

Anglican Care Canterbury/Westland

Report to Synod 2021

The Board has continued to develop and refine the priorities that were identified in 2019/20 through a filter lens that includes serving the **vulnerable**, using **best practice**, that is **complementary** (i.e. does not duplicate other work being done) and is faithful to its **Anglican and Christian theological base** and **develops relationships that align with values including the Treaty of Waitangi principles and our three Tikanga relationships**. At the Trust Board planning day held in August 2020 we considered internal and external drivers and what an impactful Anglican Care would look like in 2025. We then further distilled our priorities for Anglican Care under 5 main pillars:

1. The City Mission
2. Advocacy and Social Justice
3. Building relationships with significant partners and collaborators where we don't do the doing.
4. Partnering with Parishes
5. Building up the work in South and Mid-Canterbury and potentially the West Coast and rural areas

Particular themes in these areas that the Board is focused on are rising inequality in incomes and housing, mental well-being including youth mental health and social isolation particularly amongst the elderly and understanding rural needs.

Progress in each of these five pillars including the above themes is reviewed below.

1. City Mission

Every day within the life of the City Mission is as unique as every individual that walks through one of our many and varied doors. However, no matter what it is that provides this connection, our resolve is always to honour and serve with excellence in all we do, to hold hope for those who simply cannot see a way through and to provide a better future. We are determined that we are going to facilitate change in the lives of those we serve.

We know that we cannot simply just meet the need, or needs, that our whanau require at any given time. Every bit as important is that we provide a pathway forward for each person, one that is paved with a fresh hope for a better future.

And as we enter a new year, exciting plans are afoot with a new development of facilities on our Hereford St campus, and it is in the walls, and halls of these buildings that our mana-enhancing mahi will practically enable the opportunity for creating meaningful societal change.

We know that none of our work happens by chance. We know that we are on a mission and that we could never journey that mission serving our whanau community without the substantial partnership from our wider community, and for that we are truly grateful.

It is always pleasing to share that we continue to be well supported by our passionate partners, however with these increases we are experiencing every day, the need to encourage additional and ongoing support remains stronger than ever before.

Our Christchurch City Mission team continue to undertake an incredible work and remain passionate and focused on making a meaningful difference within our community. We count it a privilege to serve and to be known as enabling positive change within our community.

2. Advocacy and Social Justice

Anglican Advocacy is back. Jolyon White has returned to a role heading up Anglican Advocacy. The goal is to focus on structural change on social issues affecting the most marginalised and vulnerable. There are several projects already underway. A pay ratios report in association with Otago University is looking to spark a conversation on inequity, dignity, and in-work poverty. And we are engaging with electricity companies and the Electricity Authority on electricity retailer pricing and billing-practices.

As always there are an endless array of issues that we could be involved with. And although Anglican Advocacy is endeavouring to stay focused on a few issues, we are always interested in discussing projects or problems that parishes are facing in their local communities.

Anglican Advocacy is also active in Ashburton and Timaru with one-on-one advocacy through a volunteer database. Warren James in Ashburton, and Ruth Swale in Timaru are both effective and passionate trainers and advocates. The work is filling a vital need in the community as people struggle with a wide range of issues from tenancy to employment. In cases where someone requires support navigating government agencies such as WINZ, our support is valued not just by our clients, but by the front-line staff at the service we are interacting with. We are always looking to expand the volunteer base.

3. Partnerships with other Providers.

The causes of poverty are complex and inter-related and beyond the means of any one organisation to address and we recognise we do not do this work alone. We work in partnership with the vulnerable and with other organisations, with the Diocese and with local Churches and with donors and we recognise and celebrate the nation's special partnership with Maori as tangata whenua – the founding people of the land.

Partnering makes good missional sense but it also makes good business sense as it means we can scale up our impact, share costs, reduce duplication and afford to specialise knowing that there are other organisations that have skills that we do not have. Two great examples of Anglican Care working in partnership with other organisations are:

The Youth Hub Te hurihanga o Rangatahi Trust

The need for the Youth Hub is clearly illustrated by the rates of mental ill-health of young people in Christchurch and it is estimated that there is a lack of housing and opportunities for access to support for up to 20% of young people.

