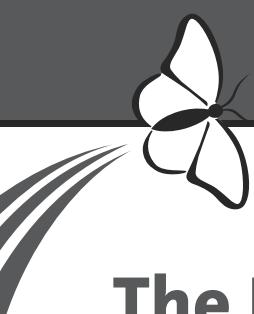
4. Deliver more educational courses in the community



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/ David King

## Non-voting 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:



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

**Hilary Stace**, Victoria University, to talk about her research.

**David Russell, (the late) Bev Grammar and Karen Van Eden**, to talk about the review of monitoring of disability support services.

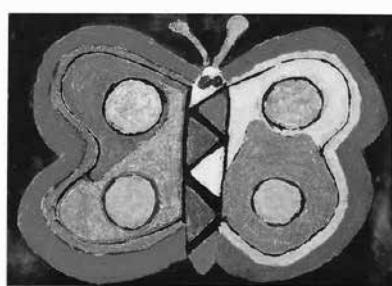
**Carol Hamilton**, to talk about her research on sterilisation.

**Trish Grant**, IHC, to talk about the IHC education complaint.

**Megan McCoy**, Director, Office for Disability Issues.

**Dame Beverley Wakem**, Ombudsman, Office of the Ombudsman, as the guest speaker at the 2013 Annual General Meeting.

## People First members and staff 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 People First member **Gordon Llewelyn** and volunteer Local Assistant **Vicki Wall**. 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

New Zealand Lottery Grants for funding towards national and regional activities

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

IHC NZ Inc. for funding 'in kind' donation of expertise to make and develop our new website, Facebook page and logo

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

IHC Foundation for funding to pay for the communications role

Auckland City Council for funding towards the Keeping Safe Feeling Safe Hui

Ministry of Social Development for funding the Keeping Safe Feeling Safe

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

Marlborough District Council for supporting the People First Blenheim group

Christchurch City Council for supporting the People First Christchurch group

Hamilton City Council for supporting the People First Hamilton group

Tasman District Council for supporting the People First Nelson group

Canterbury Community Trust for supporting the People First Christchurch group

Trust Waikato for supporting the People First Hamilton Group

The Trust Community for supporting the People First Midsouth Region

Mr Jones, Hamilton

JL Campbell Trust for supporting the People First Midland Region

**Donations for 10 year anniversary celebrations:**

- JR McKenzie Trust
- Pam Shanks
- (the late) Joanna Curzon
- Dunedin Community Care Trust
- IHC Foundation
- Donald Beasley Institute
- Tahi Design
- Progressive Enterprises Limited
- Positively Wellington Venues

**To the following organisations for on-going collaborative relationships:**

Disabled Persons Assembly, Blind Citizens, Ngāti Kāpo o Aotearoa, Deaf Aotearoa, DeafBlind NZ, Balance NZ, Ngā Hau e Whā, Imagine Better, Workbridge NZ, Parent to Parent, Standards and Monitoring Services, Donald Beasley Institute, NZ ASID, Human Rights Commission, Community Care Trust, IHC, CCS Disability Action, ASENZ, VASS, the New Zealand Disability Support Network, and The New Zealand Federation of Disability Information Centres.



# National Chairperson's report

**Hamish Taverner**

I am very proud to present my 2014 National Chairperson's annual report. This year has been another busy year for People First NZ.

We have been 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 many events and conferences. It's great to keeping letting people know about People First and what we do.

## **Highlights for me have been:**

- People First turning 10 and having the 10 year celebrations at Parliament
- giving Josie Khoury (Whanganui People First) the 2013 Leona Gitmans Te Aranga self-advocacy award
- attending and presenting at the Australian ASID conference in Sydney
- giving out new life memberships to Rosemary Scully and JP Edwards
- making the Disability Action Plan with the other Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs) and the Government.

The UN Convention and the Disability Action Plan have given us new opportunities to work closely with the other DPOs and the Government. I was very proud to go to Parliament and sign off the Disability Action Plan on behalf of People First NZ. It was a great moment.

People First NZ continues to develop leadership in the regions. We have received funding to do this which 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 sets People First up to continue to be a strong organisation into the future.

I am very pleased that People First NZ 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 NZ – 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 Gordon Boxall and Brigit Mirfin-Veitch for their commitment to the organisation.

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

The national office is a busy place and staff look after the people who work and volunteer for People First. They deliver and report on the 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 to Janet Doughty and Alexia Garbutt for their work with funding and People First's communications: the website, Facebook, newsletter and the Easy Read translation service – **Make It Easy**. It is a real skill to write in Easy Read and we are pleased to say that this service is getting busier and busier. It is really great that more people are making their information in ways that are easier for people with learning disability to read and understand.

I would also like to recognise that Janet has now been working with us for 10 years. Thank you Janet for making such an amazing commitment not only to People First New Zealand but also to the empowerment of all people with learning disability in New Zealand.

