

## Second Community Forum

COSS' second community form was held on Tuesday 14 July at the PACT building in Filleul Street. The objective of this forum was to look at ways the Community and Social Service sector could work together to ensure service delivery is not compromised through the economic down turn we are currently experiencing. The forum was split into three main groups according to the organisations that attended.

- ↪ Group one looked at Community Development and Empowerment;
- ↪ Group two at Young People and People at Risk
- ↪ Group three at Employment and Social Innovation.

There were two main questions posed to the groups

1. Wouldn't it be great if! – to get the groups thinking of what their ideal would be without the confines that can sometimes stifle the more creative thinking.
2. What would it take to make it happen? – to encourage discussion around making the goals and dreams possible.

The groups did some excellent thinking around these questions and came up with three excellent ideas to carry the concepts further.

The three main initiatives include:

- 1) Community Development & Empowerment
  - A list of resources, equipment and skills that organisations are able to and will share with other organisations. This list can then be circulated as well as used to see if there is potential for creating a buying syndicate around certain things such as Computer Equipment, Electricity, Telephone, Stationery, Office Equipment, etc. If you are interested in contributing to this list, please contact Sue Russell on 471 6177 or email [sue@dcoss.org.nz](mailto:sue@dcoss.org.nz)
- 2) Young People and People at Risk
  - To have a more open meeting of those involved with young people from schools, alternative education, police, social service agencies etc to more fully discuss the concept that 'It's about **Relationships** – we need to show **care to and for youth**, rather than act / think about them as if they need a cure (deficit/"broken" model)'. And what opportunities there are for this in partnership / collaboration. This meeting will be held on 13 August. If you are interested in attending this meeting or you would like to help facilitate it please contact Sue Russell on 471 6177 or email [sue@dcoss.org.nz](mailto:sue@dcoss.org.nz)
- 3) Employment and Social Innovation
  - This group have started up a "Contiki Tour" around organisations that employ clients in a social business. This is to inform like organisations of what each other are doing and stimulate ideas of collaboration and partnership. If you wish to be a part of this group please contact Derek King on 455 5119 or email [derek@cargillenterprises.co.nz](mailto:derek@cargillenterprises.co.nz)

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

<i>Wouldn't it be great if</i>	<i>What would it take to make it happen?</i>
1. If in 3 years the groups could become more confident and stronger in their ability	1. Skills & Training terminology) induction, introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Retention and recognition</li> <li>▪ Capacity building</li> <li>▪ Governance/management/</li> <li>▪ Due diligence</li> <li>▪ Transparency</li> </ul>
2. Community bartering/banks – collectives at local level	2-5) Working together for fundraising and larger organisations helping the smaller ones through their buying power. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Loaning of equipment / resources</li> <li>▪ Exchanging of equipment – and or physical (time banking)</li> </ul> What would it take – list of resources and skills
3. Economic power – then regional and nationals	
4. Team resources – pooling	
5. Physical Resources – Sharing	
6. We had a better collaboration between orgs and agencies – at all levels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Central</li> <li>b. Regional</li> <li>c. Local</li> </ul>	
7. We could always have enough volunteers and drivers	6) Christchurch accord model interagency collaboration Confidentiality – issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How do we deal with this</li> <li>▪ Larger organisations – government MoU's</li> </ul> 7) Volunteers ( the more unemployed the risk of less volunteers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Marketing</li> <li>▪ Upskilling</li> <li>▪ Training</li> <li>▪ Support, mohvahon, empowerment</li> <li>▪ Supervision – available at all times</li> </ul>

## YOUNG PEOPLE – PEOPLE AT RISK

<i>Wouldn't it be great if (2-5years)</i>	<i>What would it take to make it happen?</i>
1. Every youth could believe there is meaningful work to look forward to, something “bigger” than themselves.	1. Social innovation in employment encouraged – financial reward for effort/work done Financial entrepreneurship skills taught in schools before leaving PLUS an ethos of community responsibility / ethics of social responsibility by employers.
2. Training / courses available in a variety of settings (not only school)	2. WIO / Malcam / Training providers working in partnership with “schools” from year 11 up – maybe using something like a “campus” model.
3. Kids to grow up in homes where basic needs (shelter, food, warmth, love) are not in daily deficit.	3. Parenting education was accessible and meaningful Affordable, warm homes Basic living standards Some form of financial accountability for spending – especially if it's money given for “family/children”. Intergenerational family support (Community support <b>and</b> accountability <b>and</b> empowerment)
4. Return to basic values of responsibility, co-operation and facing challenges positively. There was a challenge to the mentality of “entitlement”.	4. Education, education, education Community support, community support PARTNERSHIP Strengths – based approach
5. Parents were parents, and good at it	5. See three
6. Youth were empowered to make the changes for themselves	6. See all of the above
7. Children were valued, nurtured and respected	7. Parental and community education
8. Basic human needs of: b. Belonging c. Mastery d. Independence e. Generosity Were met positively	8. All of the above!

It's about *Relationships* – we need to show *care to and for youth*, rather than act / think about them as if they need a cure (deficit/“broken” model)

## EMPLOYMENT / SOCIAL INNOVATION

<i>Wouldn't it be great if (2-5years)</i>	<i>What would it take to make it happen?</i>
What does each organisation need re employment and work opportunities?	What skills sets are involved with our organizations? How do we share that information with others?
1. Combined work opportunities. It doesn't matter who we represent	1. Contiki Tours – start week 21 <sup>st</sup> July Organisations that employ clients in social businesses to visit each other and learn about what each organisation does. Explore the opportunities for partnership and collaboration amongst these groups.
2. Gain a group of Dunedin Employers who are willing to give our staff or organisations a go.	2. Volunteers / Migrant skills – how can they be used effectively to assist organisations as well as provide training and work experience opportunities.
3. Government = local central = work for our sector first. Also the university / polytechnic	3. Who are the Key Contacts