

Annual Report

Year ended
March 2017

*The guiding principle of CPAG is the right
of every child to security, food, shelter,
education and healthcare*

Child Poverty Action Group Incorporated

Charities Registration Number: CC25387

www.cpag.org.nz

**CHiLD
POVERTY
ACTION
GROUP**



Our Mission

CPAG strives to achieve the elimination of child poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand. Government policy is the fundamental means by which this can be attained. We work to provide evidence about the causes and effects of poverty on children and their families, and inform the public, policy makers, media and politicians of policy choices to reduce child poverty. Our activities and decisions honour Te Tiriti O Waitangi, and other cultural perspectives.

What we do

- Provide a strong, independent voice for New Zealand Children.
- Harness expertise
- Conduct original research
- Provide a spotlight on child poverty

Our team

Management Committee 2016-2017

Elected: Innes Asher, Helen Bull, Gerry Cotterell, Alan Johnson, Therese Luxton, Mike O'Brien, Nikki Turner, Kimberly Cook, George Makapatama, Frank Hogan, Susan St John.

Co-opted: Jennifer Braithwaite, Sherry Carne (Whangarei) Chloe Humphrey, Jessica Suri, Janfrie Wakim

Staff:

Celia Hayes - Executive Officer

Jeni Cartwright - Communications Advisor

Claire Dale - Researcher.

Yun So - Researcher.

All supported by volunteer leaders in regional networks

Co-Convenors' Message

*E ngā iwi, e ngā reo, e ngā karangatanga maha ngā hau e whā,
tēnei te mihi atu ki a koutou katoa.*

All peoples, all voices, all the alliances from the four winds, greetings to you all.

Reflecting on the past year of Child Poverty Action Group activity, a recurring conclusion has emerged; however measured, over the past decade, government policies have failed to make an impact on levels of child poverty. Politicians cannot avoid the evidence - the Child Poverty Monitor 2016 has summarised it all.

Child poverty and hardship amongst the young has become 'normal' and in some circles even accepted as inevitable. What an indictment on a wealthy, well-educated so-called civilised nation! Bold policy choices and actions are needed urgently to create the circumstances in which all children in Aotearoa-NZ can flourish and thrive.

What has CPAG been up to?

Affordable housing has been a key concern of CPAG throughout the year. Over winter we took action and partnered with local community groups and individuals to organise **Park Up For Homes** events, in Mangere, Hamilton, Wellington, Henderson, Onehunga, Otara, Napier and Parnell. These developed greater public awareness of the severity of the housing crisis and the true extent to which many families and children are forced to live in cars, garages and other unsafe housing. The solutions offered by government have been totally inadequate, and by the end of 2016 it was estimated that a median-priced house in Auckland (\$845,000) would take 13.7 years of average wage or salary to purchase; rents have increased by 25% over the past five years. Between 300 and 500 people sleep rough in Auckland every night and nationally 40,000 people are severely housing-deprived. Housing ends homelessness and with stable accommodation, issues allied with child poverty, like respiratory disease and transience can be swiftly reduced.

Of course adequate income is also vital; CPAG launched our [Fix Working for Families \(#FWFF\) campaign](#) in April 2016. Released in parts it will run up until the election and is the result of 10 years of evidence-based research. While better wages are part of the solution, Working for Families (WFF) is not adequately meeting its fundamental purpose (to support families with the extra costs of raising children) for the families who need the most help. The system of tax credits should be a buffer to ALL families against the vagaries of the economy and job markets, and it should help alleviate all child poverty. At present a significant part of the child-related tax credits are denied to families who do not meet stringent, paid work criteria. The total value of WFF tax credits has been eroded over time by lack of indexation cuts to income thresholds and rising abatement rates stripping around a cumulative \$2billion from Working for Families since 2010.

CPAG hosted Post 2016 Budget Breakfast events in seven centres in Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Nelson-Tasman, Christchurch, Dunedin. Each event did a remarkable job, interpreting and

presenting a cogent analysis of 2016 Budget. It was hoped that incomes, particularly WFF tax credits, and housing would be addressed, instead only mere scraps were offered and CPAG named it a ["Band-aid Budget"](#).