A big thanks also to the Team Leaders of People First – Pam Shanks and Kaeti Rigarsford, and the Regional Coordinators – Nicolina Newcombe, Gerry O'Farrell, Darlene Purdie and Alexia Garbutt. Your hard work keeps People First strong.

Another big thank you must go to all the Local Assistants who work so hard at the grassroots, keeping local groups going and spreading the word about People First. Your work is greatly appreciated.

We continue to have a great working relationship with the other Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs) through both our membership in the Convention Coalition and by working together in other groups.

Once again, we have had wonderful support from and close working relations with many organisations. People First NZ enjoys strong supportive networks in the disability community. We look forward to continuing to build upon these great relationships in the future. 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.



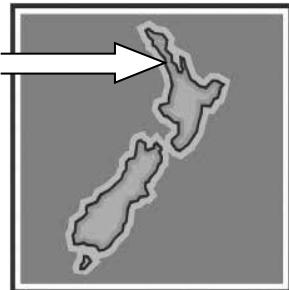
**Hamish Taverner**

National Chairperson

People First New Zealand Inc. Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi



# Regional Updates



## Northern Region

**Raymond Thouamine**

Kia ora, Tena koutou katoa

Our local groups are becoming cemented in their communities and continue to grow and gather strength. This has been made possible with our 4 committed Assistants: Chris Light – West Auckland, Lee Ann Wright and Tiara Wan – City Central, Leilani Thompson-Rhys – North Shore and Jenny Booten – South Auckland. We have had some false starts with Paparanga and Franklin, so they are a little bit behind.

We have been to the following conferences:

- NZDSN Conference – I presented on the topic “Everyone makes mistakes”
- a transition conference – where we had an opportunity to talk to school leavers about our organisation
- Know How conference – this can sometimes be someone’s first experience on their journey of having a child with a disability.

We had a great leadership team in 2013 – Manu Talatiu, Craig Henderson, Tyron Aphia and Linda Harwood. What great presentations they did. They have been adding to their kete of skills and knowledge this year. We are very proud of them.

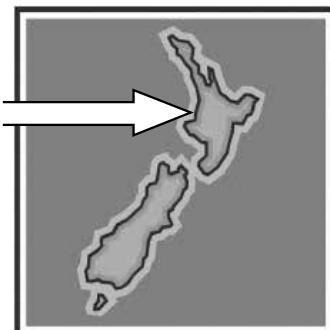
Manu has been trained as a monitor and has been interviewing people with disabilities about the UN Convention. David Hughes, ex-Northern Region Chairperson, sits on the Auckland Council. Manu and I take turns going to the Auckland Transport Advisory meetings. Manu is also on the Pasifika PHAB Group. I have recently finished my term on the New Model Group. Members have also been involved in: a Domestic Violence and Disability group; the Health and Wellbeing Action Group; and a disabled women’s forum.

We have secured funding for our Keeping Safe Feeling Safe project this year. This project will work with providers, community groups and government departments to change the landscape around bullying, abuse, neglect and violence towards people with learning disabilities.

Northern region has run 3 speaking up courses which were well attended and enjoyed.

Thank you to the Auckland community, disability, social and government sectors – who have supported, walked alongside, listened to and taught us heaps. People First definitely feels like part of Auckland and its diverse community.

Lastly, I would like to say thank you to Kaeti, who never stops working for us. For all of the hard work she does with and for our members, helping us to lead a good life and being there for me when I need it.



## Midland Region

### Jodie Turner

The Midland Region goes from Whakatane on the East Coast to Taranaki on the West Coast, and has 8 local groups: Hamilton, Te Awamutu, Tauranga, Rotorua, Te Puke, Whakatane, and North Taranaki.



This year the Te Awamutu group has come out of recess with more than 10 members coming every time. Cambridge has gone back into recess while we are looking for a new Local Assistant.

We have told lots of people about People First by having stalls at the Waikato Show and the Waipa 150th Anniversary Celebration.

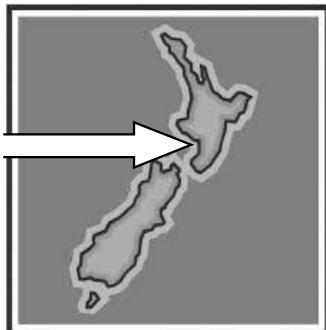
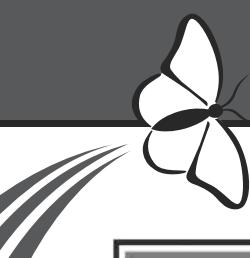
In 2014 the Leadership project in the Midland Region is about visiting schools and Waikato University to tell them about what it is like to be a High School student with a learning disability. The project was talked about in the IHC Hot Issues newsletter.