In collaboration with the Youth Hub Trust and Dr Sue Bagshaw, Anglican Care has provided a block of land for lease to the Trust at 109 Salisbury St. The Youth hub will have accommodation and wrap-around social services, and the Board is working with the Trust in support of the project.

The project has been granted Resource Consent and awarded \$10m of funding under the government's 'Shovel Ready' scheme and it is hoped that the building work can get underway very soon.

Christchurch Methodist Mission (CMM) Housing Development at Guild St

The project to provide social housing on the old Churchill Anglican Aged Care site has now been completed in collaboration with the Christchurch Methodist Mission (CMM) and with the support of Kainga Ora and the Otautahi Housing Trust.

The site has been leased by Anglican Care to the CMM and now provides 15 homes and a community house for families who desperately need the long-term security of safe, warm and secure housing. The complex was opened by Associate Minister of Housing Poto Williams in December 2020 and the families moved in just before Christmas 2020.

4. Partnering with Parishes

The Board wishes to connect with Parishes in a meaningful way that delivers to the needs of their communities but also allows parishioners to become engaged as well.

Two programmes run by Anglican Care that are gaining considerable traction in providing these connections with parishes (and other agencies) are the **Community Projects Programme** run by Jeanette Sprott and the **Elder Care Programme** run by the Rev'd Anne Russell-Brighty which has recently been transferred from the Diocese to Anglican Care.

The **Community Projects** team runs community visiting programmes in partnership with Parishes who provide additional volunteers and local knowledge. The initial focus of the programme is addressing energy poverty in low decile neighbourhoods by providing LED lightbulbs, energy assessments and advice. This also gives the opportunity to assist the vulnerable and socially isolated link with support services and local activities (such as the City Mission and the Elder Care programme – see below) and for the parish to build connections in the Community.

Janet's teams have now partnered with nine parishes, visited 6200 homes in Canterbury and distributed 7300 lightbulbs and are making a real difference to energy poverty in Christchurch. At the same time programmes are assisting the building up of relationships and social connections between Anglican Care and the parishes and between the parishes and their communities.

The **Elder Care** programme is currently offered by eight Elder Care Centres each hosted by an Anglican Parish and run by a part-time paid co-ordinator with Avonside Parish recently added to the list. The programme is designed to support the elderly and combat social isolation with a strong emphasis on health and well-being. The physical meetings were disrupted by the COVID lock-downs but the co-ordinators continued to keep in telephone contact with the guests and provided valuable support and social contact to the vulnerable and isolated during the pandemic.

The hoped for synergies with other Anglican Care programmes are now starting to be realised and there is considerable further potential for development in the future.

5. Anglican Care, South Canterbury and Mid-Canterbury

The services offered in South Canterbury and Mid Canterbury are the small but growing Anglican Advocacy Service (described under Advocacy above) and the valued Oceans Grief and Loss peer support programme run by Matt Cameron. The advocacy service is starting to widen its range to cover the smaller towns and rural areas of South and Mid Canterbury and the Oceans programme is now being offered in Ashburton in partnership with the Safer Ashburton Trust.

The South Canterbury Committee is reviewing its structure and resources in conjunction with the Board and local parishes to determine how it can best function to meet the needs of its communities in the future.

The Board is keen to further expand the scope of services offered in these areas as well as the West Coast and other rural areas of Canterbury and is considering how it can best use its limited resources to achieve this goal.

Anglican Care (Canterbury Westland) Trust Board 2020-21

Our grateful thanks to the following Board members who have served faithfully during the year.

Bishop Peter Carrell (Warden), Ms Moka Ritchie (Chair), Miss Jane Evans (Deputy-Chair), Mrs Nalini Meyer (Chair, Christchurch City Mission), Rev'd Peter Beck, Mr Chas Muir, Rev'd Ben Randall and Mr Neil Shewan and our minute secretary Ms Lynne Havenaar.

Finally, we would like to thank our Divisional and Trust Board committee members, dedicated staff, teams of volunteers and our generous donors for their contributions and support for Anglican Care during the year.

Mr Patrick Murray (Executive Officer)

Ms Moka Ritchie (Chair)