

# Kidney Health

## NEW ZEALAND

Prevention • Support • Research

WINTER 2023



### IN THIS ISSUE

- Announcement on Staff Changes
- Unity Camp for Young Carers
- Share your kidney experience!
- World Transplant Games 2023
- In the Community
- Kidney News

**In our Winter 2023 Newsletter we cover the recent staff changes at Kidney Health NZ, the World Transplant Games 2023 – plus more.**

Firstly, we would like to share an important announcement regarding the departure of our interim General Manager, Traci Stanbury, and the appointment of our new Kidney Health NZ CEO and National Clinical Manager.

The Board at KHNZ would like to express their sincere gratitude and appreciation to Traci for her dedicated service and contribution over the last 12-months. Traci has played an instrumental role in maintaining stability and ensuring the smooth operation of KHNZ during this transition period.

We truly value Traci's expertise and the exceptional work she has done during her time in the role.

After an extensive search process, and careful consideration, the Board has selected Andrew Baker as our new Chief Executive Officer. Andrew brings a wealth of experience and a proven track

record of success in health, business, and leadership.

Beyond his professional achievements, Andrew's personal kidney journey has contributed to his understanding of kidney health. Andrew was diagnosed with Renal Cell Carcinoma five years ago. Now fully recovered, Andrew has gained invaluable insight into the critical importance of kidney health.

Reflecting on this experience, Andrew expressed his commitment to leveraging his business and leadership skills to make a positive difference in the health outcomes of New Zealanders.



Andrew Baker

Continued on page 2

We'd also like to welcome Merryn Jones to Kidney Health team into the role of National Clinical Manager. Merryn represented us at the Renal Society Australasia Conference 2023 and is well known to KHNZ, having worked at some of our roadshows and education sessions. She has 40 years of nursing experience, the past 8 as Clinical Nurse Specialist Transplant Coordinator at Te Whatu Ora Hawkes Bay and prior to that as a haemodialysis nurse.



Merryn Jones

She has great networks across NZ, is on the National Renal Transplant Service, has led a transplant hui,

and is a research investigator as part of the ASSET Study – a major research project between Australia and Aotearoa NZ examining access and equity in transplantation.

In addition to the ASSET Study, she is also a member of the indigenous guidelines writing group, who have created the CARI guidelines 'Guidelines for Māori with Chronic Kidney Disease', due to be released in September at the ANZSN conference. She is passionate about improving health outcomes for our renal population and creating options that allow for an optimised patient journey.

Please join us in welcoming our new staff members – and thanks to Traci Stanbury, the outgoing General Manager, for her unwavering commitment and significant contributions throughout the preceding years. 🍷

# Unity Camp for Young Carers

**Camp Unity is a programme for young people aged 7-24 who provide care to friends, family, whānau or aiga member with a disability, health condition (including mental health and addictions), illness, or injury who needs help with everyday living.**

Young Carers are invisible heroes out in the community who may support their loved ones in a variety of ways from hanging out, emotional support, advocacy, additional household chores, to being personal carers or helping with siblings. In Aotearoa, this is a pivotal role that Young Carers are proud of.

Camp Unity was founded by former Young Carers who understand the challenges of the additional responsibilities and have developed programmes to support them and give them sense of belonging with others who understand. Camp Unity is now accepting registrations for their regional camps for Young Carers, and their family.

Camp Unity is currently running in the North Island, keep an eye on their website for dates in the South Island. 🍷

**CAMP UNITY**  
*A place to be free, a place to be me...*

**Regional camps for Young Carers**  
*Young people aged 7-24 supporting a friend, family, whānau, aiga member with a disability, health condition, illness, or injury.*

<b>Bay of Plenty/ Waikato Regions</b> 22-24 Sep 2023	<b>Wellington Region</b> 1-3 Dec 2023	<b>Central Districts Region</b> 15-18 March 2024	<b>Hawkes Bay/ Gisborne Regions</b> 12-15 April 2024	<b>Northland/ Auckland Regions</b> 21-24 June 2024
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**For more information, please visit their website: [www.campunity.org.nz](http://www.campunity.org.nz)**

# we want to hear your experience

**Have you donated a kidney? Received a kidney? Or been on a dialysis? We want to hear your story! 'Transplant Stories from around the Motu' is a project aimed at raising awareness of live donation, kidney transplantation and the experience of being on dialysis.**

Launched during National Kidney month in 2023, we hope this library of experiences can help alleviate the fears of kidney failure and help to encourage more donations.