People First Hamilton member Glen Terry is on the Enabling Good Lives Waikato Leadership Group, representing people with a learning disability. He has been co-facilitating the Enabling Good Lives disabled persons' forums in Hamilton. At these forums disabled people learn more about Enabling Good Lives and can have a say on what would work well for them.

We have 2 new Local Assistants – Katie-Jane Boardman in Rotorua and Kathleen Oliver in Whakatane. Welcome to them both.

We have had a great year.

Thanks to all the members, staff and volunteers and a big thank you to Nicolina Newcombe, Midland Region Coordinator for her time and commitment to growing and supporting the Midland Region.



## Central Region

### **Hamish Taverner**

Kia Ora from the Central Region.

We are a busy region which goes from South Taranaki across to Hawkes Bay and down to Wellington. This region has 6 active local groups and 11 Local Assistants.



In the last year Central Region members have been to many events and meetings.

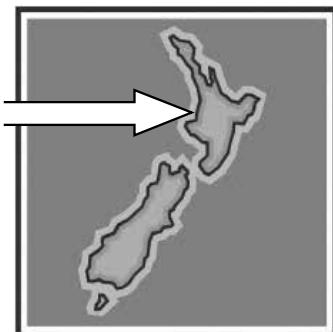
We have spoken up about disability issues and People First New Zealand at these places:

- local councils
- disability service provider forums
- the Banking Association of New Zealand
- regional District Health Boards
- Whanganui MAY Day Expo
- Manawatu Transition Expo
- Weltec
- an 'I have a dream' workshop hosted by the Ministry of Education
- a sub-regional District Health Board Disability Advisory Group.

In 2013 our leadership project was about empowering our Pasifika members to tell their own stories. We think this definitely has potential for more work in the future – taking these stories to members' own cultural communities and sharing them.

The 2014 leadership group have been chosen and the topic for the project is going to be about working together and we are going to be sharing ideas for how people can learn to (work with others) fix problems and hassles in our local groups at the Leadership Forum in November.

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



## Top of the South

### Michael Aldridge

We have had a great 2014. More members are coming and Blenheim now has an office. We all went to see the new office. Our members are now working there and learning new things!



Rebecca Young is our new assistant in Nelson. The Nelson group did not get any COGS funding this year. Darlene will help them to apply for more funding.

We have been looking at complaint forms from different organisations. Looking at how easy they are to use and understand. We have held Healthy relationship course and gave Kids power feedback on this course. Blenheim, Nelson and Kaikoura did Speaking Up courses.

We had a guest speaker come and tell us about a new pet-walking charity. They employ people with disabilities to walk dogs and be paid for it.

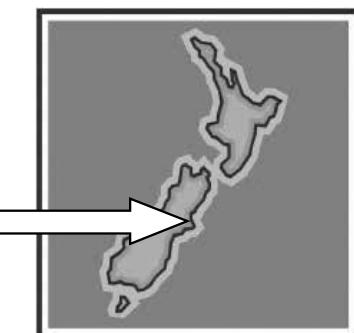
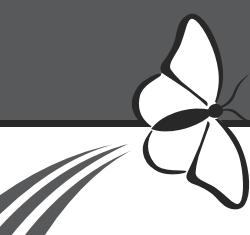
David Corner came to Motueka and talked to us about his job with IHC and Inclusion International.

The next Top of the South meeting will be at Founders Park. This will be our AGM and it will be my last meeting as the Top of the South President. We will be voting for a new committee. The members who are going for these roles practiced their speeches at our last meeting.

As this will be my last report, I just want to thank everyone for the support over my time on National Committee. Thanks for all the wonderful opportunities.

Especially Cindy, going to Washington was a highlight for me! Hurricane and all!

I also want to thank Darlene, our Regional Coordinator for all of her hard work and assistance this year and our Local Assistants around the region – thank you for all that you do.



## Midsouth Region

### Caroline Quick

The Midsouth Region includes groups from Christchurch, North Canterbury, Ashburton and Selwyn. We have one member on the West Coast.

Our members have attended many meetings and workshops in the community including:

- Kiwiable network meetings,
- a presentation and workshop with Simon Duffy, "Self-Directed Support and Innovation"
- Social Enterprise Workshop
- Canterbury Community Law, Employment Law workshop
- Enabling Good Lives
- housing forums.

The Midsouth Region has had two Speaking-up courses – one in Christchurch and one in North Canterbury. We also ran a series of workshops and a hui about "Surviving The Canterbury Earthquakes".

We held our regional meetings in November 2013 and March 2014. Members from Christchurch, Ashburton, North Canterbury and the West Coast attended on both occasions.

