

CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK

Name: _____



24-25 MAY 2025





ADRA

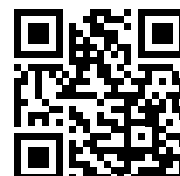
DISASTER READY CHURCH PROGRAM



ARE YOU READY? ARE YOUR NEIGHBOURS READY?

Let ADRA equip your family to be ready by
hosting a DRC Workshop at your church.

Head over to our website to register:
adra.org.nz/drc or contact Luana Tupou
at luanatupou@adra.org.nz for more information



COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DATE	TIME	ITEM	DETAILS
Sabbath 25 May	8:30am	Arrive at Marae	Participants arrive and congregate at the flag-post in preparation for Pōwhiri
	9:00am	Pōwhiri	It is important everyone is present for pōwhiri
	9:30am	Morning tea	
	10:30am	Session 1	Whanaungatanga —Interconnected Relationships (<i>Pr S.J. Riley</i>)
	12:00pm	Lunch	
	1:15pm	Session 2	Thrive: Simple Strategies to Optimise Your Mental Health & Well-being (<i>Adrielle Carrasco & Geraldine Przybylko</i>)
	2:45pm	Break	
	3:00pm	Session 3	From Purpose to Impact: Strategy, Planning & Comms How can your church move from good ideas to real, lasting impact in your community? (<i>Vic Kulakov & Ole Pedersen</i>)
	4:30pm	Wrap-up & Closing Prayer	Break for bathroom, stretch legs before closing Sabbath
	5:00pm	Closing Sabbath	
	5:20pm	Dinner	Networking time for everyone over dinner to connect and share
	6:45pm	Social Time	Flexible social time to play games or just relax
	8:30pm	Wrap-up Social Time	
	10:00pm	Lights Out	Bedtime
Sunday 26 May	7:30am	Breakfast	Breakfast open and available till 8.50am
	9:00am	Session 4	Growing Volunteers, Growing Community: How can we grow strong, connected, and sustainable volunteer-led initiatives that truly serve our communities - both now and into the future? (<i>Sahara Anae & Joanne Wieland</i>)
	11:00am	Break	
	11:10am	Wrap-up, Acknowledgements & Feedback	
	11:50am	Closing Prayer and Commission	
	12:00pm	End of Conference	Farewell and pack up to leave

CULTURAL AWARENESS

WHANAUNGATANGA—INTERCONNECTED RELATIONSHIPS

Finding common ground, leaning into diversity, and growing connection through relationships aren't always at the top of our To Do lists. When we are so good at highlighting our difference and striving to have an impact on our communities, there is a deeper call to build a foundation of trust, respect, and radical belonging. This happens when we seek reciprocal relationships and genuine connections, before we seek to serve. This workshop will explore how cultural values are not at war with kingdom values, but that they can bring them to life through the Spirit-led relationships we form. It is the simple, overlooked, and often misunderstood things that can be the biggest vehicles for change in our communities.

PR. SARAH-JANE RILEY

Pastor for Papatoetoe SDA Church in Auckland

Sarah-Jane Riley is a pastor currently serving in North New Zealand and has previously served in South New Zealand in various roles including Youth Director, High School Chaplain, Pastor, and Discipleship Director. She is passionate about the training and equipping of disciples to live a missional life and has a God-ordained obsession to see a thriving Māori ministry within the Adventist Church.



“Live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”
Ephesians 5:2



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MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

THRIVE: SIMPLE STRATEGIES TO OPTIMISE YOUR MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Unlock the keys to a healthier mind and a more balanced life. In this engaging session, we'll explore practical, science-backed strategies to boost your mental resilience, reduce stress, and cultivate everyday habits that support emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Whether you're supporting others or focusing on your own growth, you'll leave inspired and equipped to thrive.

ADRIELLE CARRASCO

Director of Health, NZPUC

Adrielle Carrasco, MHeaSc (Clinical), PGLTCM, RN, is an experienced healthcare professional with over 30 years in nursing, diabetes education, and community health. As Director of Health for the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference, Adrielle supports community health initiatives across the conferences and local churches, including the Community Champions Network and Mental Health First Aid training. Adrielle is married to Dan and has three grown children.



GERALDINE PRZYBYLKO

Health Strategy Leader, SPD

Geraldine Przybylko MBA, MPH, PhD, FASLM, serves as the Health Strategy Leader for the South Pacific Division (SPD) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and is the Executive Director of ELIA Wellness. With a deep commitment to holistic health, she has played a key role in initiatives like the Destress and Thrive Program, aimed at promoting mental, emotional, and physical wellbeing across the Pacific. Geraldine's leadership reflects a strong focus on integrating faith and health, empowering communities to lead healthier, more balanced lives.



