

BACKGROUND TO OUR ORGANISATION

Established in 2004 through the collaboration of several mental health support provider NGOs, Kites Trust is a registered charity (Charities Commission registration number CC10276) which aims to try new ways of doing things and 'make ideas fly'. It is a well-respected and accredited organisation, currently employing around ten staff.

Our purpose is to help those who experience mental distress and/or addiction problems have opportunities to live, work and participate in the community equal to those enjoyed by all citizens.

We believe that consumer leadership is the key to achieving social inclusion, and that active participation and leadership in planning, implementing and evaluating services leads to improved services and ultimately better outcomes for the people who use them.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS ARE:

1. Increase the number of consumers in positions of influence
2. Increase the availability and effectiveness of peer support
3. Eliminate discrimination

EXAMPLES OF CURRENT WORK

• BUDDIES PEER SUPPORT SERVICE

Buddies is a one-on-one and group peer support programme operating from the philosophy that 'mental health consumers can benefit from the positive contact of other mental health consumers, recovery is possible, and even when someone is in crisis, their place in the world remains important'.

Contracted by Capital and Coast DHB, Buddies operates in the Wellington hospital acute inpatient psychiatric unit. 1:1 peer support is provided by volunteers who identify as mental health consumers who want to share their experiences of recovery.

In 2016 Kites secured a contract to pilot Buddies services in the Hutt Valley.

• LIKE MINDS LIKE MINE

Kites is a regional and national provider of the *Like Minds, Like Mine* national publicly funded programme aimed at reducing the stigma and discrimination associated with mental distress.

Kites undertakes the work of the national campaign in our local Wellington area communities. This is in the form of education, training and this year a film competition. 2012 winning films can be seen at www.kites.org.nz/index.php?stigma_discrimination

Kites is also contracted to support training and education needs of the regional providers as well as administering a national evaluation system. Recent work has included promoting a Human Rights approach and publication of a Best Practice Guidelines handbook.

- **TOKA TŪ - EVALUATING AND EVIDENCING PEER SUPPORT**

Funding from Lotteries Community Sector Research Grant fund supports Kites Trust to research mental health peer support programmes delivered by NGOs in New Zealand. This three year project involves working alongside 10 peer support programmes to answer the following questions:

- What are the processes and outcomes being supported by peer support mental health services?
- What are the resources and procedures that will support organisations to initiate and undertake on-going evaluation of peer support services?

The results will begin to develop a New Zealand body of knowledge and evidence of the value that peer support services can and do provide.

Toka Tu has its own website: www.tokatu.org.nz

- **CONSUMER LEADERSHIP AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

We aim to support and develop consumer leaders and the consumer workforce (people who have disclosed experience of mental distress and/or addiction problems and/or using mental health and addiction services) in the mental health and addiction sector.

Consumer leadership in Mental Health & Addictions (CALMHA) has been established and is tasked with seeding and developing consumer leadership throughout the Wellington region mental health and addiction services and sector.

Kites are currently working on the Peer Led Advocacy Service, assisting in the pilot project with research and data collection.

You can find further information about Kites and its work on our website: www.kites.org.nz

TRUSTEE ROLE

We seek people who can ensure that the purpose, vision and values of the organisation are clearly articulated, understood and upheld. We are particularly keen to reflect mental health and addiction consumer leadership on our board and therefore especially welcome applications from people who have experience of mental distress and/or addictions.

You will need to make a commitment to Kites and be willing to devote the time and energy needed to fulfil the duties and responsibilities of the role. You will need to have strategic vision, independent judgment, and an ability to think creatively. Ideally new trustees will also have experience or expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Strong commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi and improving outcomes for Maori
- Community development
- Innovation
- Networking and relationship building across a range of government departments and the health and social care sector
- Be a qualified accountant or have extensive accounting experience

Meetings are held every 2 months and currently occur on a Monday between 4pm and 6pm. You can expect to contribute at least four hours of your time every two months to prepare for meetings, attend them, and deal with occasional matters circulated by email between meetings.

We will pay Trustees' travel expenses and provide an induction into Kites work.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

The statutory duties of a Kites trustee

1. To ensure that Kites complies with its Trust Deed, Charities Act and legislation.
2. To ensure that Kites pursues its objectives
3. To ensure Kites uses its resources exclusively in pursuing its objectives
4. To contribute actively to the board of Trustees' role in giving strategic direction to Kites, defining goals and evaluating performance
5. To safeguard the good name and values of the organisation
6. To ensure the effective and efficient management of the organisation
7. To ensure the financial stability of the organisation
8. To protect and manage the assets of the Trust and ensure proper investment of funds
9. To appoint the Kites manager and monitor his/her performance.

Other duties

In addition to the above, each trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the board reach sound decisions.

This may involve:

- Scrutinising board papers
- Leading discussions
- Focusing on key issues
- Providing guidance on new initiatives
- Giving assistance on any issues in which the trustee has special expertise or experience