The newly seconded Children's Commissioner, Andrew Becroft, Principal Youth Court Judge addressed supporters at the CPAG AGM in July 2016. He made clear his profound concern about the enduring depth of child poverty and its link with the young people encountered in the justice system.

"Investing in children" was the focus of the [CPAG Summit](#) in September co-hosted with the University of Auckland Retirement Policy and Research Centre (RPRC) and live-streamed for two hours. The National government's much vaunted **social investment approach** was scrutinised and found wanting particularly as it excludes poverty as a principal indicator of higher risk for children. While investing in the most vulnerable children sounds appropriate and fitting, it was revealed as an actuarial-driven model using data based on certain 'risk factors'. These are used to calculate the future costs of certain children and their families and to devise targeted early interventions.

Significant publications were launched during the year including [**Kathryn's Story: How the Government spent well over \\$100,000 and 15 years pursuing a chronically-ill beneficiary mother for a debt she should not have**](#) A powerful account of the detrimental and unjustified treatment of one woman by the justice and welfare systems. Her charges are based on the welfare system's outdated definition of "relationship" which remain unchanged and has ongoing ramifications for many sole parents. At an event organised by CPAG Wellington, its author, barrister Catriona McLennan joined with tax expert and Victoria University academic Dr Lisa Marriott and shared their insights and research findings on different treatments in the justice system between tax evasion and welfare fraud.

[**Laybying our future: The state of student hardship in New Zealand**](#) was written by Master's student Max Lin and reported on the financial challenges faced by tertiary students who strive to obtain higher qualifications. Tertiary students may also be parents of young children, so the report investigated a range of student groups who can be disadvantaged by current policies.

[**Barriers to support: Uptake of the child disability allowance**](#) followed on from the 2015 CPAG report [**It shouldn't be this hard: children, poverty and disability**](#) which highlighted that the Child Disability Allowance (CDA) is under-paid and difficult to access for some families in need.

Causes for celebration in 2016:

Low-risk 17-year-old offenders are now to be included in the youth justice system. CPAG was among the many organisations which endorsed JustSpeak's work on this and will continue to support their call to action that young people should be considered in the youth justice system up till the age of 21. CPAG commended the progressive move of the Hawke's Bay District Health Board to increase the age of free primary healthcare to include many children up until they turn 18. We hope that this will encourage other parts of the country to consider the importance of access to healthcare for teenagers and inspire the Government to change the 'zero fees' policy universally to include all children up until their 18th birthday - a CPAG recommendation.

Numerous friend/fund/awareness-raising events were held over the year and MC members responded to a growing numbers of requests for speakers to a range of community groups. Submissions to

Select Committees, regular blogs, Facebook posts and developing a presence in the significant realm of social media have also received attention and are detailed elsewhere. Sincere and grateful thanks to all who have contributed.

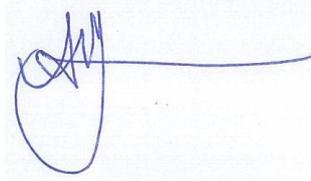
Locally and abroad there are high levels public concern about poverty and inequality; homelessness, unprecedented foodbank demand and other symptoms of dire need. The 'trickle down' myth of poverty alleviation has been exposed but the belief in reducing taxes and curbing public spending to reduce debt still mesmerise too many people and their elected representatives. Too many tamariki suffer and have their young lives blighted by the denial of support we, as responsible adult citizens, have allowed to be withdrawn over decades. It's time to reverse these trends; more and more effort is needed to influence the public, politicians and commentators and abolish child poverty in Aotearoa!

