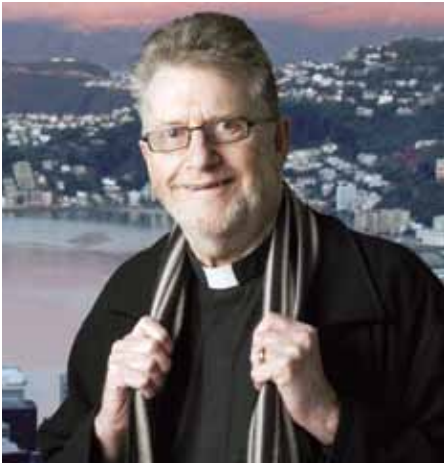


Our Vision. To be an outstanding provider of services, founded on Christian care and compassion, for people in the Wellington region who are at risk or struggling to achieve a reasonable quality of life.



Together we can ensure quality of life

We all want to live a quality life. But sometimes the obstacles in front of us seem so insurmountable that it is easy to lose sight of what should be a basic human right. To sum it all up, we are here to assist people make positive change in their lives.

Many of the people who come to The Mission for help, face an uncertain future because of unemployment, isolation, debt, accommodation issues, addictive behaviour and family difficulties. Through interconnecting Mission for Independence programmes (Drop-in Centre, Budget Advice, Social Work and Foodbank), we work together to help people confront the personal issues that have led to their troubles. It is only after someone is prepared to take responsibility for their own circumstances that solutions can be found.

“...demand is higher than ever, and for The Mission this is also certainly true.”

You may have seen in the media lately, that at food banks in the Greater Wellington region demand is higher than ever, and for The Mission this is also certainly true. But meeting someone who has come in for a food parcel is also a positive experience, as it gives our team the chance to sit down with that person

and really get to the bottom of why help is needed. We will not give out a food parcel without an interview with our social worker – and parcels are designed to supplement a weekly shop – not replace. We want people to be self-reliant. People telling us they no longer need a food parcel is an achievement for everyone.

The Mission for Independence Budget Advice team have also seen an increase in demand, and clients returning to our books after some time off the service. They are quickly reinstated and any problems they are experiencing are efficiently managed so they can come off the programme, ready to head off on the right track again.

The Mission’s Drop-in Centre in Riddiford Street, Newtown continues to welcome people who are seeking a warm, safe place for breakfast or lunch. With the Chapel next to the social room, it’s a sheltered and warm environment, and our Drop-in Centre Supervisor and his team of volunteers are experts at managing the different personalities that come through our doors with each new day.

June is also Brown Paper Bag Appeal time. By filling one of the bags you’ll find in The Dominion Post on Thursday 16 June, and dropping it off at one of our collection points, you become part of the team of supporters who are working hard to stock our Foodbank shelves, and the shelves of the other local food banks we share the donations with. We’ll also be collecting food and money outside supermarkets and malls throughout Wellington on Saturday 18 June as part the Brown Paper Bag Appeal, so if you can, please give generously when you see an Official Wellington City Mission Collector.

And that’s it for your Mission at this half-year point. Isn’t it amazing to think we are already halfway through another year? Thank you for being there with us every day. You really do make a difference. God Bless.

FR DES BRITTEN, Wellington City Missioner

“You really do make a difference.”





I know I have done the best thing for my children and their future

For years and years my husband abused me emotionally and physically, until I finally found the courage to take my children and leave. My friend from church told me that The Wellington City Mission could teach me how to budget - money was very tight and my husband had always looked after that side of things. I met with The Mission's budgeting team who worked out a simple plan for me, and the Foodbank also helped out with food parcels to cover some of our weekly basic groceries.

"It's hard to know how to thank you."

The Mission then told me about their Mission for Families programme, and how the social workers there could support me through this very stressful time. They visited me every week, and I couldn't help but feel supported. I also felt accepted for who I am, and that was a feeling I don't think I have ever had before.

Mission for Families introduced me to Relationship Services for some counselling, Wellington Ending Abuse & Violence to help me with my self esteem issues, Wellington Law Centre to sort out custody and separation problems, Housing New Zealand to help me find a new place to live, Work and Income to sort out my benefit, and Strengthening Families who also helped manage all the different people I needed to meet.

