

Chairperson Report - AGM August 2014 **2/79 Grafton Road, Grafton**

Cystic Fibrosis Auckland Branch has had another busy, yet positive year since we last met for our 2013 AGM at The Quality Hotel in Parnell. The year has provided us with a few challenges but we have successfully risen above them thanks to efforts of our active and dedicated committee. Our regular 'spend' continues to meet the costs of medical equipment, hospital stay packs, food, supermarket, phone and parking vouchers, newsletters, conference attendance, PRFC office rental and the Branch Co-ordinator's salary all for the benefit of pwcf and their families. Successful fundraising and grant applications have enabled us to meet these important needs of our community.

FUNDRAISING:

Awareness Week - October 2013

Donations received during CFNZ's annual appeal week were down considerably on previous years for our Branch, despite a few new initiatives. Mall and street collections were lower in the majority of locations and we attribute this to the decrease in numbers of school students able to assist us. Unfortunately the appeal week has been moved out to October, from August, and sadly creates a conflict with study/exam commitments for students.

A collection at Hobsonville Markets raised \$228. A street collection in St Heliers raised \$839 and another in Newmarket raised \$483. EFT Plus collected at Pubs and CLM centres raised funds for us through collections at a 'fight night' event. Nero Italia made coffees for a donation and raised \$494. A 'Pop up Cafe' held at the Ringers family home raised \$514.70. '65 Roses' raised \$10,000. LJ Hooker branches kindly collected at supermarkets, at Ponsonby Central and on various streets near their offices. We are thankful to LJ Hooker volunteers for raising over \$1500 for us during awareness week.

Chocolate fish were sold again by our wonderful community, their family and friends, and by schools committed to our cause. We wish to thank in particular Glendowie College, Kings Prep, Macleans College, Pakuranga College, Northcross Intermediate, Rosmini College and ACG Parnell. Together we raised \$18,810.

Ports of Auckland Round the Bays - March 2014:

We were fortunate to be accepted once again as one of the chosen charities to be financially supported by Fairfax, Ports of Auckland Round the Bays 2014. This was another huge win for us as a branch receiving a \$15,000 grant for exercise equipment, free media coverage in the Auckland area to raise awareness of cystic fibrosis and \$13,652. donations raised by CF families, friends and work teams. Again we sincerely thank everyone who was involved prior to the day, and on the day of the events, and to those outside our CF Family circle who donated their time, services, and products at our post event tent! Fairfax acknowledged our fabulous 'can-do' spirit and enthusiastic 'have-a-go' attitude and congratulated us, for the second year running, as being the top fundraising charity for the event.

Movie Night

Fairfax Sundays ran an in-house movie fundraiser night. Their fundraising team raised \$976 for CF Auckland Branch.

Sileni Wines:

Prior to Christmas last year we ran a Sileni wines fundraiser for the first time and received \$960. in sales. We will be looking at running this again before the end of the year.

Blue Illusion:

Blue Illusion Boutique Albany held a fundraiser sale where 20% of sales were given to CF Auckland on 7th December 2013. Our branch received \$1034 from the commission on sales from this event.

Donations:

Donations received via branch memberships (\$1,550.) in memory (\$5,600), Auckland International Airport's Twelve Days of Christmas \$10,000.00 and from schools, organisations and the general public (\$5,313.) totalling \$22,463. We are extremely thankful to those who continue, year after year, to support us and promote our cause through their own channels.

GRANTS:

Our grant officers, Amanda Blakey and Sally Sprosen deserve a very special mention and our sincerest thanks for tirelessly searching for grant avenues, for their superb writing skills and for compiling all the paperwork needed to apply for grants on behalf of CF Auckland. These amazing ladies have gained a 71% success rate which is truly incredible in this challenging and saturated 'charity dollar' environment. Grants applied for and received, totalling \$149,116 within the past year.