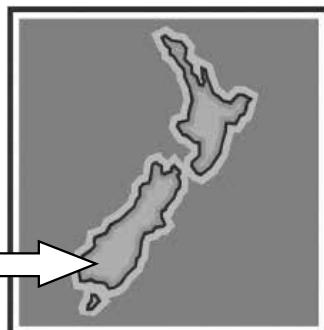
Simon Atkinson is the People First Representative on the Christchurch City Council Disability Advisory Group and the Accessible Transport Action Committee. Shane McIhroe represents People First at the Kiwiable network meetings. Graeme Parish has represented People First at the Convention Coalition meetings. Stewart Haig represents People First at the Waimakariri District Council Disability Advisory Group. Craig Bellis is a member of the Social Skills Governance Group.

People First Midsouth Members have given presentations to:

- Postgraduate Nursing students
- Mairehau High School
- CPIT workskills students
- Canterbury University sports coaches and physical education teachers
- Ministry of Education focus group on Inclusive Education
- Aspire Network meetings.

Members come into the office to prepare the agenda before monthly meetings and to write and distribute the minutes. We have over 100 members in our region and hope to continue growing.

I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who works hard in the Midsouth region, including Pam Shanks, our Regional Coordinator and the Local Assistants for all of our groups. It has been a great year.



## Southern Region

### **Cheryl Wallace/ David King**

The past 12 months have been busy with many meetings, groups and discussions on what is important for our members.



I was very pleased to hand over the role of Regional President to David King at our Regional AGM. It was a great occasion with Patsie Wakefield and David Corner presenting and running workshops for us.

A number of us have been involved with the Dunedin 'Empowering People Otago' group that is watching closely the work of the Enabling Good Lives projects. Also, a number of members have roles in the local Disabled Persons Assembly (DPA) and we have talked to the local Needs Assessment and Service Coordination (NASC) provider Accessibility, sharing experiences from our perspective.



Our Te Pou Leadership Project on behaviour support has been very well received and we are continuing to look at the role medication plays in behaviour management. Discussions with Explore and the Ministry of Health will continue on this topic.

As well as visits to Invercargill, Alexandra and Oamaru, People First members have been travelling to the Consumer Consortium at the Ministry of Health, media training with the Ministry of Social Development and advising on the Donald Beasley research advisory groups. We also made sure all our members were able to participate in the General Election and hosted a 'Meet the Candidates' meeting.

We are looking forward to presenting more Speaking Up Courses, developing our leadership skills and encouraging our new members in the 12 months ahead.

Thank you to the Southern Regional Coordinator Gerry O'Farrell and our wonderful Local Assistants for supporting the work that we do and helping our groups to work well.



# National Advisors

## Brigit Mirfin-Veitch and Gordon Boxall



It is hard to believe that a year has already passed since the People First 10th Anniversary celebrations, which took place in Wellington in October 2013. The event, held at parliament, was attended by many people from a range of organisations and government ministries. The fact that so many felt that it was important to share in the celebrations showed just how valued People First now is. The hard work and commitment of People First members was clear for everyone to see with members hosting events and showing leadership throughout the celebrations.



This year has seen People First continue to grow and develop as an organisation. The People First website and Facebook page are well used by New Zealand members and by other interested people from all over the world. This has made it possible for People First to make links and create relationships with other individuals and organisations involved in self advocacy. The updated website also showcases the ground-breaking work that People First New Zealand has been involved with.

As a Disabled Person's Organisation (DPO) with strong relationships with other New Zealand DPO's, People First New Zealand has made even more progress in this area over the past year. People First New Zealand is seen as an organisation with a key role influencing how disabled people should be treated and supported. People First members are seen as individuals with important knowledge and ideas to share. This position will continue to get stronger as more PF members are supported to develop leadership skills and to speak up about the issues that are important in their lives.

As People First Advisors, we take our lead from people with learning disability, and provide advice and support when asked to. We continue to be impressed with the respectful and thoughtful way that the People First National Committee works together to ensure that people with learning disability gain the knowledge and skills to be full and active citizens of their communities.



# National Manager

## Cindy Johns

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

We have made great progress on the 6 strategic goals the National Committee has chosen. More people know about People First NZ nationally and internationally through a range of activities such as presenting at national conference and talking about People First NZ in local communities. This year has seen strong growth in requests for easy read translations and members for local, regional and national advisory groups.

People First NZ continues to speak up on important issues and we are guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – the Disability Convention. This year's issues have ranged from words that are used in the disability sector, having jobs and money, to the sterilisation of children and adults.

People First NZ is a member of the UN Convention Coalition – which finds out if disabled people in New Zealand are getting their rights – and we are proud to have been part of producing the Article 33 reports. The latest reports have been about young people, and how disabled people are talked about in the media.

We are working with the other Disabled People's Organisations and the 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 NZ has many members speaking up on local and national advisory committee, boards and conferences. What the members say makes a difference. This year we are pleased to have been involved in a range of Committees including: Choices in Community Living and Enabling Good Lives – Waikato. Members have also spoken up at conferences run by Imagine Better, New Zealand Disability Support Network, the Health and Disability Commission and both of the ASID conferences in Australia and New Zealand.