Whenever possible, The Mission has also supplied clothing and household goods to help me out. My social worker has told me that The Mission needs donations of food and money to help families get back on their feet. I have learnt that without those good people, this tough time would have been a whole lot worse. It's hard to know how to thank you. It just means so much.

My Mission visits have cut back to once a month now. I am feeling happy and confident ... working part time and also studying towards a degree in teaching. Thank you for your support of The Mission.

For more information on the Mission for Families programme, please call Olivia Lange on (04) 380 1829 or email olivia@wgtncitymission.org.nz.

Tania's story

I was 21 weeks pregnant, diagnosed with a serious heart condition and suffering from anxiety and agoraphobia (the fear of going outside) when Valley Primary Health Organisation suggested I should go to The Mission for help. I was not coping very well because I also have two other young daughters, my house was cluttered and cold and I was having problems paying my bills. My partner, Sam, is a big help, but there is only so much that he can do

The Mission's Budget Service could see I was at my wit's end, and soon I had a really good system in place for bill payments. The Mission also got in touch with Saint Vincent De Paul who helped me clear my house of things I no longer needed, and also provided some good furniture and heaters.

In April, I gave birth to a gorgeous baby girl and tests at the time told the doctors that my heart was strong. I feel so much more calm about things! My partner couldn't believe it when I went by myself to Pak 'n' Save to get some infant formula. I can't thank the team at The Mission and the people who donate to them enough. Sam and I hope you know how much you have helped us.

For more information on the Mission for Families programme, please call Olivia Lange on (04) 380 1829 or email olivia@wgtncitymission.org.nz.



"Sam and I hope you know how much you have helped us."

So far, so good!

The Mission for Youth Alternative Education programme has begun well this year, with 14 students achieving a total of 111 credits at NCEA Level. These have been achieved over a range of subjects including Mathematics, English, Employment Skills and Legal Studies.

One student has achieved 34 credits so far towards his NCEA Level 1 (including credits he received last year). Another student has achieved 14 credits herself in this year alone. This is an enormous achievement for our students and we expect several to achieve their Foundation Skills Award by the end of Term 2.



Other success stories include two students successfully going back to Wellington High School during Term 1 this year. Mission for Youth worked closely with these two students, meeting with them once a week to make sure this process happened smoothly. **A good start for the Mission for Youth team!**

For more information on the Mission for Youth programme, please call John Chapman on (04) 389 0627 or email johnc@wgtncitymission.org.nz.

From 'lost cause' to studying at WelTech



“they said they could really see the change in me”

I am Adam, and ever since I was at Intermediate School, I have heard people say I was a 'lost cause'. I know people spoke badly about me, but I didn't go to school because I didn't like school!

When I was 16, I started on the Transition to Work programme, which is part of Mission for Youth, but I had trouble settling into a routine, and I know I didn't behave very well.

The teachers and social workers spent heaps of time with me over the first few months I was there, and they talked to me about my health. They thought maybe there was something going on that made me get easily distracted and into trouble. We met heaps of people, and after lots of tests they all said I had drug and alcohol issues and maybe some sort of attention disorder. I didn't even know what that meant back then.

Anyway, The Mission organised a whole lot of medical appointments for me, and they said they could really see the change in me. I could too. I spent 14 months with The Mission. They even helped me enrol at WelTech where I am now studying Computer graphics, and doing very well (if I may say so myself!). I'd like to thank the people who help The Mission out with money, because I am someone who is doing well now because of you.

For more information on the Transition to Work programme, please call Anthony Carter on (04) 380 1848 or email anthony@wgtncitymission.org.nz.

Hope instead of hand-outs, thanks to you

My partner and I were both 19, when we went to see the Mission for Independence social worker. We were both struggling to find work and really needed to talk about it with someone who understood. I did have a job that I really loved, but the company went under and we had been relying on my income whilst Daniel was on a compulsory WINZ course. He had been stood down for 13 weeks because he had missed a few sessions with tonsillitis. The benefit was the last thing we both wanted to be on, but neither of us had any support from our families, and we had already missed 2 weeks rent. I felt sick about it all, I really did.

