Oral Health Newsletter

August 2011
Edition 11

Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

The newsletter for the Child and Adolescent Oral Health Project brings updates from the project that aims to give children in Nelson Marlborough access to modern oral health services.

Community Oral Health Clinic Openings

Clockwise from Left: Community Oral Health Clinic Openings; Blenheim, Associate Minister of Health Hon Peter Dunne pictured with Board Chair Jenny Black and Project Manager Kaye Hannagan; top Motueka clinic opening Parklands School Kapa Haka Group; Stoke clinic with Nayland Primary School pupils and Richmond clinic opening with Henley School choir centre.

Left: Nelson Community Oral Health Clinic Dental Therapists prepare for the first patients, from left Lynette Nicholas, Louise Richardson, and Paula Kinzett-Carran (centre). Above: Dental Assistants Lesley Barker and Sue Mochan

Above Oral Health Team Leader Wendy Shearer and DHB Kaumatua Tahi Takao

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Clinic Update

We took the opportunity to ask our Oral Health staff in two of the new clinics about their experiences so far - we will continue with more clinics next edition.

Richmond Community Oral Health Clinic - Ph: 539 5320

Dental Therapists	Dental Assistants	Receptionist
Kaye Arnold	Emma Coles	Carol Rolinson
Tracey Arnold	Ann Kinzett	
Jeannie Dobson	Melissa Robinson	
Hao Luo	Trish Simpson	
Janet Sullivan		
Carolyn Wright		

What is the main difference in the new clinic?

- Working in an environment where we can interact and support each other
- Having the computer patient management system (titanium)
- New and modern equipment, especially digital x-rays

What has surprised you the most in the new clinic?

- How much fun we are all having getting to know our colleagues better.

What has been the response from parents coming in with children?

Parent response has been very positive, with many saying how impressed they are with the facilities

Has there been any 'teething' issues that you have had to resolve?

-Waiting for equipment/resources to arrive and the shortage of staff

Blenheim Community Oral Health Clinic - Ph 520 9922

Dental Therapists	Dental Assistants	Educator	Receptionist
Andrea Carr	Margaret Croft	Marise Hunt	Penny Cowan
Andrea Snushall	Jacqui Hitchcock		
Wendy Barry	Tracy Mortimer		
Estelle Farrelly	Kim Hooper		
Gill Bird	Tania Morgan		
	Rachael Wallace		
	Linda Crosse		

What is the main difference in the new clinic?

The new premises are new, well lit, warm, full of new technology, it's so much more professional.

What has surprised you the most in the new clinic?

We are surprised that just small things such as new uniforms can help portray that professional image.

What has been the response from parents coming in with children?

We are pleasantly surprised that there has been little resistance from parents attending their children's appointments. Both parents and patients are willing to attend, and are enjoying their experience with lots of positive comments.

Has there been any 'teething' issues that you have had to resolve?

The rotation of Dental Assistants among the Dental Therapists, has presented teething issues. Many relationships have been built up over several years, and there is an understandable concern among staff to embrace working with someone new.

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If you have questions or areas you would like addressed through this newsletter please contact:

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