

March 2024



Kia ora koutou,

We are excited to have launched this week, a new survey for the people we support and you – their families and whānau. The information we receive will be collated, and we will let you know what the trends from the feedback were and the changes we will be looking to make as a result.

We have also been busy looking at the big shifts we need to make as an organisation to deliver better services for the people we support – your whānau/family. These shifts have been put into projects that our Senior Leadership Team are driving. Many of this team are new to MASH, and so included in this newsletter are the profiles of our new National Managers that are part of our Senior Leadership Team.

Ngā mihi nui,

Tania Lennon

Executive Director - Programmes

MEDI-MAP AT MASH

In 2023, MASH started to introduce Medi-Map – a paperless shared care medication management platform which supports better health outcomes for all people.

Medi-Map is now being used by MASH in Hawkes Bay, Kapiti, and Levin. We are currently training staff and rolling this out in Palmerston North and will then complete the greater Wellington region.



YES / NO CARDS

These photos show Wendy and Carolyn talking about some of the things Wendy enjoys doing. Carolyn used cards of activities and Wendy placed them in 👍 or 👎 piles based on how she felt about each card. They had heaps of fun talking about the things Wendy loves to do, and the things that she didn't like.

They quickly found that they had very similar ideas and enjoyed talking about those things. Sometimes using some tools like pictures and yes / no cards make these conversations easier. They give time to really think about our choices and consider our answers. This activity has been promoted to our staff as an easy-to-use way to support decision making.



AN AMAZING RACE

In February, a game based on the TV the Amazing Race, was played at Ribbonwood. Participants had four challenges to complete.

1. First was a game of Simon Says. Whenever the phrase 'Simon say's..' was used, everyone must complete the action given. If the action is given with saying 'Simon say's first, then everyone must ignore the action. Once this was completed, they were given the clue which led them to an area on site.
2. Once they arrived, they had to solve a riddle and were awarded the next clue.
3. Next was an eating competition where the first team to finish their mini cakes got a head start on the next clue.
4. For the last challenge, everyone sat around the courtyard at Ribbonwood and participated in a quiz designed to celebrate one another (e.g., we asked where people work, what their favourite hobbies are etc.,) and everyone took turns sharing what they knew about one another.

Once this was finished, a prizegiving was held with prizes to choose from like stress balls and other items that might help with self-regulation. Everyone absolutely loved the day. The team at Ribbonwood have laminated the clue cards so that the game can be played again.



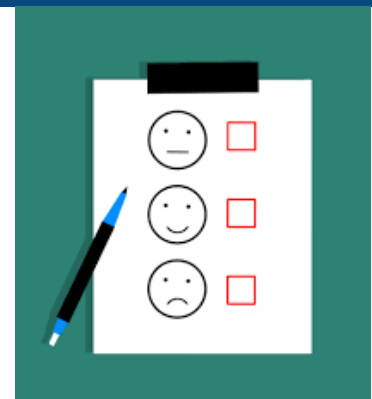
WHĀNAU / FAMILY SURVEY

MASH would like to know about how MASH supports your whānau/family member to have a great life.

We are asking families and whānau of people who use services to do the survey. We are also asking all people who use MASH services to do the survey too.

The survey will be open until end of day Sunday 7 April. We have emailed the survey out so please let us know if you haven't received it as we will need to update our contact email for you.

Once the survey has closed, we will be reviewing the feedback and will come back to you with the findings.



WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

World Down Syndrome Day (WDS), 21 March, is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.

This year, there will be a conference you can watch live where self-advocates and supporters will speak up for Health Equity at the United Nations in New York. <https://events.ds-int.org/13thWorldDownSyndromeDayConference/>



NEW NATIONAL MANAGERS



Isaac Davis | National Manager Disability Residential

Nāku te rourou nāu te rourou ka ora ai te iwi

I owe a lot to the NZDF for the many transferable skills such as training and development, communication and information systems management and leadership experience I have collected over the past 40 years and what better organisation to put them to use with than MASH!

My success in the military would not have been so without the support of my wife Lisa who raised our two sons Paul and Anaru, both who I am immensely proud of.

I am a good listener, value integrity and enjoy working in positive environments.



Janet Ellery | Innovation and Improvement Manager

I was born in Palmerston North and spent a good part of my life in different parts of the world, either as a member of the wider Defence whānau or on an OE of some sort. Whānau called me back to the Manawatu-Whanganui region, where I have been based for some time now. A business management background has brought opportunities to work in a wide variety of sectors including community development, local government, libraries, arts and culture, agriculture, insurance, and biosecurity.

I am a naturally curious person, love to learn, and never suffer from boredom. I spend way too much time fussing over pets, and get out in the fresh air and amongst nature when I can. A happy place for me is knee deep in my vege garden!



Jason Raman | National Manager Disability Community

My career has been in operations and service development where I spent 10 years working with Immigration New Zealand. Prior to coming to MASH, I was the Service Manager for Enable NZ overseeing and managing the housing modification portfolio for ACC and Whaikaha. I also acted in the National Manager Warehouse and Logistics position while at Enable NZ.

I was born and grew up in Kuala Lumpur. I moved to Palmerston North in 2000 and never left. I am passionate about disability as one of my daughters has a disability, which is strong motivation for the work that I do in ensuring disabled people have great lives.

My focus is on continuous improvement and a future for MASH which supports innovation, growth and sustainability. I am also very passionate about embedding the Enabling Good Lives principles into the services we provide for the people we support.



Adam Bouman | National Manager Mental Health Community and Addiction Recovery

I join MASH from Auckland where I was a Service Manager – Mental Health Respite for Kāhui Tū Kaha. I hold a Masters in Social Work, and Health Leadership, and Postgraduate Certificates in Mental Health and Addictions, and Business.



Linda Dubbeldam | National Manager Multi-Disciplinary

I am a Registered Nurse, and hold a Masters in management, Health Services and post graduate diploma in Health Service Management and in Primary Healthcare, Nursing. I join MASH from Bupa where I was the National Director of Operations based in Taupo, and have recently relocated to Palmerston North. I have also been the Clinical Director for THINK HAUORA and for other likeminded organisations.

ROUND THE BAYS WELLINGTON

Some of the people we support in Porirua and Wellington completed the Round the Bays walk in February. It was a great day with everyone really enjoying themselves. Pictured below, are some of the participants posing before the race, and then after – proudly showing off their medals.



LIVING THEIR BEST LIFE – PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS OF PEOPLE WE SUPPORT