BRANCH CHANGES:

1. New Office

We received news at the end of March this year that PFRC, whom we had rented office space from for over a decade were moving on to new premises to cater for their organisations growth. The hunt began for a new home for CF Auckland. The vision was to locate more centrally than Onehunga and in close proximity to Starship and Auckland Hospitals. This was by no means an easy task and by the time our 'move out' date arrived we had not been successful in securing a permanent new space. Temporary arrangements were made and we were thrilled to finally begin moving into our fabulous new office space in Grafton Road on 11th July. We thank our brilliant and very patient realtor Rohan Cooke for all he has done for us. We will be celebrating the mammoth effort taken to relocate at our 'Office Warming' on 18th August at 2/79 Grafton Road, Grafton. We welcome our members to this event. Commencing at 11.30am. (PWCF Infection Protocols apply).

2. New CE CFNZ

Auckland Branch warmly welcome Belinda Burnett as the new CE of CFNZ. It was wonderful to meet Belinda at the National Conference in May and we look forward to developing our working relationship with Belinda. Belinda will be present at our 'Office Warming'...another great reason to come along.

3. New Branch Co-ordinator

After almost 2.5 years as CF Auckland Branch Co-ordinator we say farewell to Wendy Edmondson. We are thankful to Wendy for the valuable contributions she has made to the life of our branch. It is a busy, important role and we know Wendy has appreciated the relationships made with our community. We wish her and her family success and happiness for the future. We will officially say goodbye to Wendy on the 18th August at our 'Office Warming' event.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION:

CF Adult Medical Team

In the past 12 months the Auckland branch co-chairs along with CFNZ Chair, Jane Drumm have had the opportunity to meet with the CF Adult Services team to discuss 'big picture' clinic issues for our adults with CF. We have had two meetings where we have really dug down into the topics that are important to both pwcf attending clinics in Auckland and to the Team and branch. Outcomes and developments from these meetings are published in our Auckland branch newsletter and some very positive changes have been made. We are very thankful for our adult pwcf members who have contributed by providing feedback for this process.

Keeping in Touch

Keeping our community informed and abreast of important issues is of high importance to the branch committee. An increase in email bounce-backs has been noted during this past year and we will continue to encourage our members to inform us of any changes to email, physical address or phone numbers so we can keep you up-to-date on happenings/resources available and involve members in satisfaction/needs based surveys.

Volunteers

Our branch is an active one and we certainly can't achieve all we do each without the assistance of our precious volunteers who give of their time and resources throughout the year. A goal for the year ahead is to grow our volunteers base and welcome any 'leads' in this regard from our members. The branch has recently become members of Volunteering Auckland and hope this association will bring positive benefits to our community.

THANK-YOUS

Again, our sincere thanks to all Branch Members and Committee members for the time and energy given to our branch and commitment this year. In addition to this we would like to extend special thanks to

- Wendy Edmondson, our branch coordinator, for her work, positivity under pressure and heart-felt dedication to our branch members and their families;
- Allyson Harvey our branch treasurer who spends many hours working on branch figures, invoices, vouchers, bank statements etc., and keeps our books in excellent order;
- Our field workers Sally Carron (recently retired) and Melinda Coombes who passionately strive to meet the ongoing and changing needs of our CF community;
- Our specialist hospital teams, our doctors, nurse specialists, physiotherapists and dieticians for their dedication and unfailing professional care to those with CF and their families;
- Our wonderful and generous sponsors Boehringer Ingelheim, Humdinger Design, Subway, LJ Hooker Ponsonby and Choice Hotels;
- Kindercare Learning Centres for providing us with temporary office space, financial and transport support during our office relocation transition period.
- Peter Macrae who quietly tackles our difficult website tasks from his home in Taupo; and
- Our family and friends...where would we be without you!

CF Auckland looks ahead to the next 12 months with positivity and passion, especially in a new central location with better accessibility to our members, hospital teams and like-minded health-based charities. As a committee we continue to evolve and keep current in our endeavours in order to provide the best support and encouragement to our families. Auckland branch always welcomes ideas from our members and new committee members!

Anthea Wendelborn
Co-Chairperson

Jill Thorrat
Co-Chairperson