



Karanga Atawhai

A newsletter for Sisters of Mercy and partners in mission

No 6. February 2020

Sponsorship Committee reshaped as journey to our PJP moves to implementation phase

By DENNIS HORTON

Tēnā koutou katoa, talofa lava, mālō e lelei! Greetings in Mercy! With our first year as a bi-monthly publication now ended, *Karanga Atawhai* begins its second year with the resolve to be a monthly communication for all Sisters of Mercy and their partners in mission, on behalf of the Sponsorship Committee which is overseeing this project.

In keeping with its terms of reference, the Sponsorship Committee has been reshaped following the last Chapter of Ngā Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa held in August last year. The reshaping reflects the fact that the journey towards the setting up of a ministerial Public Juridic Person (PJP) is moving from the investigative phase to the transition stage. There is also an ongoing need to ensure that key people involved with the financial and legal aspects of the project are able to keep in touch closely with the Sponsorship Committee.

Sisters of Mercy on the Sponsorship Committee are Congregation Leader Sue France, and Councilors Raylene Dwyer, Judith Moroney, Tina Vaeatangitau and Mary Wood. Denise Fox rsm, who chairs the Legal Working Party, is also on the Sponsorship Committee, which is facilitated by Marg Endicott, a Sister of Mercy and consultant who has experience of establishing a PJP in Brisbane.

Lay people on the Sponsorship Committee include Virginia Noonan, chair of Tiaki Manatū Sisters of Mercy New Zealand Ministries Trust, Astrid Lambert, group administrator of Tiaki Manatū, Richard Kerr-Bell, the Trust's Kaihautū Wairua or mission administrator, and Doc Godfrey, general manager of McAuley Trust and chair of the PJP Finance Working Party.

The Sponsorship Committee is accountable to the Congregation of Nga Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa Sisters of Mercy New Zealand which will have the final say on all matters relating to the project.

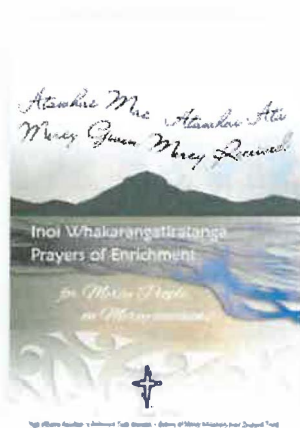
One of the three original working parties, the Mission Working Party, has completed the draft documents needed to move from the investigative phase to the implementation stage. Responsibility for this sphere has been assumed by the newly formed Formation for Mission Committee, comprising Katrina Fabish rsm, Richard Kerr-Bell and Lorraine McArthur. Their tasks for this year are highlighted in an article overleaf.

A new Mercy prayer resource

A second collection of over 80 prayers and reflections suitable for Mercy board and ministry meetings has been designed and edited by Cheryl Connelly rsm on behalf of Ngā Whaea Atawhai o Aotearoa Sisters of Mercy New Zealand.

Themes include Mercy key moments, caring for our common home and graces before meals. Intercultural prayers in Te Reo Māori, Tongan and Samoan are included.

Copies are available at \$10 each plus postage by contacting cherylconnellynz@gmail.com or phoning 0210380728.



Hoping to hear from you

Your responses to any items in this newsletter are welcome. Copies are currently distributed to all Sisters of Mercy, to members of Mercy's boards, to ministry CEOs and managers, to principals of Mercy colleges, to PJP working party members, to Catholic bishops and to persons in Mercy ministries with responsibility for mission. If you have any questions or comments, you are invited to send these directly to either Astrid Lambert (ALambert@somauck.org.nz) or to Richard Kerr-Bell (rkerrbell@somauck.org.nz) The next issue of *Karanga Atawhai* is expected to be published in March.

Ministry leaders meet to review mission formation plans

Around 14 personnel with responsibility for Mercy mission gathered in Auckland last month for a meeting hosted by the newly formed Formation for Mission Committee. The day was led by Katrina Fabish rsm and Richard Kerr-Bell. Apologies were received from the third member of the committee, Lorraine McArthur.

Participants included healthcare CEOs Peter Buckland from Mercy Healthcare, Paul Couper from Mercy Hospice Auckland and Richard Whitney from Mercy Hospital Dunedin. Leaders of Mercy community development ministries were Bill Takerei from Te Waipuna Puawai and Cecily Mantell from Te Ukaipo Mercy Initiatives for Rangatahi. Clare Vaughan rsm represented Mercy Villas in Wellington, and Beate Matthies attended from Mercy Spirituality Centre.

Key mission personnel included Alofa Lale, mission leader from Mercy Hospital Dunedin and Sheryl James rsm from Waiaatarua Mercy Parklands. Sanjay Theodore and Ashleigh Latimer attended from Te Waka Tiaki Mission Team. Karen Lowe, manager of Te Wāhanga Atawhai Mercy Centre in Wellington and Teresa Anderson rsm, Congregation Mission Formation, were also present.

Katrina Fabish opened the programme by explaining that the process of seeking to establish a ministerial PJP was moving from an investigative stage to a time of transition, especially in regard to mission. The process had been in place for two years, said Katrina, and while two of the original three working parties are still investigating issues relating to finance and legal/canonical matters, aspects relating to mission are about to enter a transition time, taking further the work done by the Mission Working Party.

The Congregation has called the Sponsorship Committee to work in consultation with Tiaki Manatū Board and the sisters to form a ministerial Public Juridic Person for its incorporated works. The new Formation for Mission Committee is tasked with resourcing mission, working collaboratively with all those engaged in mission to move from investigation to implementation.



The committee aims to create an intentional formation pathway which ensures that mission is foremost in the efforts to co-create a future for all our ministries, Katrina explained.

CEOs and managers of Mercy ministries have been asked to ensure that there is a mission contact person for each ministry, who will liaise on their behalf in providing a direct connection with the Formation for Mission Committee. The naming of a contact person needs to be completed during February-March, in preparation for the launch of a new mission resource, He Kakano Atawhai Seeds of Mercy, in April.

An overview of the more than 60-page resource was given by Richard Kerr-Bell who said that the new book does not replace mission resources already developed by many of our ministries but unifies our kaupapa Mercy (genealogy) by providing a base-line story for all to know and share.

It is expected that copies of this resource will be circulated to all facilities in the coming weeks. Information on this resource and on plans for its launch will be outlined in the next issue of *Karanga Atawhai* to be published next month.

Above: Participants and presenters at last month's Formation for Mission Day are (front, from left) Alofa Lale, Sheryl James rsm, Clare Vaughan rsm, Katrina Fabish rsm, Beate Matthies, Karen Lowe and Richard Kerr-Bell. (Back, from left) Cecily Mantell, Ashleigh Latimer, Dennis Horton, Teresa Anderson rsm, Richard Whitney, Paul Cooper, Peter Buckland and Bill Takerei. (Photo by Sanjay Theodore, Te Waka Tiaki)