

Warmer Canterbury

A forum to ensure an integrated approach to winter warmth initiatives in Canterbury

PURPOSE:

- Provide a planned response to winter issues
- Enable sharing of projects and initiatives related to winter warmth with the aim of extending their reach and uptake
- Combine resources (funding, people, venue, connections etc) where possible to improve the impact of identified projects / initiatives
- Ensure communication is linked so key messages are consistent
- Capture information to plan ahead for the coming winters

PRIORITIES:

Tenants and tenanted properties
Fuel poverty
Vulnerable populations

Who is involved:

Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB) • Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) • Earthquake Commission (EQC) • Environment Canterbury (ECAN)
Red Cross • Christchurch City Council (CCC) • Canterbury Energy Action (CEA) • Ministry of Social Development • He Oranga Pounamu (HOP)
Canterbury Temporary Accommodation Service (CTAS) • CALD communities • Primary Care • Age Concern • Tenants Protection Association (TPA)

What has been done

- Group established and Terms of Reference developed
- Common messages produced for all to use including brochures and advertisements
- Extended the reach of member agency activities
- Evaluation of winter 2012 showed good extension of programs and indicated the need to create stronger strategic linkages
- Supported Red Cross grants in terms of extending reach of Winter Assistance, Winter Packs and other grants
- Produced information in a range of languages for CALD communities
- Linked up community agencies with local and national government organisations
- Produced a directory of winter support services

What we are doing

- Meeting consistently throughout summer to plan for the coming winter
- Revisiting the key messages and reproducing brochures and advertising
- Holding a Healthy Christchurch Hui focused on winter warmth to further extend reach of programs
- Identifying areas where broad advocacy is required e.g. fuel poverty
- Liaising up with other existing groups like Sustainable Building working group, Community Wellbeing planners etc
- Working as an information conduit through Healthy Christchurch to get key messages, programmes and initiatives promoted
- Supporting other programs such as the Red Cross distribution of Winter Packs and CDHB's Warmer Homes project