Ko te ahurei o te tamaiti arahia o tātou māhi

Let the uniqueness of the child guide our work"



Janfrie Wakim
CPAG Co-Convenor



Alan Johnson
CPAG Co-Convenor



Our Accomplishments

The year at a glance

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Research and Submissions | 14 |
| Articles & Blogs | 50 |
| CPAG Events | 23 |
| Press releases | 68 |
| Guest Presentations | 27 |
| Number of website visits total | 140,195 |
| Average unique views total | 69,315 |
| Facebook supporters | 11,317 |
| Twitter Followers | 2,920 |

Research and submissions

An important aspect of CPAG's work is to provide evidence about the causes and effects of child poverty and to develop policy recommendations to reduce the burden of child poverty on families and our society.

May 2016

[*A Band-Aid Budget: CPAG's analysis of the 2016 Government Budget*](#)

.CPAG concluded that Budget 2016 offered nothing of significance to children at a time when so many New Zealand families are in crisis.

According to CPAG's Budget Review: most of the new spending claimed by Government simply offset the effects of forecast inflation and expected population growth. Over the Budget forecast period (2016/17 to 2019/20) the cumulative increase in core Crown expenditure amounted to \$10.4 billion. Of this amount, \$5.9 billion would be required to offset the impacts of expected inflation and a further \$3.9 billion (approximately) to offset increased population, leaving around \$500 million actual new spending. Noteworthy was the additional spending on New Zealand Superannuation (NZ Super) set to exceed \$2.6 billion over the four-year period. ,NZ Super is expected to account for 83% or \$3.3 billion of the extra \$4.0 billion forecast to be spent on

income support programmes to June 2020.

The real loser in Budget 2016 was Working for Families (WFF). Projected spending on this programme would fall from just under \$3.1 billion (in Mar-16 \$s) in 2010 to \$2.3 billion by 2020 as the value of the programme was reduced due to the absence of inflation adjustments.

However the Budget delivered \$73 million over four years to continue free doctors' visits and prescriptions at all hours extended to children under 13 years to meet growing need and a commendable decision by Government. CPAG said that this provision should be extended to all young people under 18 years.

The additional \$41 million over four years in emergency housing funding was considered an insufficient response to the urgent need for more actual homes for families struggling to find adequate long-term accommodation.

\$43 million was allocated over four years to 150,000 students at risk of failing education – with the funding going to schools. Representing approximately \$2 per child per week, and CPAG said this would do little to alleviate the strain experienced by school budgets.

The National-led government's pre-occupation on reducing debt as a proportion of GDP ignored other deficits within New Zealand society and risked excluding hundreds of thousands of citizens from any social progress New Zealand may achieve as a nation.

June 2016

[Submission on the Social Security Legislation Rewrite Bill](#)

CPAG submitted that the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) should return to a single focus of providing assistance to New Zealanders suffering hardship and achievement of this goal should be the key performance indicator for the chief executive. There should be regular measurement of MSD's performance in relation to this goal. CPAG found it remarkable that the bill did not refer to poverty or describe the reduction of poverty as a key aim of social security. The purposes and principles clauses of the bill should be rewritten to reflect the 1938 act's goal of providing adequate help to those in need.

[Submission on the Healthy Homes Guarantee Bill \(No. 2\)](#)

CPAG commended this proposed legislation setting minimum standards of heating and insulation for residential premises, and requiring those standards to apply to all tenancy agreements made within a year of the Act coming into force. CPAG endorsed the Bill's amendment to current legislation - increasing financial penalties for landlords who fail to meet obligations in respect of cleanliness, maintenance, building, health and safety requirements, or standards of heating and insulation. CPAG also submitted that fair rental regulations be introduced, including rent controls.

Background paper: [*OZ JUST DOES IT BETTER: A comparison between Australian and New Zealand family tax credits*](#)

Prepared for CPAG by Dr Ben Spies-Butcher and Dr Adam Stebbing of Macquarie University, the paper recorded the differences between New Zealand's and Australia's family tax credit (tax benefit) systems. Australia's system is more generous, less complex and more efficient.

July 2016

[Submission on the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families \(Advocacy, Workforce, and Age Settings\) Amendment Bill](#)

CPAG endorsed the revision of the definition of young persons, therefore extending the provisions of statutory care and protection system to young persons aged up to 17 years. CPAG urged the Select Committee to recognise the causative link between deprivation (poverty) and child risk and recommended that Government take a preventative approach by ensuring all families with children receive incomes adequate to meet basic needs and measures are instituted to protect children in state care from abuse.

