

Gisborne Hospital Chaplaincy Report

Chaplaincy Changes - In February 2019, our Locum Chaplain position was terminated due to no funding. A Review of the Gisborne Chaplaincy Service was undertaken by the National organisation for Hospital Chaplains the Interchurch Council of Hospital Chaplains (**ICHC**) concluding in July 2019 with the following recommendations:-

- Avenues of on-going funding be looked into to fund an (0.2 FTE Chaplain) to work with the full-time Hospital Chaplain.
- A Local Chaplaincy Committee (LCC) be formed to support the chaplains and comprise of people committed to chaplaincy and prepared to promote and advocate on its behalf.

Long Service Chaplaincy Volunteers - Reverend Sheryl McGrory (Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Waipaoa) retired as a Voluntary Chaplaincy Assistant (VCA) after many years providing an appreciated chaplaincy service to the Medical Day Ward and Day of Surgery Unit. This era of 'long serving' VCA's also concluded for the longest serving VCA, Mrs Hilda Swann (Tikanga Maori). Mrs Swann has served chaplaincy alongside the late Reverend Canon Huatahi Niania, Reverend Canon Bruce White, Reverends Wally Te Ua, Maureen Martin, Patsy Ngata-Hills, various Locum Chaplains and VCA's. A wonderful commitment from both ladies for which the Gisborne Chaplaincy Service is very grateful. Mrs Swann intends to continue in Hospital Chaplaincy, on the Local Chaplaincy Committee (LCC) to support the chaplains and Hauora Tairāwhiti Chaplaincy Service.

A New Medical Day Ward 'Kahikatea' - Following prayers, waiata/songs and the blessing of Kahikatea the Medical Day Ward, the Minister of Health Dr David Clark opened this new facility for patients receiving chemotherapy, having blood transfusions, infusions for arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, skin disorders, neurological disorders, infusions for osteoporosis and investigative biopsies.

A New Global Medical Research Centre 'Matai' - Prayers were held to celebrate a funding announcement for a state-of-the-art medical imaging research centre 'Matai', to be based at Gisborne Hospital. A core focus of Matai is the research of mild traumatic brain injury, concussion, and heart disease as well as undertaking research to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease. Matai centre could make Gisborne a world leading centre in MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) with its advanced MRI technology and global research networks to improve health in the community, in the country and globally.

Prayers for the Muslim Community, Christchurch and Aotearoa/New Zealand - In the aftermath of the tragedy at the Muslim Mosques in Christchurch, Hauora Tairāwhiti Board members and the chaplain responded in prayer for the victims and families, the Muslim Community in Christchurch and throughout the Nation. Candles were lit by Board Members during the singing of the National Anthem and further prayers were said remembering everyone who responded to this crisis, Hospitals and staff caring for patients and families, the people of Christchurch and the Nation.

The Diocese of Waiapu - To Bishop Andrew Hedge and members of the Diocese of Waiapu, thank you once again for your ongoing prayers and continued financial commitment to the Gisborne Hospital chaplain and Chaplaincy Service. Thank you for helping to ensure that God's work through Hospital Chaplaincy in Gisborne Hospital continues.

Through Chaplaincy, God is making a difference by way of a **Spiritual Revival** – to God be the glory.

Reverend Canon Patsy Ngata-Hills
Chaplain Hauora Tairāwhiti

