

Reporting from the Board



At our 2008 AGM, four board members will retire from the Board after completing their maximum terms as board members. Siniua Lilo, Pip Duncalf, Susan Putt and Yvonne Codde have been members of the Board since 2004 and they have all made a significant contribution. Their departure will mean half the board will be changing, therefore the Board of Directors has been doing some succession planning to ensure we have continuity on the Board and Finance committee. The President, Vice President and Treasurer positions have been restructured, with effect February 2008. Lorraine Warshaw has

resigned her position as President to take on the role of Treasurer. The Board expresses their thanks to Lorraine for her time spent in the President role since 2006. We are grateful she is willing to move into the Treasurer position to ensure this responsibility transitions well into the new board. Carol Scholes has now assumed the role of President

and Susan Putt is the Vice President of the Board.

Susan will also remain on the Finance committee to ensure we have the benefit of her expertise. In addition to the above changes, Chris Smith has resigned from her position on the YWCA Auckland Board to devote more time to her role on the National Board of YWCA Aotearoa. We thank Chris for her service since 2004. She has been a valued contributor, bringing a clear perspective to all the Board business.



Trust building exercises at camp.



Jubilant students graduating.



Yes, I would like to support the YWCA Auckland!



I would like to donate:

\$20 \$50 \$100 \$150 Gift of choice \$ _____

Giving Back Scholarship

I would like my gift to go towards:

The Future Leaders Programme

The Encore Programme

Where it is most needed

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Please do not include my name on your mailing list

Please return this slip to: YWCA Auckland, PO Box 8749, Symonds Street, Grafton, Auckland 1150. For more information call (09) 375 9242. Thank you.

women inspiring women

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update
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE YWCA AUCKLAND April 2008

Celebrating Future Leaders Graduates



Future Leaders graduates celebrating with their mentors.

Twenty-four students graduated from the Future Leaders Programme last December at a special Celebration Ceremony.

The Celebration Ceremony, held at Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre, was attended by more than 200 guests who included mentees and their families, mentors, sponsors and Future Leaders' patron Dame Cath Tizard.

Several of the students performed during the ceremony. Jessikha Leatham Vlasic and Kerry-Anne Renata-Cope started the celebration with a karakia. Later in the evening both Micah Guidote and Theresa Murphy sang solo pieces and Rhythmix dance group, comprised of Future Leaders student Nive Sharat Chandran and dancers from Mt Roskill Grammar School, performed a Bollywood Hip Hop fusion dance.



Jessikha Leatham Vlasic and Kerry-Anne Renata-Cope beginning the ceremony with a karakia.



Qiujing Wong congratulates Fran Brown Haysom on graduating.

Guest speaker Qiujing Wong, documentary maker and co-founder of Borderless Productions Limited, inspired the graduates to pursue what they are passionate about and to never underestimate their ability to succeed.

Graduates Jeanette Magness and Grace Levi and their mentors Jane Aubrey and Patricia Schradt also spoke; reflecting on how important Future Leaders has been in offering them new opportunities, building their confidence and developing their meaningful mentor-mentee relationships.

“Being part of the YWCA Future Leaders programme is one of the reasons why my life today is a life to look forward to tomorrow”

The ceremony was a wonderful opportunity to recognise the achievements of the young women who had been on the programme for four years. Each student was presented with a graduation certificate and individual achievement prizes were awarded.

Congratulations to all the graduates and their mentors for their successes and achievements during their time on the Future Leaders programme. We wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

“Through YWCA Future Leaders I have prepared myself for University, to follow the steps of my mentor and other women out there who were the young women of tomorrow but are now the women of today”

We would like to acknowledge the following people and organisations for their support of the event: AUT University, AMP Financial Services, AMP Foundation, Dame Catherine Tizard, Firehorse Films, Hachette Livre, K.Kurtovich Products Ltd, Netball NZ, Starbucks, The Body Shop, The Waterfront- Paihia, Qiujing Wong, Whittakers and Video Ezy.

Individual Achievement Awards 2007

Community Service Award:
Allison Ridley

Commitment Award:
Tina Loane and Losa Nimo

Fostering Team Spirit Award:
Fran Brown Haysom

Progress and Development Award:
Stevie Wall

Positive Attitude Award:
Jasmine Wiel

Enthusiastic Participation at Camp Award:
Chevy Cuthbert

Student Leadership Award:
Catherine Tamaseu-Russell

Students' Choice Peer Role Model Award:
Mary Taufatee

Students' Choice Mentor of the Year:
Trisha Dunn and Maryanne Woods

Mentor of the Year:
Kay Collingwood

Students' Choice Student of the Year:
Keshni Kumar

Student of the Year:
Jovita Antony

Personal achievement awards (school nominated):
Noho Moe, Jasmine Wiel, Maria Hughes, Micah Guidote, Sharifa Karimi, Morgan Hollis Ward, Linda Li, Nomsa Botshiwe and Stevie Wall.

