

September 22 2008

Social Report 2008 - CPAG comment

The Ministry of Social Development has released its 2008 Social Report. CPAG's Donna Wynd notes where progress has been made and outlines remaining gaps.
<http://www.cpag.org.nz/resources/articles/res1222064263.pdf>

Children's experiences of poverty and exclusion

Dr Tess Ridge from the University of Bath, UK, spoke on this topic at the CPAG NZ Annual General Meeting, July 2008. Notes taken from her speech are now available here.
<http://www.cpag.org.nz/resources/speeches/res1220428288.pdf>

Do children's rights matter? CPAG legal case presentation

Dr Susan St John will present a clear picture of CPAG's work against poverty on behalf of children in New Zealand, through our Human Rights Tribunal case and recent publication "Left Behind", at Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa's AGM in Auckland on Fri 26 September.
<http://www.cpag.org.nz/news/events/nr1221716858.pdf>

New Caritas report: Unravelling of the Welfare Safety Net

Some commentators have said it is important that people not become "entangled" in the welfare safety net. According to Caritas, in 2008 it is much more likely that New Zealanders will find in their time of need that the "safety net" simply no longer bears their weight. In this report, Caritas asked the Beneficiary Advocacy Federation of New Zealand to outline ongoing benefit changes to the wider community sector.

Report:<http://www.caritas.org.nz/dox/Domestic%20Advocacy/Unravelling%20of%20the%20Welfare%20Safety%20Net.pdf>

There is an accompanying press release at <http://www.caritas.org.nz/?sid=1117>

[Open letter to politicians on poverty](#)

Particularly on behalf of children living far below the unofficial poverty line, Christian social service organisations have urged political parties to outline actions they will take towards better utilising our nation's prosperity to reduce poverty.

<http://www.cpag.org.nz/resources/articles/res1221714295.pdf>

Submissions

... have been invited on the government's draft report outlining how it is responding to its obligations as a signatory to the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCROC)**.

Submissions can be made by anyone and can relate to all or part of the Convention. They are due 17th October. Part 6 (Article 27) concerns children's right to an adequate standard of living and will be an important part of CPAG's submission.

The draft report is at <http://www.myd.govt.nz/Rights/uncrocinnewzealand.aspx>

The submission form is at <http://www.myd.govt.nz/Rights/uncroconsultation2008.aspx>

Left Behind: How social and income inequalities damage our children

CPAG's cornerstone report puts together many pieces of the poverty puzzle in one place, showing the way ahead for policies that protect children from poverty.

It has been written by a range of experts from fields ranging from economics to health, housing and education, among them editors Dr Susan St John and Donna Wynd.

The report calls for the elimination of child poverty by 2020, to be achieved by a dedicated programme of cross-sectoral work toward government poverty reduction targets. The UK, with a higher rate of child poverty, has already committed to that goal and made significant progress.

For more about the report and ordering go to <http://www.cpag.org.nz/resources/>. Copies can be ordered from admin@cpag.org.nz

To link in directly with the Whangarei child poverty action network, contact Ngaire ngaire@manaiapho.co.nz.

In Wellington contact Mary marytrevor.mowbray@paradise.net.nz

Let CPAG know about your local child poverty-related events: email Rachel admin@cpag.org.nz

Thanks for your help

CPAG needs ongoing financial support to sustain its research and advocacy programme and to raise awareness of poverty in NZ. Many thanks to those who support us in this important work. Please send donations to Box 56-150 Mt Eden, Auckland or bank directly into our Kiwibank account 38-9003-0066858-00.

CPAG thanks the JR McKenzie Trust and Hostel of the Holy Name Trust for ongoing support. CPAG does not accept funds from the proceeds of gambling.

You have been sent this email because your details appear on a Child Poverty Action Group mailing list of interested people. If you no longer wish to receive information from us, you need only reply to this address with "unsubscribe" in the subject line, and your details will be removed.

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End child poverty in NZ by 2020: A rich life for all children.