We're looking for people from all ages and all walks of life to contribute to this library, so if you'd like to share your experience with us – please get in touch.

## Transplant Stories Around The Motu

Congratulations on deciding to learn more about kidney transplant and living donation. Whether you are a patient, family member, friend, potential donor, or healthcare provider, we are here to help.

### DONOR STORIES

Learn from others who have shared their living kidney donor experience.

Living Donors (4)

SHARE YOUR DONOR EXPERIENCE

Filter Videos

FEMALE MALE NZ EUROPEAN



Joan



Zoltan



Barb



Eddie

## SUPPORT ON OFFER

0800 Kidney / 0800 543 639

Join us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn for news and updates on where we'll be



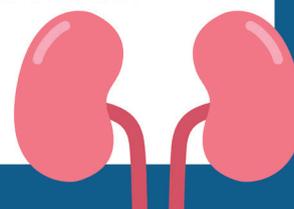
Kidney Health New Zealand



Kidney Health New Zealand



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# World Transplant Games 2023

**Kidney Health New Zealand want to congratulate all those who attended the World Transplant Games in Perth. It looked like an awesome trip, with numerous Team New Zealand members making it on to the podium.**

Congratulations to the following members of Team New Zealand for their achievements:

**Jane Donnelly:** competing in her second world transplant games, successfully defending her gold medals from the 2019 Newcastle Games in the cycling 10KM time trial, and the 30KM road race.

**Andy Bryant:** at his first transplant games, won a gold medal in pétanque, and took the bronze medal in the 5KM run.

**Laurence Smith:** competing in his fifth world transplant games, won a bronze medal in squash.

**Matt Field:** competed successfully at the track and field, winning a silver medal in the long jump.

**Natalie Brown:** at her first World Transplant Games won a gold medal in the solo golf.

**Dave Swarbrick and Natalie Brown:** teamed up for a bronze in the golf pairs.

Congratulations to all who attended the Games, and well-done to the organisers for such a smooth event. We are wishing you all the best for future events. 🍷



# in the community

**In the last couple of months, we've had the opportunity to visit Taupo, Hamilton, and Papakura – as well as attending Hakatere Marare at their Matariki Market and Nga Whare Waatea Marae.**

We love having the opportunity to visit these communities and we want to thank all those who attended and made these such successful events.

Kidney Health NZ was lucky to have Merryn Jones represent us at the Renal Society Australasia Conference 2023, presenting on Cultural Care in NZ, and on the transition from paediatric to adult services.

Kidney Health NZ believe that through learning and collaboration across multiple disciplines, and with a holistic approach, change can happen. We're working towards a brighter future to make every difference in the advancement of kidney care.

We want to recognise a couple of important dates on the calendar that have now passed – namely World Blood Donor Day and Aotearoa Immunisation Week. These dates are important to the kidney calendar because of the impact blood donors and regular immunisation can have on the health of people affected by kidney disease.

Lastly, we want to give a massive thanks to Organ Donation New Zealand for hosting a beautiful service of thanksgiving on May 28th – in recognition of those who have given the gift of life to others. 🙏



**kidney**

news

## Taranaki Renal Centre, Te Huhi Raupō, wins prestigious Healthcare Design Trophy

The design of the new Taranaki Renal Centre, Te Huhi Raupō, has won the prestigious Healthcare Design (under 25,000m<sup>2</sup>) trophy in the European Healthcare Design Awards 2023.

The European Healthcare Design Awards celebrate professional excellence in the design of healthcare environments from around the world, so it's awesome to see this space being recognised on the global stage.

Designed by Warren and Mahoney Architects in close collaboration with Te Whatu Ora-Taranaki, Te Huhi Raupō was officially opened in March this year by Minister of Health, Dr Ayesha Verrall.



Congratulations to all involved for designing this wonderful space.

The full details of this award can be found on our Facebook page. [↪](#)

# Had the conversation?

Over **450** people in NZ are waiting for a kidney transplant.

**YOU CAN CHANGE A LIFE –  
DONATE A KIDNEY**

Find out more 0800 kidney (0800 543 6397)  
Visit [kidney.health.nz](https://www.kidney.health.nz)

## Kidney Health NZ – Dialysis Capacity Report

The Dialysis Capacity report, commissioned by Kidney Health NZ, and carried out between June 2022 and February this year, shows many dialysis units operating beyond capacity.

This report has found that Aotearoa's 15 kidney dialysis units are struggling to cope with growing numbers of patients, too few treatment areas and chronic under-staffing. Some people with kidney disease are having to travel four hours a day, three times a week, to get specialist dialysis because of a lack of staff and treatment spaces.

