

President's Report – AGM 2023

The Cerebral Palsy Society is celebrating another successful year – a year filled with milestones, new initiatives and changes.

This past year, staff at the Cerebral Palsy Society have enjoyed supporting members, their families and whānau, by providing information, advice and assistance with funding.

The wins that the team helped our members achieve, and the grateful appreciation members have shown has made our mahi feel very rewarding.

Throughout the 2022-2023 year the Society's board, management and staff have continued to keep the four strategic objectives of the organisation's Business Strategy front of mind with everything they do.

1. Ensuring future organisational and financial sustainability.
2. Delivering valued, national services to our members.
3. Awareness and advocacy.
4. Driving research into CP.

Highlights and projects from the 2022-2023 year, include:

- Collaboratively designing several new research projects focusing on various aspects of Hōkai Nukurangi Cerebral Palsy, such as the experiences of adults living with the condition.
- Maintaining our commitment to ministerial advocacy and policy initiatives aimed at enhancing access for individuals with Hōkai Nukurangi Cerebral Palsy.
- Disseminating knowledge through our presentations both locally and internationally, including engagements in Canada and Australia.
- Playing an instrumental role in the design and development of innovative Hōkai Nukurangi Cerebral Palsy-related technologies, including the creation of apps such as Turnto – Cerebral Palsy.

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- Meaningful and impactful contributions to projects aligned with Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People during its inaugural year, such as Enabling Good Lives resources.
- Initiating efforts to advocate for changes at the local government level, particularly in relation to council matters, such as access to facilities.
- Successfully launching the getDriving program - a testament to our collective efforts and our ability to generate momentum around new initiatives.
- Seeking evidence of a Hōkai Nukurangi Cerebral Palsy diagnosis from new and existing members to ensure our funding is going to New Zealanders living with Hōkai Nukurangi Cerebral Palsy.
- Ensuring as many members as possible were aware of, and part of, the New Zealand Cerebral Palsy Register - Te Rēhita a Hōkai Nukurangi Aotearoa.
- A successful Be Green & Be Seen campaign which resulted in funds raised for the Society and awareness raised about Hōkai Nukurangi Cerebral Palsy and its impact on New Zealanders living with it.
- Our seven Coffee Groups across the country continuing to be a popular opportunity for members to gather, socialise and share experiences.
- Introducing Mates @ Maccas as an opportunity for our youth and young adult members in Auckland to gather and socialise.
- Holding our 2022 AGM in person and virtually, once again with the support of electionz.com. Planning is underway for the 2023 AGM which will only be held virtually.

The Cerebral Palsy Society team continues to work hard to keep all of these projects, and many others, running to their full potential, with the ultimate goal of serving our members to the best of our ability and ensuring they live their best lives.



Ka mahi tahi mātou, kia ohoka te pitomata hai puananī. We work together in order to awaken the potential to travel in any direction we choose.

We are excited about future projects and continuing to progress the Society through advocacy and awareness.

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa. Let us keep close together, not wide apart.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa – great acknowledgments to you all.

Meg Smith
Board Chairperson