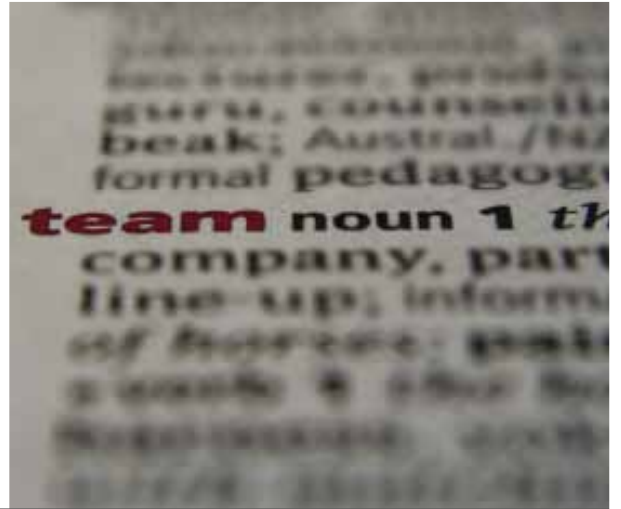
The Mission social worker got in touch with WINZ to set up a meeting with us so she could help us explain that we really did want to work and study and improve our lives. The Mission also told us all about their Transition to Work programme, and how this could help us move towards our goals. Transition to Work is a formal training institution with WINZ, so shortly after our meeting, we were sending off enrolment forms for that. The WINZ Branch Manager said she was impressed how motivated we were to get on with things, so they helped us with a travel allowance to get to Newtown, and paid the 2 weeks rent we missed. We could pay this back to WINZ over a few weeks, and this made such a difference to getting us back on track.

We went from feeling lost and undervalued, to having hope again. The Mission is a great help to people like me. Thank you for your donations so they can keep helping.

“The benefit was the last thing we both wanted to be on.”

For more information on the Mission for Independence programme, please call Jill Hilston on (04) 380 1827 or email jill@wgtncitymission.org.nz.

“This made such a difference to getting us back on track.”



The joy of being independent again

Mission for Seniors visited me when I was recovering from a mastectomy and had fallen off a ladder the day before. I really wanted to reconnect with the outside world and when they said they could help me apply to the Lotteries Commission for a mobility scooter, I was just so excited. Suddenly I had something positive to think about! In order for me to be able to use the scooter, I needed to get my arm and leg working and so the exercises began. The Mission completed the paperwork for my application, and a few months later I received the happy news that my application had been accepted. I use the

“I really wanted to reconnect with the outside world.”

scooter every day, and it has literally changed my life. Now I don't have to rely on friends to help me get around, and I can run errands, go shopping and visit places all on my own. I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to NZ Lotteries Commission and the people who support the Mission for Seniors programme, for helping me claim back my freedom. I may be old, but I still have a lot of things to look forward to, thanks to you.

For more information on the Mission for Seniors programme, please call Vicki St Clair on (04) 477 5985 or email vicki@wgtncitymission.org.nz.

please donate

If you wish to continue your support of our Community Service programmes, please visit our website any time at www.wellingtoncitymission.org.nz, and click on the 'please donate' tab to make a donation. Thank you for helping your City Mission.

Brown Paper Bag Appeal – 16 June to 1 July

The Brown Paper Bag Appeal, which runs this year from Thursday 16 June to Friday 1 July, is The Mission's biggest opportunity to stock up on our Foodbank supplies.

We will be distributing 64,000 eco-friendly bags inside The Dominion Post on 16 June, and asking Wellingtonians to help us by filling these with any non-perishable food items. Filled bags can be dropped off at participating Shell service stations or Mission depots. Details of these are printed on the bags.

Goods collected are not only distributed by The Mission's Foodbank, but are shared amongst other food banks throughout the Greater Wellington region, many of whom are experiencing similar demand.

We'd love you to help us by making a food donation. If it is easier for you, please make a financial donation online by visiting www.wellingtoncitymission.org.nz and clicking on the red 'please donate' tab.

Thank you!



Look out for the special Brown Paper Bag Yellow Bins to put your food donation into at participating Shell service stations.



Supermarket and Mall Appeal – Saturday 18 June

In conjunction with our Brown Paper Bag Appeal, on Saturday 18 June The Mission will be collecting food and financial donations from outside Supermarkets and Malls throughout Wellington.

Please look out for Official Wellington City Mission Collectors in red t-shirts, and give generously if you are in a position to offer support. Your help will get us through the Winter months.

We are still recruiting for volunteers to help collect on Saturday 18 June. If you are interested in helping out, please call or email Matt on matt@wgtncitymission.org.nz, or phone (04) 477 5964. Thank you!