There are 1980 patients receiving long-term dialysis in a hospital or dialysis centre, but the current capacity is only for 1764 patients to get their treatment three times a week, the report noted.

One dialysis machine can treat four patients each day, but eight of the 15 dialysis units reported a space ratio of above four, with three units saying they are having to try and squeeze six patients into a dialysis chair or bed every day.

The report also found significant inequities in kidney disease prevalence, treatment access and long-term outcomes for different groups of New Zealanders. Māori and Pacific people are four to five times more likely to receive dialysis or kidney transplant for end-stage kidney disease than New Zealand European people and have lower access to kidney transplants.

There should be four patients per full time equivalent staff member, but there are currently six. Staff reported doing double shifts to protect patients' health. There is a 25% staffing shortfall overall, with 100 extra full-time dialysis staff needed, the report found.

We have called on the government, Te Whatu Ora and Te Aka Whai Ora to urgently address these shortfalls.

This full article can be found on our website at: <https://www.kidney.health.nz/news/> 

## ANZSN statement of support for Kidney Health NZ

Professor David Johnson, President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology stated that 'ANZSN strongly supports KHNZ's call for the New Zealand Government to not only urgently address the haemodialysis capacity crisis, but also long-term planning and implementation of adequate resourcing to provide optimal kidney health for all people'.

The evolving haemodialysis capacity and staffing crisis in Aotearoa New Zealand resulting in inequitable and impeded access to this life-sustaining treatment is extremely concerning. Unless swift corrective and preventative action is taken, there is a high risk of serious clinical incidents or potential loss of life, which will disproportionately affect the most vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of the community, particularly those living in rural and remote locations. Staffing shortages culminating in high clinical workloads will also lead to staff burnout, mental health issues and further loss of staff.

The ANZSN is committed to a vision of optimal kidney health for all people and believes that equitable access to health care, including



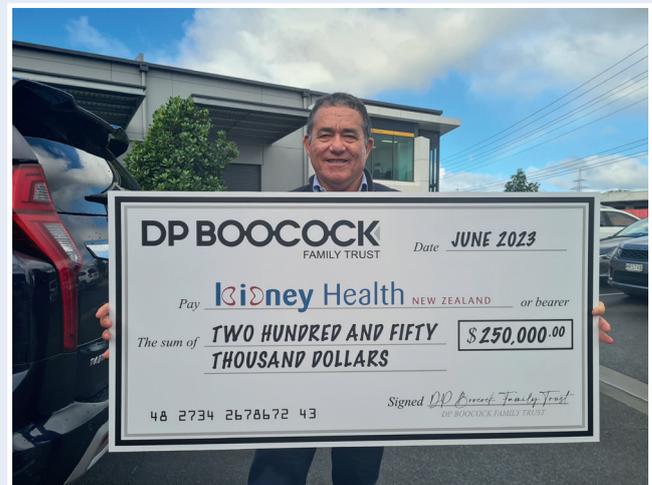
dialysis, is a fundamental human right. There is an exigent need for developing solutions to this worsening crisis through strategic planning (both immediate and longer term), appropriate health financing, augmenting health workforce, supporting staff, improving access to dialysis guided by better information on kidney failure 'hot spots,' recognising kidney disease as a national priority, and developing policies for early detection and management of kidney disease which form part of an integrated chronic disease strategy. 

## Thank you to the following organisations for their support!

- Green Cross Health
- The Kingdom Foundation, proudly managed by Perpetual Guardian
- WG Johnston Charitable Trust
- R O Dixey Trust
- Massey University
- Vernon Hall Trust Fund
- Havelock North School
- Te Kowhai School
- Hamilton Library
- Palmerston North Library
- Wellington Library
- Havelock North Library
- St Mary's College, Wellington
- UCOL Masterton
- PAK'nSave Wainoni
- Eastgate Mall
- Wintec
- Genesis Energy
- Stroke Foundation
- REAP Centre Masterton
- Kiwi Beverages



Kidney Health NZ want to recognise the DP Boocock Family Trust for their generous donation. Last month Traci Stanbury and John Kearns from our Board, were privileged to meet the team at Sam Property Ltd. They are a family run firm, and their dad Peter (pictured) has end-stage kidney disease and is on dialysis.



Peter and his family have been incredibly generous with a \$250,000 donation to Kidney Health New Zealand for a new programme we'll roll out over the next year. Thank you so much to Peter and the team and keep an eye out for our new Renal Resources coming soon!