

Pacific Health Leadership Programme

Twelve places are available on the Ministry's 2003 Pacific Health Leadership Programme.

The programme's aims are to develop potential Pacific health leaders to:

- lead and influence work towards reducing inequalities
- improve the health of Pacific peoples
- develop strong and healthy Pacific communities

- build good Pacific capacity and capability in the Pacific health and disability sector.

A national advertising campaign calling for interested parties to apply for a place on the programme will commence in February.

Further information contact:

Lani Boath

Tel: (04)4954348

Email: lani_boath@moh.govt.nz

Fono Malie, Walking the Talk Pacific Health Promotion Fono

Quality Hotel Logan Park Auckland
27-28 February 2003

Fono planners (Pacific Health Branch, National Screening Unit, Public Health Promotion Auckland, Health Promotion Forum) believe that a skilled Pacific workforce and responsive health promotion programmes are key developmental areas to achieving healthy lifestyles and wellbeing for Pacific peoples.

The fono objectives identified in the Pacific Health and Disability Action Plan include identifying priorities in workforce, research, cultural competencies, improved national co-ordination.

Further information contact:

Anne Allan-Moetaua Tel: (04) 4700639
Email: anne_allen-moetaua@moh.govt.nz

Maiava Carmel Peteru Tel: (04) 4954341
Email: carmel_peteru@moh.govt.nz

Changes in Pacific Health Branch

Pacific Clinical Advisor, Elizabeth Powell has been seconded to the Clinical Services Directorate as Advisor to the Primary Health Care Team.

Elizabeth's new contact number is (04) 4700632. We wish Elizabeth well in her new career role.

The position for a Pacific Clinical Advisor to the Pacific Health Branch is being advertised.

Pacific Mental Health Awards

Congratulations to the 21 recipients of the 2002 Mental Health Workforce Awards.

Steering committee chairperson, Fuimaono Karl Pulotu-Endemann is pleased. 'The awards are a way of gifting for the future and nurturing the new generation. They are an investment in individuals and in service. In Samoan culture, we say that your authority is derived through service to your people. It is important that Pacific mental health service users benefit from the development of the workforce.'

The Mental Health Directorate (MeHD) established the awards to increase capability and capacity within the Pacific mental health workforce. MeHD managers Todd Kriebel and Jacqui Gough state that 'there is a huge pool of highly qualified and very talented Pacific peoples that require support and encouragement into the area of mental health.'

The Ministry and HRC thank the Pacific Mental Health Awards Steering Committee Fuimaono Karl Pulotu-Endemann, Dr Francis Agnew, Vito Malo, David Lui, Phillip Siataga, Jesse Kokaua and Anna Long for their invaluable advice and guidance.

Pacific Health Workforce Awards

Over 70 Pacific peoples applied for these awards offered by the Ministry of Health in conjunction with Health Research Council (HRC) and additional sponsorship from Waitemata and Counties Manukau District Health Boards.

The 33 successful applicants include medical and nursing students, representatives from health management, applied health science, dental therapy, physiotherapy and midwifery.

A ceremony to present the awards will take place 12 February at the Sheraton Hotel, Auckland.

For further information contact Karlo Mila Tel: (09)3035225

National Problem Gambling Pacific Project

Congratulations to Niu Development Inc who successfully tendered for this project last year. Responses to the tendering process was fantastic with strong commitment made towards achieving effective outcomes.

The project was initiated to help tackle the escalation of addictive and compulsive gambling amongst Pacific peoples and help minimise gambling harm in Pacific communities around the country.

Initial priorities are to develop an advisory group of key stakeholders, an ethnic-specific framework (beginning with Samoan, Tongan, and Niue perspectives), a national Pacific strategic plan, and recruit a full-time dedicated project co-ordinator to manage the plan with a Pacific team to kick-start the project.

The Problem Gambling Committee will initially fund the project for a year supported by the Ministry of Health.

**For further information contact Christopher Carroll
Tel: (04)4954401 Email: christopher_carroll@moh.govt.nz**

Health Promotion Gambling Advisor

Sonia Marsters is the Health Promotion Advisor (Pasifika) to the Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand.

Her role includes raising awareness and understanding of gambling as a health issue within Pacific communities.

**For further information Tel: (09)3681520
Email: sonia.marsters@pgfnz.co.nz**

This newsletter is to keep Pacific health providers updated on Pacific Health Branch activity. We hope it provides insight and information on the Ministry's development of Pacific health. We welcome any feedback to help us provide better information to you.