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

Our **Learn With Us** educational courses are going well with courses for people with learning disability happening around the country. Members have lots of ideas for new courses for the future. **Learn With Us** also educates professionals so they can work better for people with learning disability.

People First NZ 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 NZ the great organisation it is: the members, Friends, the staff and volunteers, allied organisations and the funders.

I look forward to People First NZ continuing its great work in the year ahead.



# National Office

People First national office has grown this year with 7 national office staff working from Wellington, Auckland and Dunedin. Thank you for all of your hard work to keep People First NZ strong.



## **Phyllis McPherson, Member Database Coordinator – Dunedin**

Phyllis updates the membership database and sends out the new members packs.



## **Janet Doughty – Project Coordinator (Funding), Communications Coordinator and Easy Read Translator – Wellington**

Janet finds and gets money for People First to be a strong organisation. She supports national office, the regions and local groups to have enough money to do their work and finds money for projects. Janet also manages People First's communications and the Easy Read translation service – **Make It Easy** and has a group of skilled translators around the country.



## **Alexia Garbutt – Communications Coordinator and Easy Read Translator – Wellington**

Alexia shares the Communications role with Janet which involves managing People First's communications such as the website, Facebook page and Annual Report, and making Easy Read information.



## **Kaeti Rigarlsford and Sue Hobbs, Keeping Safe Feeling Safe Project Managers – Auckland**

Kaeti and Sue manage the Keeping Safe Feeling Safe project and work closely with a group of member advisors to progress this important project.



### **Crystal Fang, National Finance and Office Manager – Auckland**

Crystal looks after People First's money, she pays accounts and writes reports to the national committee. She also assists the staff by doing the travel bookings and administration.



### **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.

## **Team Leaders and Regional Coordinators**

The team has worked very hard through 2013 - 2014 to maintain and build the regions and grassroots of People First. 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 and  
Northern Region Coordinator:  
Kaeti Rigarsford



Central Region Coordinator:  
Alexia Garbutt



Team Leader South Island and  
Midsouth Region Coordinator:  
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 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 working well. 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



Members from around New Zealand represent People First at many national, regional and local advisory groups. Their role is to bring the voice of people with a learning disability to the group and make sure all ideas for changes will make a difference to all people with a learning disability. This year members were on the following national advisory groups:

### **Disabled People's Organisations' Coalition for Monitoring the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

**Graeme Parish** – The Coalition is made up from representatives from the Disabled People's Organisations and looks at whether disabled people living in New Zealand think they are getting their humans rights. Each year they write a report called Article 33.

### **Social Skills Governance Group**

**Craig Bellis** – This advisory group has been set up to discuss the mandatory review of the social skills qualification available through the New Zealand Qualifications Authority.

### **Enabling Good Lives Waikato Leadership Group**

**Glen Terry** – This advisory group is involved in designing the demonstration of Enabling Good Lives in the Waikato region.

### **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.

### Choices in Community Living

**Christina Crawford** – This group is about providing another network for people with disabilities to go into the community to live.

### 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 of Transport about transport issues for disabled people.

## Being a Disabled People's Organisation

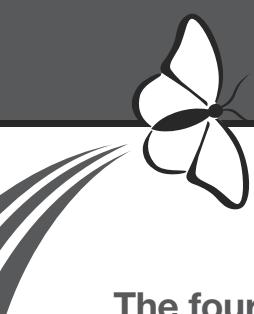


People First NZ is a Disabled People's Organisation (DPO) and has a role in monitoring the UN Convention. The UN Convention also says that Governments must work with and support DPOs.

Hamish and Cindy have been meeting with staff and people in governance roles from the other DPOs about what this means and also thinking about ways that DPOs can lead the disability sector.



The DPOs have also been working with government officials and together we have been writing the cross-government department **Disability Action Plan for 2014 -2018**. This is very exciting and the first time this has ever happened in New Zealand.



**The four priority areas are:**



**1 More jobs and opportunities**



**2 Make sure Disabled people are safe and feel safe**



**3 Changing the disability support system for the better**



**4 Making the community easy for everyone to access**

Members will be involved in the action plan working groups and many of the project groups that will be set up around the actions.

People First is very proud of the actions on the plan especially: improving the health outcomes for people with learning disability, replacing the minimum wage exemption permit, looking at issues of violence and abuse and supported decision making.

## **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.

## Te Aranga self advocacy award

The National Committee decided to create an annual award for a person with learning disability who has been a strong leader in self advocacy for people with learning disability in New Zealand. Normally the award is presented at the Imagine Better conference every year, however in 2013 the award was presented at People First NZ's 10 year anniversary celebration at Parliament.