Report - [*Kathryn's Story: How the Government spent well over \\$100,000 and 15 years pursuing a chronically-ill beneficiary mother for a debt she should not have*](#)

Kathryn's Story, a report written for CPAG by barrister and journalist Catriona MacLennan, described how an innocent mother, still grieving her the killing of her young son at the hands of her ex-partner, was imprisoned for relationship 'fraud', and how the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) subsequently hounded her for debt repayment.

[*Measuring Poverty: CPAG brief summary and overview*](#) - Associate Professor Mike O'Brien

This document summarised the two key approaches poverty measurement, an income measure and a living standards measure and their relationship to one another

August 2016

Report - [*Laybying our future: The state of student hardship in New Zealand*](#)

While CPAG's focus is largely children under 18 living below the poverty line, childhood poverty can have a negative effect on those who strive to obtain higher qualifications. The case of student hardship in New Zealand has long fallen under the political and media radar, and has been swallowed up in the discourse on student loan debt. In August 2016 CPAG published a report on this matter written by Master's student Max Lin, [*Laybying our future: The state of student hardship in New Zealand*](#).

September 2016

CPAG [Summit *Investing in children* proceedings](#)

CPAG held a Summit “Investing in Children” with the Retirement Policy and Research Centre (RPRC).. Speakers on the topical **social investment approach** to children included: Shamubeel Eaqub, Prue Kapua, Efeso Collins, Gerry Cotterell, Susan Morton, Peter Sykes and Fiu Anae Uesile Wesley Tala’imanu, Darrin Hodgetts, Otilie Stolte, Bill Rosenberg, Mike O’Brien and Susan St John.

December 2016

[*Barriers to support: Uptake of the child disability allowance in Otago*](#)

Barriers to support, co-authored by CPAG’s co-convenor Alan Johnson and researcher Jessica Suri of Otago Health followed on from the 2015 CPAG report, [*It shouldn’t be this hard: children, poverty and disability*](#). Rates of child disability and levels of access to the CDA in Otago were examined, with the additional aim of assisting Otago families with disabled children, not receiving their CDA entitlements to gain these payments. The survey was developed with the Disability Connect and Otago Health Charitable Trust.

Backgrounder: [*Early childhood education and barriers to inclusivity: Working toward a fairer system*](#)

A background paper written for CPAG by Dr Bernadette Macartney, highlighted the need to ensure the rights and access of every child to a quality, inclusive early childhood care and education (ECCE), and the current obstacles to this path. Macartney described the troubled relationship between targeted funding for attendance and exclusion, which can negatively impact upon the education needs of children with disabilities.

January 2017

[Submission on the Budget Policy Statement](#)

In a submission to the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Budget Policy Statement 2017, CPAG said that reducing the rate and depth of child poverty must be the first priority in the 2017 budget. CPAG recommended making housing of low-income or ‘at risk’ families a priority, and said that the Budget must measurably improve incomes for low-income families whether supported by benefits or low wages. CPAG said WFF should be seen as the best and fairest way to offset taxes paid for the lowest income families with children as New Zealand has a very flat income tax system and a high GST.



February 2017

Backgrounder: [*Children and the Living Wage*](#)

[*Children and the Living Wage*](#), written by Associate Professor Susan St John and CPAG researcher Yun So described the links between the living wage and income support for families via Working for Families, and the reasons higher wage rates alone cannot compensate for the additional needs of families. The paper emphasised that Working for Families is a recognition of the extra costs of raising children and that it is important to improve and extend this vital tax credit scheme in order to protect families of various composition.

March 2017

[*Submission on the Oranga Tamariki Bill*](#)

This Bill was the second of two pieces of legislation on this issue; the first was passed into law in early December. In this latest submission CPAG said that the well-being and best interests of the child must be the paramount consideration and considered that the removal of the whānau first clause to be in direct opposition to the child's well-being. CPAG said that better ways to ensure more positive outcomes for Māori children would be to restore whānau first clause and acknowledge the role poverty plays in poor outcomes for children, and take steps to address that.

