

# Canterbury District Health Board

## Canterbury District Health Board: Action Plan for Disability 2004 - 2007

### 1 Introduction

The New Zealand Disability Strategy: Making a World of Difference – Whakanui Oranga (the Strategy) was published in April 2001 by the Ministry of Health. Its aim is to eliminate barriers that New Zealanders with impairments face in their daily lives, wherever these barriers exist, and hence promote a more inclusive society.

The Strategy includes 15 Objectives which are underpinned by detailed Actions. The philosophy behind the Strategy is that people with disabilities are experts on their own experience and the achievements of people with disabilities should be recognised and honoured by society.

Canterbury District Health Board recognises the Strategy is a “whole of government strategy “ of which the CDHB forms only a part. Therefore the CDHB will work to achieve the Strategy’s objectives in areas it is able to influence. There are 4 roles in which the CDHB will be able to exert this influence: as Planner and Funder, Provider, Employer and Intersectorally conjointly with other agencies.

This Action Plan looks ahead over the next 3 years and concentrates on areas in which the most gain can be achieved, namely the Hospital and Specialist Service and peripheral areas.

### 2 Actions to be undertaken during 2004 - 2007

The Canterbury District Health Board will:

- 2.1 Finalise the monitoring programme questionnaire and survey the Hospital and Specialist Service (H&SS). This will aid in prioritising work in the H&SS to move towards achieving the Strategy objectives.
- 2.2 Survey consumers and consult on survey results. The survey will be based on determining what consumers of H&SS and other agencies’ services want, in order to improve their experience of these services.
- 2.3 Collaborate with the Canterbury District Health Board Māori Disability Service Development Project to ensure Māori needs are included at all levels.
- 2.4 Utilise the results of steps 2.2 and 2.3 above to set priorities and actions, particularly in regard to the environment for people with disabilities in the H&SS.
- 2.5 Regularly monitor adherence to the Elder Friendly Guidelines as detailed in the District Annual Plan 04/05.
- 2.6 Update the patient admission form to provide information on a patient’s disability, which will include type of disability, severity, particular needs and any other information the patient deems relevant.
- 2.7 Over time, update the Patient Management System to capture and display the information provided in 2.6 above.

- 2.8 Work co-operatively with the Ministry of Health and the Office of Disability Issues in the Ministry of Social Development towards a better understanding of the health and disability needs of the Canterbury population through a needs analysis, which includes information on people with disabilities in Canterbury. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development will lead this work.
- 2.9 Work towards creating a non-disabling society co-operatively with other insectoral agencies including (but not limited to) Disabled Persons Assembly, Community and Public Health, Hauora Matakauka, Christchurch City Council, Child, Youth and Family, Police and Ministry of Education.

### **3 Maintenance and ongoing work**

The Canterbury District Health Board will:

- 3.1 Continually work to improve the environment for people with disabilities in the H&SS by implementing initiatives as indicated by consumer need.
- 3.2 Ensure that premises are maintained to a suitable standard.
- 3.3 Continue to review the staff orientation programme annually, to ensure new staff are informed and kept up-to-date about their responsibilities regarding their role in the implementation of the NZ Disability Strategy.
- 3.4 Continue to adhere to the principles of being an equal opportunity employer.
- 3.5 Continue to monitor all external provider services it funds, to ensure they meet their contractual requirements, including any requirements relating to people with impairments.

### **4 Reporting**

The Canterbury District Health Board will continue to provide a report to the Disability Support Advisory Committee every 6 months regarding the progress on implementing the Action Plan for Disability 2004 - 2007, focusing on the actions outlined in Section 2 above and results that have been achieved, and reporting on maintenance and ongoing work as outlined in Section 3 above, where significant changes have occurred.