

## Chairpersons Report July 16 – July 17

This past year has been one of consolidation for our branch. Kath Sanderson is in her second year as Auckland Co-ordinator and her efficiency, motivation and professionalism is a great asset to our branch and to myself as Chairperson.

We welcomed our new fieldworker Gretchen Kitching who joined us in March '17 – Gretchen has a strong background in the health and disability sector and we are delighted to have her on the team.

We are fortunate to have Allyson Harvey still doing a great job keeping our finances in order which she has done for many years – thank you Allyson.

I would like to make special mention of Jane Drumm who has been a board representative for 14 years and Chairperson for 10 of those years. The time and effort Jane puts into our organisation is exceptional.

We have this year focused on our core business. We have fundraised to ensure we can continue offering the services and support we have in place to meet the needs of our community. We surveyed the adults in our community to see how well the hospital packs are received – the response was positive. There was very positive feedback about the home baking that is supplied in the hospital packs by GBB bakers. Kath did identify that the wifi was an issue in Ward 7a, so has been working on improving this. We also now feel assured that welfare needs are being addressed as we have Gretchen out in the field. We had our annual planning meeting in February to look ahead and plan for the 12 months. Those that attended were mindful of only setting in place what we can handle, though we have a great hard working committee we have learnt from past experience that we are unable to get many people from our community supporting events.

Chairpersons Conference was held in Wellington and we had 4 people represent the branch and found it be a really positive experience – the feeling was that we were a more cohesive organisation and wanting to work together to achieve our aims.

Thank you to Amanda and Rohan who spoke to 2<sup>nd</sup> year nursing students at Massey about their experience with CF. Kath has also spoken to science classes at Glendowie College.

### **Fundraising**

Sileni Wines – once again ran very ably by Sally Sprosen with a neat profit of \$633

Entertainment Books – raised \$325 for the branch, an easy fundraiser that takes minimal effort

The Warehouse Bags for Good – we were selected at two Auckland stores to be part of this initiative that raised over \$2000 for the branch.

Z Good in the Hood – This year we were selected to have a token box in Z Newton and collect a cheque for \$781 and Z Milford \$870. Thanks to Waverley who spent time at Z Milford supporting our cause.

Awareness Week – We raised \$25,687 and also the 65 Roses donation of \$10,000 – generously given by Kindercare. Once again there was plenty going on all over Auckland that week – 3 sausage sizzles, Z Ellerslie giving away choc fish with coffees that week, students and schools collecting and running

events, a lovely group from the International College of Auckland collecting for us, the list goes on. Thanks to Rebecca, Sally, Malcolm and Thorrat family for sausages sizzles and help in their areas. I would like to mention and thank Rachel, Chris and their amazing family and friends who put so much into this week – their continuing support makes a huge difference to our result. Rachel's energy and motivation for our Awareness Week keeps growing every year and we are very grateful.

Auckland Marathon – This event was very successful for us – we raised \$14,597. We had PWCF running, 2 parents of CWCF, a large contingent from Willis Towers Watson (WTW) and Kath, our Co-Ordinator went above and beyond the call of duty and ran as well. Big thanks to Niall who is responsible in getting the team and support from WTW. We also had two physios (thank you to Sarah for arranging this) who were available for massage after the event and the able team of John, Phil and Greg on the bbq afterwards.

Through the year we had a 'Dads evening' that was well attended – thanks Niall and Malcolm. We also had 'Mums drinks', thank you Robyn for organising.

### **Grants**

Kath and Sally are working together on these. They had success with Louisa and Patrick Emmet Murphy with a \$10,000 grant for parking vouchers. JM Thompson Charitable Trust gave the branch \$25,000 for medical equipment. Many thanks for this team effort, its not an easy job but one that we really benefit from the results.

We were delighted to have our CF Paediatric Specialist Nurse, Jan Tate participate in the Ansell Nurse Hero Awards. Jan received over 6000 votes which was the second highest number and received \$3000 to donate to her charity of choice - CFNZ were the fortunate recipients.

Thank you to Sarah and Jan who have been assisting with the update of education material for CFNZ including the new diagnosis pack.

I would like to conclude by saying once again that our achievements, over the past 12 months are pretty phenomenal considering the small number of us involved on the committee. I am well aware that it is not only yourselves, putting in time but your families directly, or indirectly are also supporting us. Please be assured that you are all making a difference.

When I have read over the last year of the achievements of some of our people with CF – Angus a young man who received a CF Achiever Award for Excellence in NCEA despite challenges that CF caused over the year, Georgia who was awarded the Mark Ashford Scholarship for Education, Bruno who ran the kids Queenstown marathon and came 16<sup>th</sup>, Bella who received a Cup for Service to Community at Kristen School, it does make it all worthwhile, this is why we are here.

**Jill Thorrat**

**Chairperson**