

### **Mark Jones visit to Wellington South.**

On a very rainy Thursday in April, I was honoured to present some of our fine Primary Health Care nursing initiatives in the Wellington South to Mark Jones, Chief Nurse from the Ministry of Health. Last year nurses in the Porirua had similarly showcased their nursing in the Porirua area and when invited, Mark was more than happy to come out with us again.

The visit started at Planning and Funding where I spent a short time talking with him about our direction for 2008, but this was soon followed by our first appointment at the Wellington South Child and Family Nursing Initiative in Miramar / Strathmore. This is an inter-professional / inter-sectoral initiative where Plunket and Regional Public Health have joined forces to pilot working in different ways to improve health outcomes in the community. Much of their activities are based around the schools and pre-schools of the area, but also with other community agencies such as the Fire Service, the Community Centre, the Police, and Housing NZ etc. Bev Aspros, Signe Christensen, and Gleniss Finau, proudly shared their work of the last eight months

We then visited Sharon Mackie and her recently expanded (by one more nurse coordinator and administration staff member) PATHS team.

The Providing Access to Health Solutions Service team has been working with clients receiving sickness or invalids benefit, who may be able to return to the workforce with health barriers addressed, and community and employment support provided.

The third visit for the morning required a bit more active participation as we 'did the walk about' with Jane Ginnane from the Te Aro Health Service. We visited the Compassion Centre-Soup Kitchen, Te Aro Park and even a local bridge where some people 'sleep rough' It is here that we really came in touch with nursing making a difference in the lives of those who are less advantaged in our city.

By then it was time to rest the guy!!

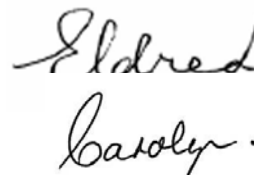
Tui Maxwell and Pam Joll nurse leaders from WIPA and Capital PHO joined us for lunch and a lively discussion around management of long term conditions in primary care and continuing education for Nurses.

But wait there's more! At 2pm we visited Rebecca, Nurse Practitioner, Youth Specialty Services, from EVOLVE. Here we talked about access to health services for young people, and also the role transition to nurse practitioner after a 6 months period.

### **Vacancy management**

The advertisement for the Director of Nursing Primary Health Care has been placed on SEEK, on the C&CDHB Intranet and in the internal staff circular.

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Cool news quote:

The leadership instinct you are born with is the backbone. You develop the funny bone and the wishbone that go with it

*Elaine Agather*