“Each of you should use whatever gift you
have received to serve others, as faithful
stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10



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STRATEGY, PLANNING & COMMUNICATIONS

FROM PURPOSE TO IMPACT: STRATEGY, PLANNING & COMMS HOW CAN YOUR CHURCH MOVE FROM GOOD IDEAS TO REAL, LASTING IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

This practical, interactive session will unpack three essential tools for mission success:

Strategy – shaping your mission around real community needs,

Planning – turning vision into focused, achievable action, and

Comms – communicating with clarity and purpose to engage your community.

Designed for pastors, ministry leaders, and members alike, this session will equip you to serve more effectively and fulfil your church's mission with greater impact and intention.

VIC KULAKOV

Discipleship Ministries Leader, NZPUC

Vic Kulakov, Counsellor, Personal Development Coach & Speaker. He is a co-founder of Accelerate, a Personal Development Network, Property investor and Co-founder of trendyful.com – Lux Accessories Online Store. Victor's greatest passion is empowering people to fall in love with life; to make positive changes, to have prosperity and success in all aspects of life.



OLE PEDERSEN

General Manager of Media and Communications, NZPUC

Ole Pedersen is the General Manager of Media and Communications for the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference and also leads the Hope Channel ministry in New Zealand. With over 35 years of experience in sales, marketing, management, and leadership, Ole has held key roles at Sanitarium, the Swedish Union of Churches, and Nielsen Research.

Ole has a passion for reaching the unchurched and people of other faiths through media and communication and helping others to do the same.

He and his wife Lisa, married for 38 years, also run a property investment business. They have two adult children and are proud grandparents to five energetic grandchildren.





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VOLUNTEER & PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY, OUTREACH STRATEGIES

GROWING VOLUNTEERS, GROWING COMMUNITY:

How can we grow strong, connected, and sustainable volunteer-led initiatives that truly serve our communities—both now and into the future?

This practical, hands-on session is all about building up local volunteers and keeping our mahi (work) strong for the long haul. We'll swap stories, share real-life tips, and dig into how to welcome new faces, match people to what they love doing, and keep the fire burning without burning out. From handling tricky conversations to teaming up with other groups, budgeting, and planning for the future — we'll cover the tools that help grassroots projects thrive. It's all about connection, care, and growing something that lasts, together.

SAHARA ANAE

International Program Director, ADRA

Sahara Anae is the International Program Director at the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) of New Zealand, where she has worked 9 years. For almost 20 years of Sahara's career, she had worked as a Water Engineer in the regional water sectors of Samoa (Operations Engineer, Samoa Water Authority), Auckland New Zealand (Planning Engineer, Watercare), and in Melbourne, Australia (Senior Engineer, City West Water). She continues to utilise her water engineer skills and her greatest achievement in her work; (she has lost count); is having been instrumental in supplying more than 2 million people with safe drinking water, and access to sanitation and hygiene facilities. Sahara's love and passion is elevating indigenous knowledge and practices as solutions to sustainable development and being an advocate in this space.



JOANNE WIELAND

International Program Practitioner, ADRA

Joanne Wieland is an international development practitioner with a heart for community development, she has worked in this field for over a decade. Joanne has been serving as an International Program Manager at ADRA New Zealand for two years, where she works alongside in-country partners to support their initiatives with local communities. She holds a masters in International Development with a focus on climate impacts through life histories. When Jo is not working, you'll find her enjoying the outdoors through working with volunteers on a youth camp, kayaking, or connecting on a board for a small trust between NZ and Nepal. Joanne has a strong belief that we are better when we collaborate, and the world is better when people of difference come together.





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OTHER KEY STAFF & ORGANISERS



TONY FAUTUA **CEO**

Tony is the CEO of ADRA New Zealand. Prior to taking up the role he served as NZ's Ambassador to Timor-Leste and NZ's High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea. Tony has a wealth of experience in government relations at international, regional and national levels. He worked at the local community level, providing social services - funded by Auckland Council and Department of Internal Affairs - to local residents in Otahuhu (South Auckland). Tony and his wife Ina attend the Panmure SDA Community Church. Their son Reuben is studying at University of Victoria, Wellington.



SALLY LAVEA **PROGRAMME MANAGER**

Sally is the National Program Manager of ADRA New Zealand and has been journeying alongside churches to support them with their community engagement through our Community Transformation Partnership (CTP) Program along with the development Community Champions Conference since its inception back in 2021. Prior to ADRA Sally worked at the South Pacific Division as the Human Resources Departmental Assistant. With many years of business and administrative experience in the corporate and church sector, Sally's passion is to serve wherever God leads and help equip champions and churches to effectively serve the needs of our communities.



