

# Communities Newsletter

December 2019



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## November Leaders' Council Meeting



ChangeMakers held a Leaders' Council Forum in November where those present identified 6 key areas continue to be a focus for communities. These areas are employment, immigration, education, housing, women and youth. It was very important to hear from our members what is important to them. We will continue to organise meetings and events in 2020 so that we are focusing on the priorities for our member communities. One of our principles is "A *shared voice is a strong voice*" and we know

from experience that when we speak with one voice on issues of common concern, we are far more likely to create the change we need. We will let you know in the new year when and where we will be holding meetings and events for members.

## Community Gardening

Looking for a place to be involved in growing vegetables and herbs? Would you like to meet people in your neighbourhood and learn or share gardening skills?

ChangeMakers Resettlement Forum can connect you with one of these community gardening groups:

- KaiCycle Urban Farm, 5 Hospital Road, **Newtown**
- Innermost Gardens, 31 Lawson Place, **Mt Victoria**
- Island Bay & Berhampore Community Orchard, Adelaide Rd (beside Granville Flats), **Berhampore**
- Miramar Community Centre, 27 Chelsea Street, **Miramar**
- Raukawa Community Centre, 63 Rawkawa St, **Strathmore Park** (garden in the reserve)

*If you are interested, please contact Tracey Read at ChangeMakers, 020 41130531.*



# Open Road end of year celebration and updates

The Open Road Driving Programme celebrated its second successful year in Porirua in November. The end of year celebration was also a chance to say goodbye to Porirua as we are moving the programme back to Wellington next year. We are delighted to report that around 60 people will have gained their restricted or full drivers' licence in Porirua by the end of 2019. They have all been mentored by our awesome volunteers. So many learners have told us about the positive difference the programme has made to their lives.



Saw Pone talked about how having his licence eventually led to paid work. Volunteer Bruce has mentored 5 student drivers by taking them out to practice their driving regularly. He wanted to meet people when he moved to Porirua and give something back to the community.

We already have a long list of people who live in Wellington and are keen to get on the programme. We are now busy selecting our first intake of learners for 2020.

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## Turning The Curve celebrates 100 passes

Turning the Curve recently celebrated 100 women passing their restricted license since the programme began. So many of our successful learners have told us about the many benefits of gaining their drivers licences such as gaining their independence and increasing their chances of employment.

We would like to congratulate Khin (pictured above) who passed her restricted licence the first time she sat the test! A very big thank you to Susie and Ella for practicing with Khin and helping her succeed. Thanks also to Dion who gave Khin driving lessons and helped her prepare for the test.

We have interviewed all eligible women for the new intake of learner drivers and names were picked from the ballot on 12th of December. We expect the new drivers to start driving at the end of January 2020.

*We will be looking for volunteers to help them to practice their driving so please contact us on [TTC@crf.org.nz](mailto:TTC@crf.org.nz) if you or a friend can spare a few hours a week to help out. Thank you!*





# Vinnies Resew Sewing Classes

Are you interested in sewing things for yourself, your family, the community?

- Can't sew but would like to learn?
- Can sew but would like to learn more?

Vinnes Resaw is a sewing workshop in Kilbirnie with staff and volunteers who saw our community. They will have free weekly sessions for refugee background women beginning in February 2020 at 32 Rongotai Road, Kilbirnie



**Every Monday, 12.30 – 2.30pm for women learning to sew**  
**Every Wednesday, 10am – 12pm for experienced sewers**

If you would like to join but it is hard for you to attend, please contact Tracey to discuss.

Each class is limited to 5 people. *Reserve your place now by contacting Tracey Read at ChangeMakers - 020 411 3053 - phone / message / WhatsApp / Viber.*

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## Women's Dance Night a great success!

Lots of women turned up for a multicultural dance night at Central Park Apartments community room. The night was a great success with women dancing, having their hands painted with henna, sharing food and having lots of fun meeting each other. ChangeMakers would like to thank Faiza Abukar for supporting us with the organisation of this event, which has followed on from their Newtown Park women's night event.



# Picnic in the Park - 28 January 2019

We are going to start the new year with a multicultural food celebration for our communities at Pukeahu Park in Wellington City. You are invited to bring yourself, your family, and your friends and please bring some food from your culture to share in the park.

**Picnic in the Park**  
**Pukeahu National War Memorial Park**  
**28th January, 12 pm - 2 pm**

Wet weather venue is Mt Cook Primary School Hall, 160 Tory Street, Te Aro  
*For more information please contact Tracey Read at ChangeMakers - 020 411 3053 - phone / message / WhatsApp / Viber.*



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## Office Closure Date

Our office will be closed for summer on

**Friday 20th  
December.  
We will be open  
again on  
Monday 6th  
January!**

We wish you all a very happy holidays and hope you all have Great time to enjoy summer with your family and friends!

