

TAURANGA HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY SYNOD REPORT 2012

Rev Tamati Pewhairangi Hospital Chaplain

I regularly meet with the Local Service Provider (LSP) Committee with representation from Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian, and Methodist churches. The hospital staffs are represented by Sandra Fielding Nurse Leader and management is represented by Lindsay Hyslop Corporate Service Advisor.

Along with my colleague Phil Scott, we lead a team of eleven experienced Chaplain Assistants. As part of our responsibilities we spend some time at Whakatane hospital undertaking Chaplaincy relief.

We continue to provide on going education on a bi monthly basis to chaplaincy personnel so that we are in a position to offer the highest quality service.

In March this year, a member of staff who had been an employee for 40 years passed away and was accorded a funeral in the hospital's Education Centre which was attended by four hundred plus staff and friends. The service was conducted by me and Phil along with a moving poroporoaki from Maori Health Services and mana whenua.

We continue to hold ecumenical chapel services in the chapel every Sunday and value the support of the local church volunteers who on rostered system assist with collecting patients. We also provide as is required bedside communion and other services.

I am a member of the New Zealand Healthcare Chaplaincy Associations' Executive Committee and its National Kaumatua, a privilege that enables me to gain insights into this very special ministry. Through holding these positions I have been excited to discover that there are forty plus Maori Chaplains working in our hospitals throughout the country and I have made contact with them encouraging them to become members of the association. In talking to some of these new found members, some live in isolated geographical areas, while others come from the lower socio economic parts of New Zealand. I believe this to be the reason for their non participation in the affairs of the Association.

It has been a privilege to be asked by other Healthcare Providers to carryout blessings to their buildings particularly following the death of a patient/client.

In February I was invited to officiate in a moving ceremony of the Waipuna Hospice Annual Remembrance Service which was well attended.

In December last year we held an end of year thanksgiving service for hospital staff and volunteers and enjoyed an evening of carolling with patients and staff.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Diocese of Waiapu for its continued support of Chaplaincy