Campaigns & Partnerships

Fix Working for Families (#FWFF) campaign

A six-part campaign launched in April 2016 was met with a wide and positive media response with workshops being held in Auckland and Dunedin to explain the complexities of the system.

- Part One concentrated on very-low income families, arguing that Working for Families (WFF) discriminates against around 230,000 of New Zealand's poorest children in workless households as their poverty rates are consistently several times higher than for children in working households. A [Part One Summary document](#) was published in August 2016.
- Part Two focused on the working poor since the implementation of Working for Families and the impact of indexation rules, income threshold levels and abatement rates that have been imposed on WFF payments and which have reduced the value of the tax credits over time for the very groups who need them. A document [outlining part two of the campaign](#) was published on CPAG's website in February 2017.



CPAG continues to promote policy reform for WFF to remove the discrimination inherent in the In-Work Tax Credit and to raise the payments annually according to cost and wages inflation, as is done for New Zealand Superannuation.

ActionStation petition

On May 12 ActionStation launched a major online petition in collaboration with Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG), UNICEF New Zealand, NZ Council of Christian Social Services, and Tick for Kids partners, prior to 2016 Budget seeking to break the cycle of poverty by putting the needs of children before corporate interests.

Park Up For Homes campaign

[Park Up For Homes \(#ParkUpForHomes, #PUFH\)](#) was an initiative started by a small group of friends based in Mangere, Auckland, who decided to rally together in a show of solidarity with those who, through circumstances beyond their control, were facing winter living in a car or garage. Through the group's connection with Alan Johnson, CPAG readily support the cause.

The #Parkup Mangere action had over 1000 people attend and its reception created a wave nationwide among New Zealanders concerned about the situation for many families.

The #ParkUpForHomes movement saw over 2000 people rally together over nine locations across New Zealand, standing for the rights of all Kiwis to have a safe, warm home to live in. The final event was held in Palmerston North on September 2.

Instead of squeezing dividends out of Housing New Zealand, CPAG believes the Government should be providing Housing New Zealand with the financial capability to build more state houses on land it already owns. Social housing is simply not geared to accommodate the numbers who need it.

JustSpeak campaign to raise the Youth Justice

CPAG was among the many organisations which signed JustSpeak's open letter to John Key and Cabinet Ministers in September 2016, and committed to continue to support the organisation's call to action, that young people should be considered in the youth justice system up till the age of 21.

Presenting the Findings

CPAG is committed to communicating its research and analysis to policy makers, media, politicians and the wider public. In the 2015-16 year, CPAG gave over 33 presentations at a range of forums across the country, to audiences which included school children, students, church congregations and early childhood teachers, health workers and Rotarians.

Highlights Include:

2016 June

MSD Evidence Seminar Wellington Ministry of Social Development | Susan St John and Michael Timmins on Welfare provisions for the 21st century

Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee Annual Conference | Innes Asher on Perinatal and maternal mortality and morbidity: social and economic factors

July

Stop the Sales Coalition/Stop the sales of State Houses in Tauranga | Alan Johnson

August

Treasury Guest lecture: Improving Policies for Families and Children | Wellington | Susan St John

Cross-party Homelessness Enquiry at Te Puea Marae | Innes Asher

October

Salvation Army Social Justice conference | Susan St John on Child poverty panel + Innes Asher on Housing, Homelessness + Health panel

November

Families Adrift. The Social and economic climate of the 21st century - ANZTAA conference | Susan St John

Children's Rights: International and National Perspectives Symposium | Emily Keddell on "To punish parents or protect children? The neoliberal ambivalence of child poverty policies in Aotearoa New Zealand"

2017 January

AUT On our doorstep: A voice for homeless youth documentary premiere | Alan Johnson

February

Auckland Branch of the Commerce and Economics Teachers' Association | Susan St John

Events

CPAG connected with many supporters and allies at successful events across the country during the year, including report launches, forums and fundraisers.

