

ChangeMakers Refugee Forum  
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# ANNUAL REPORT

2014 - 2015

*COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | RESEARCH | ADVOCACY*  
*Achieving our vision of seeing New Zealanders of refugee backgrounds fully  
participating in New Zealand life.*

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# CHAIR'S REPORT

Last year I opened this report by saying that we are living through turbulent times both internationally and domestically. This year I could echo that. The particular issues which caused so much concern may change but the human capacity for doing harm and inflicting misery continues.

Of course we are not alone in this. The challenges which we face are similar to those faced by other NGOs associated with our particular sector of interest. One day perhaps collectively we may be able to rationalize the sector but for now we will continue to do the very best job that we can under the circumstances in which we find ourselves.

There is an up-side to the scenario outlined in this slightly pessimistic opening and it is this that I wish to concentrate on for the remainder of this report. When I look back the two years to the time I accepted this position ChangeMakers Refugee Forum was struggling. Now I don't for one minute wish to imply that the fact that we are now a more stable organization is in any way due to my efforts. I do wish, however, to pay tribute the vision of the Board and then the hard work and skill shown by our CEO Tayyaba Khan and her team in implementing it. I acknowledge and I thank you.

We have appointed two new staff, both part time and they have introduced new programmes such as the Ahwa Info Hub – which gives refugees to seek one-on-one help and the development of a new radio channel which we will use to raise refugee awareness to a wider audience.

Finally I wish to thank the Board for all of their hard work throughout the year.

Yussuf Khalif



# TURNING THE CURVE – DRIVING PROGRAMME

*Women who are happy, fulfilled and connected with other women, are able to support their families, their community, and to reach their own potential.*

*Turning the Curve* is ChangeMaker's driving programme for women from refugee background communities. In this third year of the programme 22 women started driving lessons, bringing the total to 60 drivers since we began. Drivers have been aged between 25 and 61, though the majority were in their 30s and 40s.

The programme arose because women across the region told us that getting their driver license is their top priority if they are to live their lives like other NZ women. It has been guided by the Driver License Steering Group, made up of women from the refugee background communities.

This year, with Diana Crossan's (CE of Wellington Free Ambulance) help, we were able to find 21 sponsorships for eligible drivers. In total, 54 Wellington women make up the 21 sponsorships for this year's drivers. More than half of last year's sponsors sponsored again. This project is only possible thanks to their paying for professional driving lessons. Sponsors were given information about their learner driver and updated through the year on their driver's progress.

Driving lessons began from August. Lessons were provided by 4 driving schools. This year we added an additional driving lesson for driver and volunteer after every 20 practice sessions with the aim of reducing the time taken to be ready to sit the test.

Volunteers are the other essential component of this programme, without whom the programme could not run. 62 potential driving practice volunteers responded to our recruitment drive. 35 applied to train. 31 completed training and were matched with a driver for regular practice.

We continue to improve our training programme which can be readily delivered to small and large groups of volunteers as needed through the year. We hugely appreciate the contribution from all presenters.

The programme was fortunate to receive administration funding this year for the first time, from the Good Shepherd Trust. A condition of the funding was to evaluate the programme. Evaluation was conducted by Amber Kale, an honours student at VUW School of Human Geography. Amber interviewed and surveyed drivers, volunteers, sponsors and driving instructors.

At year end, 55% of all drivers selected to drive since July 2012 have passed either the Restricted License or the Restricted and Full Licenses.



## REFUGEES INTO BUSINESS

The Refugees into Business (RiB) programme was established by CRF to support former refugees who wish to set up a business in the Wellington region. A panel of mentors and advisors, who are well-established in the Wellington business scene, meet with candidates and offer support on all stages of the process. This includes an initial assessment of ideas, development of a business plan, feedback and suggestions, and advice on sourcing funds. ChangeMakers has recently reignited the RiB programme, and the first group of candidates are currently preparing business proposals to present before the RiB panel. We wish them luck.

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

CRF initiated the Young ChangeMakers Wire – an information network, run by refugee-background youth, which encourages youth to plan events, share news and build connections. The youth portfolio is being supported by Daniel Gamboa (Colombian community) and Yared Kabede (Ethiopian community), who joined CRF as youth ambassadors to support our youth development programme. Young former refugees celebrated Youth Week with a night of conversation and games, meeting friends and brainstorming ideas around youth needs and future projects. This year YCW in collaboration with Barbarian Productions also ran a photo project during World Refugee Day titled, "What Makes You Happy." Some of these were shared through

social media with a launch to be expected at the end of this year. The next project will be self-defense classes, which will start in October and run for ten weeks.



## AHWA INFO HUB

The Ahwa Info Hub is a space at ChangeMakers where former-refugees meet once a week over coffee and tea. It takes its name from ahwa, the colloquial pronunciation for coffee houses found in old cities across the Middle East. Ahwa has two broad aims. The first is to break social isolation in refugee communities, and to encourage participation in social events. Research around health in refugee communities has identified this as particularly important, as social participation is necessary for other areas of wellbeing. Ahwa's second aim is to provide a comfortable space where community members, who may be experiencing specific issues, may drop in and talk to a volunteer. Our volunteers have gone through a training programme, and can provide ongoing support with community members experiencing any range of issues. Ahwa began on 22nd July 2015, and has been running for about three months. It is on every Wednesday from 4-6pm at ChangeMakers.