LUANA TUPOU **DISASTER READY CHURCH** **COORDINATOR**

Luana Tupou is the Disaster Ready Church (DRC) Coordinator for ADRA New Zealand. DRC is a nationwide program to equip churches and families to prepare for disasters and emergencies. A core focus of her work is helping households build personal resilience and strengthen connections with their neighbours. Luana partners with Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) groups across NZ in several regions to co-facilitate DRC workshops. Neighbourhood support have just recently come onboard too. In 2024, Luana completed her core Emergency Response Team (ERT) training, equipping her with the knowledge and skills to support disaster response efforts and coordinate ADRA NZ's National Emergency Management Plan (NEMP) when activated. With over 30 years of experience working with people, Luana brings a deep understanding of community needs and strong relationships within church networks nationwide—empowering faith communities to be safe and always be ready.

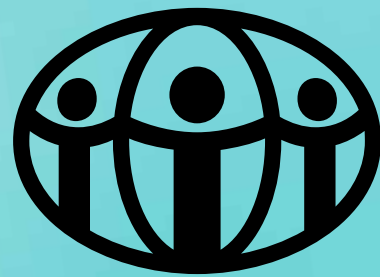


DES RYAN **RELATIONSHIP** **MANAGER**



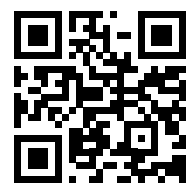
COURTNEY LATU **FUNDRAISING** **CAMPAIGNS** **OFFICER**

**AVAILABLE
NOW!**



**ADRA
MERCH**

**SCAN FOR
MERCH SITE**



OUTFITTING YOUR CTP PROJECT TEAM?

Grab your gear from our online merch store — perfect for your project or just for you! Every purchase supports ADRA's life-changing work in the community.



Community Transformation Partnership



Aroha Mai
(Love Received)

Aroha Atu
(Love Given)

He aha te mea nui o te ao?
What is the most important thing in the world?
He tāngata, He tāngata, He tāngata
It is people, It is people, It is people

adra.org.nz/ctp

f adra.newzealand @ adra_nz a dranewzealand

Funding Criteria and Guidelines

CRITERIA 1:

Applications by Local Adventist Churches, Schools or Affiliated Organisations

Only Seventh day Adventist churches recognised by the North and South NZ Conference are entitled to apply to the Community Transformation Partnership. However Church institutions, such as schools can apply for funding – the application must simply be submitted in collaboration with and be approved by the local church board (see below). This excludes trusts and foundations that are either owned or affiliated with a local church.

- Any application for funding needs to be made on behalf of the church's governing body.
- Applications that are submitted by individuals or are not sanctioned by the governing body will NOT be considered.

CRITERIA 2:

A Focus on Family Well-being or Health

Only applications that have a specific focus on either family well-being or health will be considered for funding.

Applications to the My Family funding pool will be approved providing all other criteria is met, whereas applications to the Innovations Fund is contestable and will be assessed against other applications.

Family Priorities

Projects that work in these ways and meet more of the following priorities will have a greater chance of receiving support.

- Whānau/families experiencing multiple and intergenerational disadvantage
- Put whānau/families at the centre
- National significance and scalability
- Use kaupapa Māori models of practice
- Work holistically
- Focus on long-term solutions
- Work in collaboration

Health Priorities

Projects that work in these ways and meet more of the following priorities will have a greater chance of receiving support.

- Whānau/families experiencing multiple and intergenerational disadvantage
- Clear health outcomes and measurements meeting relevant community needs
- National significance and scalability
- Work holistically
- Focus on long-term solutions
- Work in collaboration

We are especially looking for initiatives that demonstrate as many of these criteria as possible, and where outcomes can be demonstrated or evaluated using a community-participation approach.

Due to the nature and requirements of donors that ADRA partners with to raise CTP funds, the following types of activities and expenses are not funded in a CTP project application:

- Sport and recreation, other than an engagement activity as part of a youth mentoring project or health project.
- Core education, including scholarships, equipment or other activities that are curriculum related
- Drama, art or performing arts as a "Stand Alone" Program is excluded, but if there is a module of drama/arts/sports activity within the Program and as long as this activity is not deemed to be the sole focus of the Program it may be included for funding consideration
- Buildings or land
- Capital assets or equipment costing over \$3,000 or no more than 20% of the overall Program cost
- Advertising, promotion and/or administration costs which exceed 30% of the total cost of the initiative
- Individuals
- Personal loans and endowment funds
- Overseas travel and expenses, exchange Programs
- Projects outside the geographic borders of New Zealand
- Religious or political advocacy or advancement
- Venture capital initiatives
- Urgent or retrospective applications
- Sponsorships
- Funding to any one project for more than 3 years.