Post budget breakfasts and analysis

Child Poverty Action Group hosted Post Budget Breakfast events in six centres: Whangarei, Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin and Hamilton, with a further event in Nelson Tasman marking the first for the region, and the formation of a new network.



[Laybying our future: The State of Student Hardship in New Zealand](#) - Report Launch (August 2016)

On 3 August, CPAG held a successful report launch for *Laybying our future: The state of student hardship in New Zealand* at the University of Auckland Business School. Speakers at the event included report author Max Lim, CPAG's Julie Timmins and a panel of guest speakers including Labour MP Jenny Salsea, Green MP Gareth Hughes, former student Sian Roberston and Linsey Higgins, NZUSA president.

[Kathryn's Story](#) - Report Launch (July 2016)

On 1 July CPAG launched *Kathryn's Story: How the Government spent well over \$100,000 and 15 years pursuing a chronically-ill beneficiary mother for a debt she should not have* at the Auckland Women's Centre in Grey Lynn.

Speakers included CPAG economics spokesperson Associate Professor Susan St John, Auckland Women's Centre Manager Leonie Morris and author of *Kathryn's Story*, Catriona MacLennan.

CPAG Annual General Meeting (July 2016)

CPAG held its 18th AGM on Wednesday 27 July 2016. The AGM was followed by a very special guest speaker, Children's Commissioner Andrew Becroft was seconded to the position for two years from his position as Principal Youth Court Judge.

[CPAG Summit 2016: Investing in Children](#) (September 2016)

On 2 September 2016 CPAG co-hosted the Summit *Investing in children* with the Retirement Policy and Research Centre (RPRC), a day-long event featuring more than a dozen special guest speakers. For more than two decades, the primary focus of governments in New Zealand has been workfare, not welfare. Welfare itself has become ever more targeted, especially under the social investment approach. The aim of the Summit was to present alternative social investment solutions that have the true best interests of children at heart..

Child poverty and social justice: Not all are equal in New Zealand seminar, Wellington (September 2016)

The Wellington CPAG group held a seminar on Child Poverty and Social Justice on 21 September. The evening included a presentation about *Kathryn's Story* by author and barrister Catriona MacLennan, and a presentation on the differences in treatment between tax evasion and welfare fraud in the justices system by Associate Professor Lisa Marriott who is the programme director at Victoria University's School of Accounting and Commercial Law.



The year that has been where to from here? (November 2016)

The Wellington CPAG group held a joint end-of year event with Every Child Counts on 30 November at the Southern Cross Bar and restaurant, featuring speakers from CPAG, Every Child Counts, ACYA and a CPAG young people's network, and was supported by local musician Nigel Parry.

Auckland Report launch of [*Barriers to support: Uptake of the child disability allowance in Otara*](#) (November 2016)

Barriers to Support was launched on Monday November 21 at the Otara Music Arts Centre (OMAC) and was received positively by a diverse audience of local people, public health providers, politicians, social workers, and media.

Park up for homes events (supported by CPAG in 9 regions)

Growing support

The past year has seen strong growth in public concern for child poverty issues and correspondingly, in support for CPAG. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of Joe Carson who has been pivotal in supporting CPAG over the past four years.

The CPAG website continues to be an invaluable resource for our supporters and the wider public, averaging over 7,500 visitors each month.

CPAG continued to provide a strong voice for children on **social media** during 2016/17, with over 11,317 supporters on Facebook and 2920 Twitter followers at the end of March 2017. Our posts are read and shared by thousands of people, raising awareness of child poverty issues and providing a forum for discussion and sharing.

Nga Tangata Microfinance Trust - Report summary (to March 2017)

Nga Tangata Microfinance (NTM) advocates for and provides safe fair and affordable no interest loans to low income communities, to improve well-being and to provide relief from high interest debt. In partnership with local budgeting services it achieves its objectives of financial education and capability. As well as availability throughout Auckland, NTM's loans reached Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, Manawatu, Taranaki, Levin and Dunedin, with 32 partnering Budgeting Services and others in dialogue. CPAG is the founding member of Nga Tangata Microfinance Trust and has continued its advice and support with our media communications through its established channels.