## PASS THE MIC

Pass The Mic, is a radio show by and about the refugee communities. An hour of interviews, panel discussions, community announcements and of music that will be broadcast on Access Radio 783 am every fortnight on Tuesdays at 8.30pm and Saturdays at 5pm. Pass The Mic is an initiative encouraging young people of refugee background to gain experience in the media and how to share their stories.

Pass the Mic is brought to you in collaboration with Access Radio Wellington, Holy Cow Media, & volunteers from the media world. Jhoan Rivas (Colombian community) co-hosts the show with Dr Sapna Samant, Director of Holy Cow Media. You can listen to the show on:

<https://passthemicnz.wordpress.com/>

## SPECIAL THANKS

Board of ChangeMakers Refugee Forum  
Diana Crossan, donor & Advisor  
Vanisa Dhiru, Advisor  
Dr Toby Ganley, Advisor  
Kevin Allan, Advisor  
Tricia Wallbridge, Advisor  
Daniel Gamboa Salazar, YCW Ambassador  
Yared Kebede, YCW Ambassador  
Desigin Thulkanam  
Ann Dysart  
Good Shepherd Trust  
Ministry of Social Development  
Nikau Foundation  
Lion Foundation  
Department of Internal Affairs  
Office of Ethnic Communities  
Lotteries  
Splice  
54 sponsors of driving lessons  
48 driving practice volunteers  
Horowhenua College  
Howard Watson, Howard Driver Training  
Ana To'o, Pasifika Driver Education  
Wayne Millican, Learn to Drive  
Mike Hartle, Road Smart Driver Training  
Driver Licence Steering Group  
Interpreters who assist communication with individual drivers and at meetings  
Philip Ord  
Valerie Townsend  
Wendy Bryant

Professor Sara Kindon, VUW School of Human Geography  
Amber Kale  
Barbarian Productions  
Dr Sapna Samant, Holy Cow Media  
Kim Griggs, Radio NZ  
Nina Fowler, Radio NZ  
Krishna Ogwaro, Pass The Mic  
Jhoan Rivas, Pass The Mic  
A special thanks to MCLaSS for all their support this year





# FINANCIAL REPORTING

- Performance
- Movement of equity
- Financial position

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

For the year ended 30  
June 2015

	Note s	2015	2014
<u>Income</u>		\$	\$
Contracts	4	73,570	157,699
Donations		865	2,520
Drivers License Project Income		23,784	21,241
Grants	5	154,352	143,996
Fundraising		-	1,517
Interest		2,810	3,657
Membership Fees		300	257
Service Charges and Recovered Costs		-	940
		<b>255,682</b>	<b>331,827</b>
<u>Less Expenses</u>			
Service Delivery Expense			
Community Support and Associated Activities		<b>46,918</b>	<b>91,485</b>

Occupancy Expenses		
Communications		
	2,868	2,506
Depreciation	3	
	485	909
Low Value Assets		
	-	713
Printing and Stationery		
	4,730	4,790
Rent, Venue Hire and Parking		
	6,581	20,321
Sundry Operating Expenses		
	1,726	380
	<b>16,390</b>	<b>29,619</b>
Personnel Expenses		
Remuneration		
	135,018	194,433
Other Employment Related Expenses		
	2,913	2,087
	<b>137,931</b>	<b>196,521</b>
Other expenses		
Audit Fees		
	1,950	1,900
Insurance		
	1,752	1,926
Miscellaneous		
	3,030	7,933
	<b>6,732</b>	<b>11,758</b>
Total Expenses		
	<b>207,970</b>	<b>329,383</b>
Operating Surplus		
	<b>47,711</b>	<b>2,444</b>

## STATEMENT OF MOVEMENT OF EQUITY

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	\$	\$
Equity at the Start of the Year	46,571	44,127
Operating Surplus	47,711	2,444
Equity at the End of the Year	<u>94,282</u>	<u>46,571</u>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<b>As at 30 June 2015</b>			
		<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>Notes</b>	\$	\$
<b>Equity</b>			
<b>Accumulated Funds at Year End</b>			
		<b>94,282</b>	<b>46,571</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash, Petrol and Supermarket Vouchers on Hand	660		51
Bank Accounts		217,856	87,179
Prepayments	717		-
Accounts Receivable	5,270		43,700
		<b>224,503</b>	<b>130,930</b>
<b>Property and equipment</b>			
Computer Equipment	3	-	485
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>224,503</b>	<b>131,415</b>

<b><u>Less Liabilities</u></b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable & Accruals	10,083	19,278
GST	23,716	9,089
Carried Forward Committed Funds	96,422	56,477
	<b>130,221</b>	<b>84,843</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>94,282</b>	<b>46,571</b>

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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## BOARD 2014 – 2015

Yussuf Khalif, Chair  
Luwi Buchike  
Adam Awad

Chandra Binod Dahal  
Maraea Rakuraku

Francis Ogwaro  
Maureen Zaya

Yared Kebede (no longer on the board)  
Kelsey Owens (no longer on the board)  
Sapna Samant (no longer on the board)  
Christalin Pa, Deputy Chair (no longer on the board)  
Siry Ibrahim (no longer on the board)  
Sumaia Okud (no longer on the board)  
Shamim Hodayun (no longer on the board)