



UPDATE: 3 May 2010

## MANUKAU EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION TASKFORCE

### Increasing Participation in Early Childhood Education in Manukau :

*A Tomorrow's Manukau: Manukau Apōpō Project*

**Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei,  
Greetings to all.**

#### IN HONOUR OF ALLEN CHANG

Allen Chang, who died on February 28 2010, was honoured by a special tribute from the Mayor, Len Brown, at the March Council Meeting.



Allen was the Executive Manager for COMET and was the facilitator for the Manukau Early Childhood Education Taskforce's many activities last year, including

arranging the series of forums which many of you attended. He will be missed by many.

#### Achievements in 2009

- **Three** new early childhood centres were established in Manukau— **seven** are in the pipeline.
- **Twelve** new Playgroups were established last year.
- Manukau City Council's resource consent process has been streamlined with a quicker more responsive process.
- **Five** community forums were held.
- The Ministry of Education is working on new policy to remove barriers to establishing new centres on Council land and on school sites.

#### A work programme for 2010

Participants at the final forum in December last year were invited to contribute ideas for the work programme in 2010. Ideas included:

- Language preservation
- More Pacific bilingual centres
- Promoting quality ECE and 'quality' indicators

- Disability issues
- Reserve Contribution / Development Contributions
- Teacher registration issues and processes
- Developing a better understanding of the transition of children from ECE to school
- National Standards / educational standards etc that can reasonably be expected of children as they begin school
- Holding specific meetings for ethnic groups / iwi / migrant communities
- Teaching boys in ECE

We hope to explore most of these ideas further at a Symposium in June this year (see below), and at a follow-up Summit in July/August (watch this space).

#### For your diary:

#### Building the Right Foundations

18 June, 2010, 10am – 4pm

A symposium for Managers and Planners of Early Childhood services within Education, Health, Social Development Community and Voluntary agencies, to explore how to create services through and around ECEs that support families to improve outcomes for their children.

*Further information about this Symposium will be available shortly.*

#### Will the goals for increasing ECE participation in Manukau be realised through the Super City?

By making increasing participation in early childhood education a "city goal", Manukau has stimulated new partnerships which are making a difference. These gains are valuable, but a long-term effort is needed.

To make sure that the goal is not forgotten by the Super City, **please join with us in ensuring that this goal goes on the agenda of the new Super City Social Issues Forum**, by either attending the symposium, or responding to the Social Policy Forum discussion document at <http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/feedback+sought+auckland+social+policy+forum>