People First was thrilled to be able to present the award for 2013 to Josie Khoury from Whanganui – one of the founding members of People First in New Zealand.

Josie has had many roles in her local group over the years, including President; Josie was on the People First Independence Steering Committee that was set up to move People First from within IHC to its own organisation.

Josie was a leader in the People First march and petition to get the Government to close Kimberley, the last large institution. She went on to be on the government working group to close it and stayed on the group throughout the many years that it took.

Josie also was involved in 'To Have An Ordinary Life' Photo Board Exhibition, telling her story to help others. Her story then went into the book and DVD 'Seeking Community'.

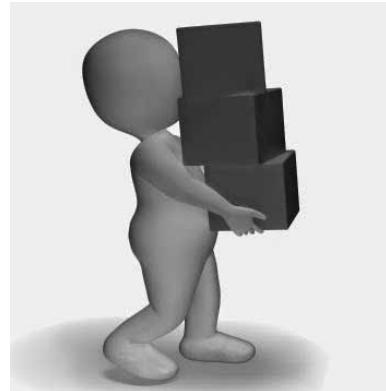
### Congratulations Josie!

The next award will be presented at the Imagine Better conference in Wellington on 12th November 2014.



## Start Up grant

With an additional donation from the Gitmans family, People First – through the Leona Gitmans Trust – 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 to start their own businesses with this grant.



## Card of the year



This year People First ran the card of the year competition for the first time. The competition invited artists with learning disability to enter their art work using the butterfly image – such as used by People First NZ in its logo. The butterfly is an important symbol for People First as it represents freedom.

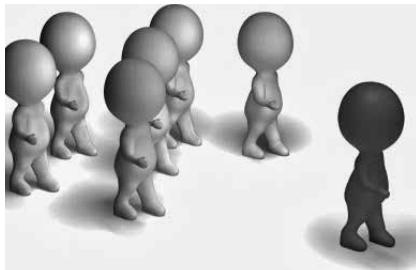
The National Committee had a hard time choosing a winner from the wonderful entries that were sent in and decided instead to give out awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

- 1st: Bernadette Stone, Porirua**
- 2nd: Elana Brock, Whanganui**
- 3rd: (the late) Tracey Beck, Tauranga**

The winning artists all received a prize for their entries and Bernadette's card was made into the 2014 People First Card of the Year.

We were very pleased with how the competition went and are looking forward to running it again next year.

# 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.

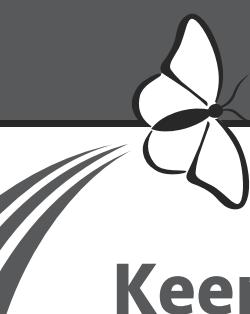
The 2013 national forum was held in Wellington and the focus was on '**Looking Forward**'. At the forum 30 members from across the six regions met to learn and discuss topics such as 'being a leader' and sharing what leadership development has been happening in the regions.

The next Leadership Forum will be held in Christchurch in November 2014 and the theme will be: '**Future Leaders**'.

## Make It Easy - Easy Read translation service

This year People First has continued to get requests to translate 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 this year:

- 2013 Local Elections information for the Electoral Commission
- NZ Sign Language Inquiry
- CCS Disability Action – Choices in Community Living pamphlet, Early Intervention booklet
- Ministry of Social Development – self assessment questionnaire, Enabling Good Lives: Key Messages, 2014-2018 Disability Action Plan
- Wellington Aftercare Association – Strategic Plan
- Convention Coalition Article 33 reports – Media and Youth
- Annual Report for the Minister for Disability Issues
- Auckland Council – Draft Annual Plan Fact Sheet and Submission form
- Sub-regional Disability Advisory Group – Information on the Disability Plan being used by 3 District Health Boards, forum flyer



# Keeping Safe Feeling Safe project



People First NZ National Manager Cindy Johns met with Trish Green and Dr Jan Scown from the Making a Difference Fund in June 2014 to sign a 1 year funding contract for our 'Keeping Safe, Feeling Safe' Project in Auckland.

Keeping Safe Feeling Safe is based on a project developed in the UK by people with learning disability. It aims to change the way people with learning disability are seen and treated across the police and social services when they report bullying, harassment and abuse.

The project is being managed by 2 Project Managers – Kaeti Rigarsford and Sue Hobbs, and they work closely with 4 People First members as Advisors. The Advisors to the project are Raymond Thoumine, Sam Welsh, Manu Talatiu and Kylie Wookey. Each will receive training to facilitate KSFS workshops to people with learning disabilities, social services, the police and people who work with people with learning disabilities.

The first stage of the project will be based in Auckland and it is hoped that it will be available nationwide in the future.

# Disability Information and Advisory Service

People First is funded by the Ministry of Health to provide good information and advice about learning disability for New Zealanders.

The number of enquires we have increases every year 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.

