



Community
Connections

Te Hāpori Āwhina Tāngata

THE CONNECTOR!

Volume 29 ~ Winter 2016



Almost Always



Usually



Sometimes

*It has been support evaluation feedback time
and the results are in, see pages 4-8.*

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Community Connections

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The deadline for the next issue: 19 August 2016

Please send stories and pictures to Michelle,
admin@ccslt.org.nz

My new tablet

By Caroline Averill

I have been working at Brittany House for 22 years and I am working in the cleaning and laundry department. I love my job and I work three mornings a week.

My goal was to get my own tablet and learn to email. I have been practising every week with Mum and Dad and now I have typed this story and emailed it myself. I love having my own tablet!



Outside my work at Brittany House

Support evaluation feedback

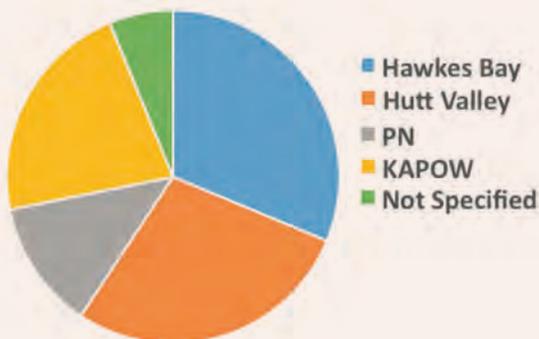
By the Community Connections staff

Tick the box that says how you feel. You can write any comments on here that you wish to.



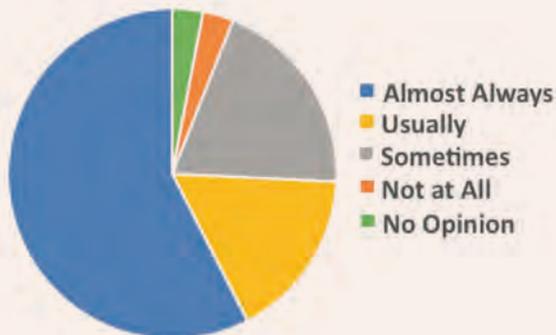
We were given a lot of great feedback from everyone in the February support evaluation. 66 people sent their forms back, which is about one quarter of all of the people Community Connections supports. Unfortunately this is slightly less than last time, but thank you very much to everyone who sent these back. The chart below shows how many forms we got back from each area. The Hawke's Bay area (the light blue part) sent back the most forms, but the Hutt Valley (the orange part) were a very close second! Well done Hawke's Bay and Hutt Valley!

Responses by Area



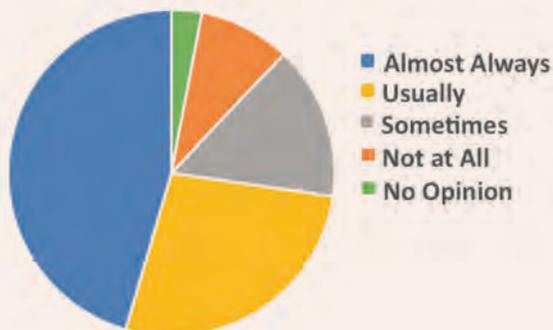
The feedback that you gave us was mostly very good. The graphs below show how people feel about their goals, the way their support works, and their overall happiness with Community Connection’s support.

Achievable Goals



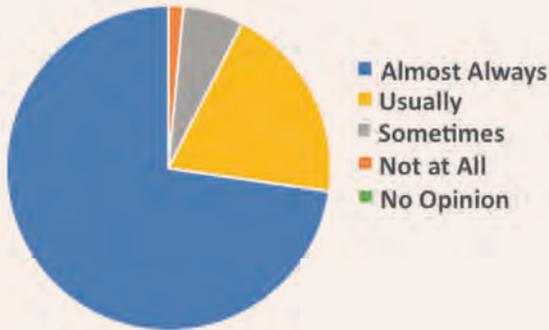
Most people said that they almost always (in blue) feel like their goals are planned in an achievable way.