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www.wellingtoncitymission.org.nz

A bequest costs nothing now, yet offers a way for your support of The Wellington City Mission to live on. If you are considering leaving us in your Will, we'd love to talk to you. Your gift will allow us to be an enduring social service for our city.

Please call us on (04) 477 5960 or email enquiries@wgtncitymission.org.nz

Our Vision. To be an outstanding provider of services, founded on Christian care and compassion, for people in the Wellington region who are at risk or struggling to achieve a reasonable quality of life.

Happenings – how your support has helped The Mission

Over the 3 month period, Jan 2011 – March 2011:

Mission for Families

- + Mission for Families worked with 138 families on advocacy, domestic violence and health issues.
- + 41% of these families were residents of Wellington City, whilst 59% were residents of the Hutt Valley.

Mission for Seniors

- + 248 of Wellington's most vulnerable elderly received assistance from our Mission for Seniors social workers and nurses. Of these, 65 were in Wellington, 29 in North Wellington, 26 in Porirua, 87 in Lower Hutt and 41 in Upper Hutt.
- + 43% of service users were between the ages of 81 and 90, and 10% of service users were over the age of 90.
- + 449 home visits were made to service users, along with 120 visits to various agencies on their behalf. Additionally, there were 1,526 telephone contacts made to and on behalf of Mission for Seniors programme service users.
- + 39 service users were successfully discharged from the programme upon completing the goals they had initially set when joining the programme, and now feel confident enough to move forward independently.

Mission for Independence – Foodbank

- + 927 food parcels were given out over the three month period – 699 to families and 228 to individuals.
- + Over 219 children under the age of 16 were beneficiaries of the Foodbank's assistance.
- + 211 interviews took place with users of the Foodbank service to determine their situation and level of need.
- + 60 Foodbank service users were referred to The Wellington City Mission's Budget Advice service in an effort to address the causes of their reliance upon the Foodbank service.
- + 46 users of the Foodbank service no longer needed to rely upon food parcels from the Mission.
- + A support group of Mission volunteers contributed a total of 285 hours of assistance in the Foodbank.

Mission for Independence – Drop-in Centre

- + A total of 3,231 meals were served in the Drop-in Centre with an average of 55 clients using the Drop-in Centre each day that it was open.
- + Volunteers contributed 795 hours of assistance to our Drop-in Centre.
- + 49 regular Drop-in Centre and Foodbank service users worked closely with the Mission for Independence social worker for assistance with their social issues, problems and concerns.

Mission for Independence – Budget Advice and Total Money Management

- + 185 service users were helped by our Budget Advice Service. This figure includes 26 from the Hutt Valley.
- + 24 new service users were introduced to the Budget Advice Service through other Mission programmes which interconnect to ensure the best overall outcome is achieved.
- + Assistance given included 469 separate meetings, visits, calls, contacts with service users and 155 separate contacts, meetings, calls and visits to a variety of different agencies or organisations on behalf of service users.
- + 304 phone calls were made to a variety of creditors in an effort to reduce client debt levels.
- + 3,540 separate financial transactions were made on behalf of clients through The Mission's trust account. This is where The Mission manages all of the service users' finances for a pre-determined time as we move them towards financial independence.

Mission for Youth

- + Our Alternative Education programme started the academic year with twelve students enrolled.
- + 111 NCEA credits have been achieved by students since the school year began, and an overall attendance rate of 69% was achieved – a high rate from students whom had previously been excluded from mainstream education for at least two terms.

Mission for Youth – Transition to Work Programme

- + 11 rangatahi entered our Transition to work programme and closely worked with staff, mentors and teachers to gain practical and social skills to assist them into the workplace or on to further study.



The Wellington City Mission Chief Executive Officer, Marketing and Fundraising, Accounts, Administration and Mission for Seniors, 125-137 Johnsonville Road, PO Box 13 383, Johnsonville, Wellington 6440. Phone: 04 477 5960, Fax: 04 477 5969, email: enquiries@wgtncitymission.org.nz

The Wellington City Mission Community Services, City Missioner and St Thomas Mission Centre, 200 Riddiford Street, PO Box 7477, Newtown, Wellington South 6242. Phone: 04 389 2033, Fax: 04 389 2109

www.wellingtoncitymission.org.nz



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The Wellington City Mission.