## Learn With Us

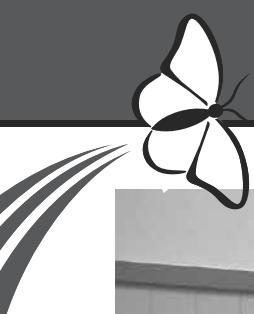


People First has developed an education arm called **Learn With Us** where courses are made and delivered by members to others with a learning disability.

Current courses available are:

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

People who have attended these courses have said they have found them really great and that they have learnt about their rights and how to speak up. Many have gone on to join People First as a member of their local group.







# **People First New Zealand Incorporated**

**Financial Statements  
For the Year ended 30 June 2014**

# PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

## Annual Report

For the year ended 30 June 2014

### Contents

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Statement of Movement in Equity	37
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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 2014

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 2014, 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.

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P.O Box 31-134, Lower Hutt 5010. Email: [info@charityaccounts.org.nz](mailto:info@charityaccounts.org.nz). Phone: (04)5653299.  
Website: [www.charityaccounts.org.nz](http://www.charityaccounts.org.nz)

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 2014, and of its financial performance for the year then ended.

*Accounting for Charities Trust.*

ACCOUNTING FOR CHARITIES TRUST  
21st of August 2014.  
Wellington, NZ.

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P.O Box 31-134, Lower Hutt 5010. Email: [info@charityaccounts.org.nz](mailto:info@charityaccounts.org.nz). Phone: (04)5653299.  
Website: [www.charityaccounts.org.nz](http://www.charityaccounts.org.nz)



## PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

### SOCIETY DIRECTORY AS AT 30TH JUNE 2014

#### National Committee Members

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

#### National Committee Manager

Cindy Johns

#### Banker

Westpac  
53 Galway St  
CBD, Auckland

CBD, Auckland

#### Date of Formation

14<sup>th</sup> 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

*MD* *DJ*

**PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2014**

2013	Income	Note	2014
14,570	Donations	5	11,699
41,586	Fees/Consultancy		70,907
381,413	Funding for Projects	4	376,994
180,805	Grants	4	217,824
23,811	Interest Received		21,082
24	Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		1,495
204	Resources		17
<b>642,413</b>			<b>700,018</b>
	<b>Less Expenses</b>		
1,605	Accident Compensation/ACC		1,422
2,994	Administration General		5,942
-	Advertising		338
4,200	Audit fee		4,200
9	Bad Debt		-
459	Bank Fees & Interest Expense		789
554	Computer Expenses		2,077
8,636	Conference Expenses		18,664
4,046	Consultancy		9,683
5,328	Depreciation/Write-off	6	4,518
7,469	DIAS Develop Print		2,655
-	Equipment Rent		1,422
2,435	ESCT		2,855
2,129	Gifts & Donations		4,914
7	Group Funding		4,328
1,823	Insurance		1,747
7,438	Kiwisaver Contribution		9,350
18,375	Meeting Allowances		17,365
555	Meeting Cost		6,079
2,487	Membership Fees		888
-	Office Supplies		30
2,893	Postage & Freight		4,127
4,435	Printing & Reproduction		13,530
34,301	Rent/Venue Hire		41,653
14,366	Stationery		11,170
1,799	Tea Coffee Catering		1,863
13,727	Telecommunication		14,557
110,461	Travel & Accommodation		138,264
5,043	Training		1,607
52	Video & Booklet		55
5,846	Volunteer Costs		2,986
370,871	Wages		367,106
<b>634,343</b>			<b>696,184</b>
<b>8,070</b>	<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>3,834</b>

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 2014**

2013	Accumulated Funds	Note	2014
694,210	General Funds		702,769
5,477	Leona Gitmans Trust		4,710
<b>699,687</b>			<b>707,479</b>
	Represented by -		
	<b>Current Assets</b>		
	<b>National Bank Accounts:</b>		
46,286	Westpac Cheque Account - 00		150,825
547,380	Westpac Saving Account - 01		530,430
181,722	Westpac Term Deposit - 86		189,172
303	Petty Cash		319
775,691	<i>Total National Bank Accounts:</i>		870,746
43,925	<b>Local Group Bank Accounts:</b>		42,156
6,488	<b>Regional Bank Accounts:</b>		9,755
37,407	Accounts Receivable		47,477
<b>863,511</b>			<b>970,134</b>
4,937	Fixed Assets	6	6,404
<b>868,448</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>976,538</b>
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
97,938	Income in Advance	4	197,676
25,451	Sundry Accruals		24,359
327	PF Credit Card		3,753
4,000	Provision for MSD Project Repayment	9	-
22,728	GST Payable		38,688
18,317	Accounts payable		4,583
<b>168,761</b>	<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>269,059</b>
<b>699,687</b>	<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>707,479</b>

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

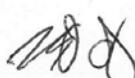
HSL Taverner.