Five days on the Marae

A group of highly motivated mentees from Onehunga High School, Okaihau College, Bay of Islands College and Auckland Girls Grammar recently enjoyed a five-day Camp at Te Kiri Marae near Leigh.

The camp aimed to develop the students' leadership potential and interpersonal skills and offered a fun journey that explored the attitudes and attributes of effective leaders. The camp was a highly interactive experience that challenged the students to step out of

their comfort zones through enjoyable activities including boogie boarding, horse riding, kayaking and team building games.

Each opportunity focused on building the students' self-confidence and by building trust, aimed to encourage new friendships between the girls.

All of the young women were enthusiastic and positive and they each departed from the Marae with many memories and new skills from their camp experience.



“To be a leader you don't have to be at the front”



“I made great new friends and had experiences and memories that I'll keep forever”



“You can trust people even when you have only known them for a couple of hours”



“Surf's Up”

A Future Leaders surfing development squad recently took to the surf. In February a group of 30 mentees and 15 mentors travelled to

Tawharanui and spent the day learning to surf and enjoying team building and beach games. For many, surfing was something they thought they would never experience and everyone really enjoyed the day. Through learning to surf and experiencing the importance of teamwork,

The Perfect Equation...



New Far North Mentors

What do you get when you cross 18 inspiring women with a waterfall and a mountain of muffins? Laughter, learning, new friendships and a successful mentor training.

The first Far North Mentor Training Workshop took place at Haruru Falls in the Bay of Islands in February. The women travelled from as far as Totara North and Whangarei to attend the training to learn about mentoring the Future Leaders way. It certainly was an international bunch, with women from Canada, England, America and New Zealand. There was also a diverse range of occupations among the women- from a civil engineer, an International Fashion Event Manager and a number of entrepreneurial business women and registered nurses.

Northland facilitator Courtney Brown coached the women on topics that included communication skills and goal setting and taught them important mentoring techniques. The women enjoyed meeting the other new mentors who shared their values and the desire to 'give back'.

The training followed months of recruitment around Northland through presentations, networking and word of mouth recommendations. Media coverage for Future Leaders helped raise the programme's profile and has resulted in a phenomenal group of role models joining as mentors.

the young women also learnt how to apply the same skills to leadership. As one young woman commented, “encouragement goes a long way to help you succeed at something.” Another mentee later said, “a group will work at its best by communicating and supporting each other. If we

SNIFF and be SNIFFed

The Far North Family BBQ in March was an opportunity for mentors, mentees and their families to meet for the first time and build relationships before their Match-up evening later that month. With information passports to complete and a very loud whistle keeping people on task, everyone could practise their newly learned networking trick - the SNIFF technique: Smile, be Nice, find out about Interests, Family and Friends.

There was much excitement amongst the mentors and mentees as they got to know each other. The evening was declared a success by the 60 attendees who all agreed that the Far North has some inspirational women now and for the future.



New Future Leaders recruits enjoying the Family BBQ.

Could you be a Mentor too?



Would you like to make a difference? To give back? To help a young woman reach her potential? To find out more, please phone (09) 375 9243

get along, we will achieve good results.” Despite the occasional rain showers, everyone had an enjoyable day at the beach. The day concluded with a Beach BBQ which continued the surfing theme with the surfboards used as tables.

Encore Does It Again



From left: YWCA Whangarei Board President Diana Edmonds, Executive Officer Carole Whitehead, National Encore Trainer Julie Cummins, National Encore Coordinator Marlene Sorby, Jane Bissell, Encore Coordinator Margie Crawford, Encore Assistant Jan Fisher.

YWCA Encore was officially introduced to Whangarei last month and a launch party was held to celebrate the success and growth of the programme in New Zealand.

The launch was a culmination of much work and planning by the YWCA Whangarei team and invited guests enjoyed listening to the stories of guest speakers National Encore Trainer Julie Cummins and author and Encore Coordinator Jane Bissell.

Julie Cummins spoke about Encore's launch in New Zealand and explained how the programme aims to reduce the risk of lymphoedema and improve the mobility, flexibility and confidence of breast cancer survivors.



Launch guests participating in Encore exercises

She then led everyone in an interactive session, where guests experienced a taste of Encore – participating in some of the gentle mat exercises.

Jane Bissell shared her personal experience about how it felt to be diagnosed with breast cancer and undergo treatment, and her powerful talk communicated the vulnerability that many women experience.



Guest Speaker Jane Bissell

Jane is the Encore coordinator in Whangaparaoa and has written two books, *Welcome to the Amazon Club* and most recently *The Pink Party* - a story about her journey with breast cancer.

It was also an honour to have seven of the women enrolled in the first Whangarei Encore programme present, enabling them to meet each other prior to beginning Encore. Jane Bissell shared that her first Encore meeting had marked the beginning of a positive phase in her life, which was particularly inspiring for these women. The first eight-week Encore programme in Whangarei commenced on 18 March.

For more information, please phone 0800 ENCORE or visit our website: www.akywca.org.nz