In the past year (to Feb 17) NTM received 174 loan applications, a 225% increase on the previous year. 115 loans were approved, a 91% increase on the previous year; with total loans valued at \$235,118, a 90% increase over 2016.

Kiwibank's ongoing support included an increase in capital of \$137,000, with closer partnership opportunities being considered. An application to the J R McKenzie Trust for further operational funding was granted in July 2016.

Significant upheaval to the budgeting sector occurred under MSD's new contracting regime focusing on the 'building of financial capability' of clients, and resulted in the loss of funding for a large number of services, mainly in the South Island. The Federation of Family Budgeting Services (one of NTM's founding organisations) will be replaced by a new entity aligned with the changes.

The last year has seen increased collaboration between the Commerce Commission and consumer organisations, triggering much-welcomed investigations and prosecutions of fringe lenders, in particular mobile traders and pay-day lenders.

Fundraisers

Fundraiser Concert Auckland (organiser - Brigitte Sistig)

Salsa with the Southern Stars (organised by Rachel Wattie from Southern Cross Health Society)

Kidkind T-shirts summer range by Rachael Macklin

Ports of Auckland Round the Bays – CPAG and supporters

Organisation and Management

CPAG continues operating on a very modest budget but with abundant volunteer energy and expertise. The Management Committee consists of 11 elected members, supported by co-opted members who represent regional networks or have specific knowledge or life experience. In the past year we are deeply grateful to co-opted members who have joined the Auckland team Jennifer Braithwaite, Dr Chloe Humphrey, Jessica Suri and Prof Toni Ashton (Research Committee). CPAG's work is enhanced by committed people in our regional networks in Whangarei Wellington, Nelson Christchurch and Dunedin who sustain and develop their local groups through a range of events and activities. Dr Hirini Kaa challenged CPAG Management Committee and its commitment to principles which are consistent with Te Ao Māori. He has provided significant ongoing support to MC as it develops incorporation of values and actions that are responsive to Maori aspirations and needs. We are deeply grateful to everyone who has generously devoted their time and energy to CPAG over the past year.

Executive Officer: Celia Hayes continues in the role which is demanding, diverse and with an ever increasing workload. She copes with a vast range of tasks with good humour and quiet proficiency. The Management Committee is beholden to Celia for her calm competence in this challenging but pivotal

role.

Communications Advisor: Jeni Cartwright was appointed in February 2016 in a part-time position and adapted swiftly to its many and varied facets. She has been very innovative and effective and established many new connections and producing a record media presence and number of media releases over the past year.

Researchers: We appreciate deeply the work of Dr Claire Dale and Yun So who assisted with a number of research projects and organisational support for the summit and its proceedings.

We are grateful for the long-standing cooperative relationship established with the Auckland City Mission and have enjoyed the close connection with the new City Missioner Chris Farrelly who has facilitated CPAG events at the ACM and has enabled us to continue occupy office space.

As ever, CPAG is indebted to J R McKenzie Trust for its substantial financial support and Terry Levenberg and Apropos for providing their expertise, sustaining our impressive website and branding without charge. CPAG is extremely thankful to all the members and donors who have boosted numbers and funds this past year. Special mention must be made of Joe Carson who been particularly generous over several years.

To list the remarkable people who volunteer their precious time to CPAG nationwide is impossible. We are delighted to have had the support of an enthusiastic and engaged base of fund-raisers, volunteers and increased numbers of regular donors over the past year.

As Convenors we offer personal thanks to the elected Management Committee, co-opted members and regional networkers for contributing their impressive collective talent and expertise, and their sustained commitment to the goals of CPAG and to children. The Management Committee offers its sincere and profound thanks to every person, in all parts of Aotearoa-New Zealand, who has contributed to, supported and encouraged the work of CPAG in 2016-2017.