National Chairperson  
Date: 21 August 2014

National Manager  
Date: 21 August 2014

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



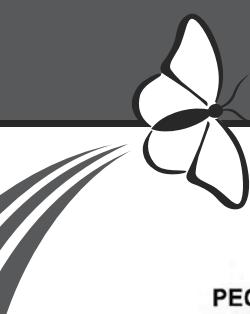
**PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED**  
**STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2014**

2013		2014
683,641	<b>General Funds at the start of the year</b>	694,210
8,070	Surplus(Deficit) for the year	3,834
2,155	Transfer Leona Gitmans Trust	767
4,344	Regional and Group Funds Introduced	(42)
(4,000)	MSD Project Repayment	4,000
694,210	General Funds at the end of the year	702,769
7,632	<b>Leona Gitmans Trust Funds at start of the year</b>	5,477
(2,155)	Reductions during the year	(767)
5,477	Balance of Funds at the end of the year	4,710
699,687	<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>707,479</b>

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

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**PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2014**

**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: 5 regions are Central, Midsouth, Northern, Midland, Top of South. 29 groups are Ashburton, Blenheim, Central/City Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, East Auckland, Hamilton East/Cambridge, Hamilton, Horowhenua, Hutt Valley, Kaikorua, Kapiti, Mana, Manawatu, Motueka Nelson, North Canterbury, North Shore, North Taranaki, Oamaru, Rotorua, South Auckland, Papakura 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 2014.

**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 2014**

**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 (2013: 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	2014 Funds Disbursed	Carried Forward
<b>Funding for Projects</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Auckland City Council-Safe Project	2,000		1,946	54
Auckland City Council-KSFS Forum	-	3,000	534	2,466
Hamilton City Council	1,000	-	1,000	-
Idea Service-KSFS Gisborne	-	3,600	3,600	-
Idea Service Speaking Up 2014		14,000	13,955	45
TePou Consumer Leadership 2013	66,755	-	59,074	7,681
TePou Consumer Leadership 2014		69,565	4,335	65,230
Spectrum Care	-	1,245	1,245	-
Disability Information and Advisory Service from MOH	-	291,305	291,305	-
<b>Total Funding for Projects</b>	<b>69,755</b>	<b>382,715</b>	<b>376,994</b>	<b>75,476</b>
<b>Grants</b>				
ASID		6,000	6,000	-
Auckland City Council-Community Wellbeing	850	-	850	-
Website Review-Ihc Foundation	8,356		8,356	-
Ihc Foundation-Common Role	-	20,000	6,215	13,785
Christchurch City Council for PF Christchurch Group-CCC	119	18,000	17,826	293
Canterbury Community Trust for PF Christchurch Group-CCT	8,979	18,552	23,918	3,613
Marlborough District Council	-	400	400	-
Tasman District Council	-	500	500	-
COGS	4,525	37,149	35,965	5,709
MSD-KSFS National	-	99,420	12,242	87,178
Public Trust-Frozen Funds	728	-	728	-
NZ Lottery	-	105,500	99,297	6,203
Trust Community for PF Midsouth Region	4,626	5,000	4,884	4,742
JL Campbell Trust	-	1,320	643	677
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>28,183</b>	<b>311,841</b>	<b>217,824</b>	<b>122,200</b>
<b>Grant Total - Funding &amp; Grants</b>	<b>97,938</b>	<b>694,556</b>	<b>594,818</b>	<b>197,676</b>



**PEOPLE FIRST NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2014**

**5. DONATIONS**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
	\$	\$
Miscellaneous Donations	2,298	225
Gitmans Trust	-	750
Frozen Funds	7,272	
Blune Grass Holding Trust	1,000	
Trust Waikato	-	850
Donald Besley Institute	250	
JR McKenzie for 10th anniversary	2,500	
Ihc Foundation for 10th anniversary	-	8,000
Ihc Wellington for 10th anniversary	-	1,624
Parent and Family Resources Ctr	250	
Dunedin Community Care Trust	1,000	250
<b>Total Donations:</b>	<b>14,570</b>	<b>11,699</b>

**6. FIXED ASSETS**

<b>2014</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Depreciation</b>	<b>Accumulatd Depreciation</b>	<b>Book Value</b>
Computer Equipment	44,892	4,391	39,450	5,442
Video Camera Equipment	3,320	127	2,358	962
Office Equipment	4,371	-	4,371	-
	<b>52,583</b>	<b>4,518</b>	<b>46,179</b>	<b>6,404</b>

<b>2013</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Depreciation</b>	<b>Accumulatd Depreciation</b>	<b>Book Value</b>
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	-
	<b>46,598</b>	<b>5,328</b>	<b>41,661</b>	<b>4,937</b>

**7. OPERATING LEASE AND CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

There were no significant operating lease or capital commitments at balance date (2013: 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.