Goal Progress



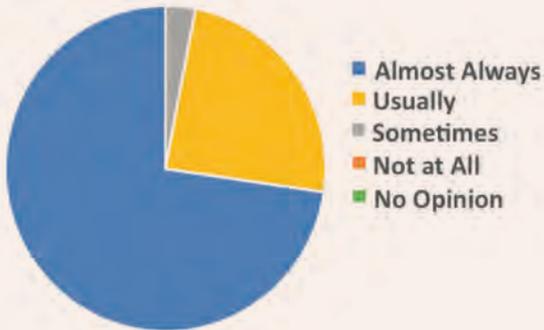
Most people said that they almost always (in blue) feel like they are making progress on their goals.

Flexible Support



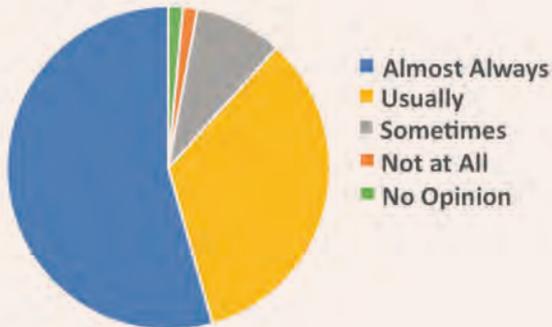
Most people said that they almost always (in blue) feel like their support is planned in a flexible way.

Support at planned time



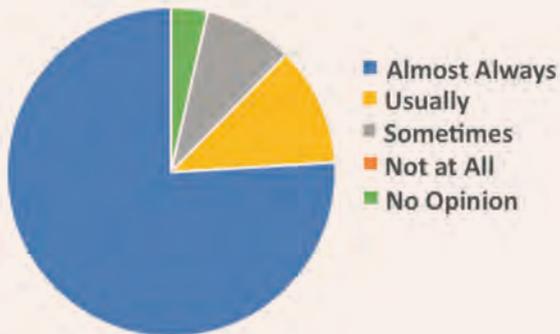
Most people said that they almost always (in blue) feel like their support was delivered at the planned time.

Informed of changes



Most people said that they are almost always (in blue) informed of any changes in their support. This is an area that we have asked teams to focus on following the last evaluation, so it's great to see that we are improving!

Overall satisfaction



Most people said that they almost always (in blue) were satisfied with the support that they received from Community Connections overall!

33 people gave us extra comments at the bottom of their forms. Most of these were very positive, with comments about being very happy with support, enjoying having support staff around, feeling that support staff are very capable, and enjoying the activities that people are supported to do.

In the last evaluation, the main area that you told us that you think we could improve in was being better with our communication with you. In this evaluation we have been given less feedback about this, which hopefully means that we are improving. However, we still have had a few comments asking us to be better with communication, particularly around changes. Your coordinators will continue talking about this with all staff, and we look forward to continuing to improve in this area.

The next support evaluation forms will be sent out in August.

My trip to the Zoo

By Heather Clannachan

I had never been to the Wellington Zoo before and so I went recently with my staff. I caught the train into Wellington railway station and I loved the journey. Then I caught a bus to the Zoo. We



*Left: Looking at the animals.
Right: Enjoying hot chocolate*

drove through Wellington city and I was looking out at all the shops from the bus that I had never seen before. Unfortunately it was raining that day, but I still enjoyed myself. I bought some souvenirs from the Zoo shop and they were about chimpanzees.

I saw these animals at the Zoo: lion, tiger, giraffes and chimpanzees – a whole family of them! There were some goats, meerkats and bears. My favourite animals at the Zoo were the giraffes and they came right up close to the fence for me to see them. Because it was raining some of the animals stayed under their shelter and so it was hard to see them. Then I had a hot chocolate at the Zoo cafe.

I caught the bus in the rain back to my home. The whole trip was awesome and I want to do it again.

My art

By Tracy Wade

I attend Art on High in Lower Hutt every week and do drawings and paintings. I have been doing this for nearly a year. I have met a lot of new people who also attend this group. I am going to extend my style of painting into areas I have never tried and work with different media.

I have put one of my paintings into the IHC Art Awards 2016. I called it 'Nature in the Sunlight'. The description of my picture is: 'Walking through the meadow of flowers – I feel like picking some or lying down in the bed of flowers with the sun reflecting on them'.



