



Nominee Biographies AGM 2025 Cerebral Palsy Society of New Zealand

The Cerebral Palsy Society's Constitution allows for nine (9) board member positions and also requires 50 percent of previously elected board members to stand for re-election at each AGM.

This year the Cerebral Palsy Society received four (4) nominations for five (5) Board member positions. Therefore, **voting is not required for Board members**. All four (4) nominees will be elected unopposed at the 2025 Annual General Meeting on October 19.

Below are the biographies submitted by the 2025 nominees.
Biographies are listed alphabetically by surname:

- Daniel Clay
 - Kris Edwards
 - Tiresa Sio
 - Murray Waring
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Daniel Clay



I have been honoured to serve the CPS community as a Board member since 2020, and as President and Board Chair since 2023.

Drawing on my experience in leadership, law, and business, and my lived experience with cerebral palsy through my daughter Indie, alongside the support of my wife Amy, I have worked hard to support CPS members.

While, like all of you, I lead a busy life, I remain committed to dedicating time to serving members effectively.

I believe continuity in leadership is vital, especially as several long-standing Board members step down this year. I am standing again to maintain momentum in sustaining and improving the services that make a real difference in members' lives.

My focus has been on understanding members' needs and advocating on their behalf. We have increasingly engaged members through surveys and direct conversations.

I had the pleasure of meeting members to understand issues around accessible holidays and have represented members' interests in the housing sector as Chair of the Housing Working Group, advising the government on the Disability Strategy Review.

A key priority for me has been the Government's recent changes to the disability funding regime. I greatly appreciate members sharing their experiences, which have guided our advocacy. I have lobbied the Government on your behalf and will continue to do so as the new funding framework comes into effect.

Looking ahead, my priorities include improving understanding of members' needs, creating social opportunities to foster friendships and reduce isolation, maintaining financial sustainability, and attracting additional financial support to expand services.

I would be honoured to continue serving CPS and work with members, staff, and fellow Board members to make a lasting, positive impact.

Kris Edwards



I am a married father of 2 boys and live with CP (Spastic Diplegia).

Professionally I have 40 years of experience in broadcast media (radio) with current senior roles in management, announcing & music programming.

In recent years I have reconnected with the cerebral palsy community and am now a fierce advocate for the disabled, committed to giving CP a "louder voice". I am literally doing that with

"The Cerebral Palsy Podcast" a series I host which tells the stories of people in the NZ CP community.

Growing up as a disabled child in the 70 & 80s and into adulthood with an independent attitude, now as a parent, I have experienced all the ups and downs of a CP life.

I am standing for the CPS Board to genuinely make a difference for people who live with CP in New Zealand and the wider whanau who live with the challenges of a loved one with CP.

I know many of you suffer in silence, I would like to hear what you have to say.

There is work to do in raising the profile of people with CP. More inclusive attitudes and processes are needed across all sectors of our society, I want to be part of that change.

Outside of my work I am passionate about time with family, watching movies, martial arts, finance and travel!

My voice on the board will be a positive one, let's see what we can accomplish together. CP needs a louder voice.

Kris

Tiresa Sio



Tālofa lava, I'm Tiresa.

I come with rhythm in my bones, laughter in my lungs, and a cultural heritage that keeps me grounded and glowing.

From my Sāmoan roots, I bring warmth, joy, and a sense of humour that could probably qualify as a public service.

From my Chinese heritage, I carry wisdom, humility, and a work ethic so strong it occasionally forgets to take lunch breaks.

Both cultures have taught me the value of dignity, community, and harmony—essentials in any leadership role.

I lead with collaboration, equity, and a firm belief that diverse voices don't just add flavour—they're the whole recipe.

I host the Addington CPS Coffee Group, where the tea is hot and the conversations even hotter.

I also stay closely connected to Vaka Tautua and the Christchurch disability community, which keeps me grounded in the voices and values of those I serve. Leadership, to me, isn't about titles — it's about trust, empathy, and showing up (preferably with snacks).

I believe the Cerebral Palsy Society can build a future that's inclusive, empowering, and maybe even a little fabulous — but only if it's led by people who truly understand our lived realities.

I've seen how housing, income, education, and access to services hit harder for people with CP. That's why I advocate passionately for greater inclusion, equitable access, and authentic representation — because every voice deserves to be heard and celebrated.

Fa'afetai tele lava. Let's do this!

Murray Waring



I'm Murray, from the Rural Community of Pukekohe East.

Having lived here for 37 years –within an hour's drive of Auckland's CBD during off-peak times – I know first-hand the extra challenges faced by those of us in Rural Communities and Regional Towns outside the Main Centres.

Everywhere is equally important, and every Member matters. If you are feeling disheartened, forgotten, or less engaged, I am determined to change that – to ensure every

one of us feels connected, valued, and heard.

Living with CP and using a wheelchair, I understand the persistence it takes to secure and maintain essential support. It took me four years – and the goodwill of those involved – to secure funding for my two-weekly Physiotherapy Sessions in the private sector, and even now, maintaining that funding is ongoing.

My advocacy work has included contributions to Air New Zealand, Ansett New Zealand, Auckland International Airport, the Pullman Hotel, the Ministry of Education, and Local Government, helping improve accessibility for all.

I've also lived and travelled widely, bringing a broad perspective to inclusion and community engagement.

If you re-elect me to the Board, I will:

- Ensure every Member has a genuine voice and is actively included.
- Work to improve accessibility across Cities, Regional Centres, and Rural Communities.
- Share practical strategies to help Members navigate funding and services from personal experience.
- Collaborate constructively with fellow Board Members and the GM.
- Keep politics and personal agendas out of the way.
- Encourage more Members to vote to strengthen accountability.

Outside of advocacy, I enjoy Current Affairs, Travelling, catching up with Family and Friends, watching Travel, Comedy, and Documentary content on YouTube, and teaching myself new skills.