Nature in the Sunlight

Helping others with my knitting

By Lynne Utting

I have been knitting for a long time and I've donated beautiful knitted baby clothes to the Red Cross charity shop for many years. With wool that people have given me, I've knitted many dog jackets for friends and acquaintances to keep their pets warm and cosy in winter.

I've also knitted many items for Knitworld for charity. One year it might be beanies and hats, another year it might be scarves, slippers or singlets. Last year Knitworld partnered with Kiwi Family Trust to help 2000 young children have warm clothes for winter. The photo shows me with three toddler jerseys knitted from wool that people had given me or I had bought myself.

Knitworld provided the pattern which was available on their website. One of my support team downloaded the pattern and printed it off for me. I finished these three jerseys in about two weeks and went with my support worker on the bus to deliver them to Knitworld. They were very happy with what I'd done.



Here I am with the three toddler jerseys I knitted

I love knitting and crochet

By Helen Rapana

I live in Hastings. I enjoy knitting and crocheting and I have just crocheted a large blanket for two friends. Quite a lot of friends have asked me to crochet blankets for them. I love knitting as well and do them both day and night. I am also knitting a jersey for my daughter. Each Wednesday I go to Heretaunga Seniors and my support worker has started coming there to support me. I enjoy showing her things and introducing her to my friends. But I miss my friend Ron, who has passed away, as he used to sit at my table at Seniors.



At Heretaunga Seniors with two friends and a blanket I made

My job at Countdown

By Anne Devlin

Back in 1995 I did work experience to see what it was like before I left school. In those days it was called Woolworths and I kept going there until I left school. John Burns was the store manager back then. Oh boy, have I seen them come and go over the years while I have been working there! I was only in my twenties when I started. The year after that I turned 21 in 1996. Now I am in my forties! The last manager we had was called Lowell. We had a photo taken together in 2015.



With my manager Lowell

The stars at night for the lamb

By Louise Bulled

Tell me, my friend, where does the sun go at night?

And how come the moon is so bathed? Are the stars coming out to shine down on me tonight?

Because I am lonely and hungry and want to go to sleep. I am just one little baby lamb waiting for its mother to call it to come home for tea.

Don't you see, my friend, I just wait to hear her call me home. I just hope she can be found. I am so lonely and cold at night. I cry out for my mum but she can't hear me.



Wellington and Picton trip

By Gillian Harris

In April I needed a break from Hastings and I heard that David was going on a trip to Wellington and Picton. We stayed at the Bay Plaza Hotel in Wellington CBD.



*Me and David Smith
on our trip*

We went to the Wellington Zoo. I love wild animals and my favourites were the meerkats. I enjoyed watching the cheetahs playing and then one of adults got angry with one of the teenagers and bit it on the ear. Oh I felt sorry for it!

The next day we went to Te Papa. I liked the kiwi birds and enjoyed the Gallipoli display of the war – it gave me an understanding what it was like for the soldiers.

When we went on the ferry to Picton there was a band playing and I was stoked to see some dolphins. We looked around Picton and went to the Aquarium where they have rescued animals.

That night we went out to a pub and listened to the same band that was on the ferry. What a great night!

This was a very exciting trip. My highlights were Te Papa, the band and seeing the meerkats at the zoo.

*You can read the full version of Gillian's story on our website
www.ccslt.org.nz*

Our fun trip to Masterton

By Bruce Saunders

One day in May I met some friends and our support workers at the Upper Hutt station and hopped on the Wairarapa train bound for Masterton. On the train there were more of our friends. After a lovely train ride and a short walk from Masterton station we went to Queen Elizabeth Park, where we played mini golf.



Me playing golf

We walked over the swing bridge to the deer park and we all decided to have fish n chips for lunch in the beautiful surroundings of the park. Then we headed down “Bruce Street” to the Aratoi Museum. It had an exhibition on about Featherston Camp and how it was used during the World Wars from 1916 onwards. It was very interesting.

We had a lovely day, did lovely things in beautiful surroundings and spent time with lovely people. A big thank you to everyone who helped make this a special day for me!

You can read the full version of Bruce’s story on our website www.ccslt.org.nz