Application submission dates

Submission dates – 1st of each month

Approval of applications by Program Committee – confirmed by the end of each month



Community Transformation Partnership

Join us by Video Link

Last Sunday of every month from 9-10am

Each month our Champions network meets over Zoom to share, inspire and encourage one another and learn how to best serve their communities. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://adventistchurch.zoom.us/j/95776605182?pwd=KHsI9QMFYS4ZPNRakzxGpCz16u9dQq.1>

Meeting ID: 957 7660 5182

Passcode: Community

The following details are for the new monthly CTP funding Zoom workshops available from July 2025 for the remainder of the year that churches and champions can tap into to learn and understand more about the CTP Program and resources available, along with practical assistance towards funding applications. Two workshops a month have been created to cater to everyone's schedule.

Lunchtime Workshops

Every first Tuesday of the month: 12.30-1.30pm To register in advance for one of these meetings: <https://adventistchurch.zoom.us/meeting/register/TTFUWoblRqGZF-irmmXT0w>

Evening Workshops

Every second Monday of the month: 7-8pm To register in advance for one of these meetings: https://adventistchurch.zoom.us/meeting/register/hjSWXg87Te07Bw6_r_8cKg

Zoom Link
for Sunday



Lunchtime
Workshops



Evening
Workshops



Other Community Funding Organisations

Funder	Focus Areas	Who Can Apply	Website / Contact
Auckland Council	Grants, community support	Auckland base organisations	aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
Foundation North	Strong families, cultural identity, equity	Charities in Auckland/ Northland	foundationnorth.org.nz
Trust Waikato	Youth, families, wellbeing, resilience	Waikato-based community groups	trustwaikato.co.nz
Christchurch City Council	Local community development, capacity building	Christchurch-based orgs	ccc.govt.nz
Wellington Community Fund	Resilience, connection, inclusion	Greater Wellington non-profits	wellingtoncommunityfund.org.nz
MSD – Capability Fund	Community resilience, hubs, food security, disaster readiness	Community-led orgs	msd.govt.nz
Ethnic Communities Fund	Leadership, belonging, ethnic diversity	Ethnic community organisations	ethniccommunities.govt.nz
Ministry for Pacific Peoples	Pacific leadership, wellbeing, outreach	Pacific-led groups, churches	mpp.govt.nz
Creative Communities (CNZ)	Arts, cultural storytelling, heritage, youth creativity	Via local councils	creativenz.govt.nz
Wilberforce Foundation	Christian-led social initiatives, family, youth	Faith-based charities	wilberforce.org.nz
Christian Savings (Grants)	Christian initiatives with social impact	Churches, Christian charities	christiansavings.co.nz
Todd Foundation	Equity, youth, family wellbeing	Charitable orgs inc. faith-based	toddfoundation.org.nz
BayTrust (Bay of Plenty)	Youth, wellbeing, environment	Local non-profits	baytrust.org.nz
Rātā Foundation (South Island)	Equity, youth, cultural identity, resilient communities	South Island orgs	ratafoundation.org.nz
ECCT (East/Central NZ)	Wellbeing, equity, connected communities	East/Central NZ communities	ecct.org.nz
Taranaki Foundation	Family, youth, local community projects	Taranaki-based groups	taranakifoundation.org.nz



HopeChannel
NEW ZEALAND

freeview

CHANNEL 27



CHANNEL 204



OUR MISSION

IS TO HELP YOU

WITH YOUR MISSION



WELLNESS

EMPOWERING PEOPLE
TO WHOLE-PERSON HEALTH



June 2025

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS NETWORK (CCN) WELLNESS HUBS

Join us this June to connect, learn, and share insights on building strong teams and engaging your community through impactful wellness activities.

Learn from the experiences of Wellness Hubs from across New Zealand as they share what's happening in their regions, what works, and the challenges they face. Discover how you can be a champion for your community, and how your church can also become a Community Champions Wellness Hub.



REGISTER HERE:

communitychampions.co.nz

6:30PM–7:30PM
5 JUNE 2025

Discover your **SHAPE** for Ministry

Discover how to use your unique gifts, passions, abilities, personality & life experiences to fulfil God's purpose for your life.



Spiritual Gifts

Unwrapping
Your Gift



Heart

Monitoring
Your Heartbeat



Abilities

Discovering &
Applying Your
Abilities



Personality

Plugging
In Your
Personality



Experience

Examining
Your
Experiences

Want to know more, or to start your
CHURCH'S journey of **SHAPE** Discovery?

This course will take you on a journey of discovery, to unlock your God-given potential and help you find a way to serve — and set you and your CHURCH up for greater community impact!



disciple.org.nz

Visit www.discoveryyourshape.org

MADE NEW CONTACTS? GET THEIR DETAILS

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“Depend on the Lord in whatever
you do, and your plans will succeed.”

Proverbs 16:3



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THANK YOU

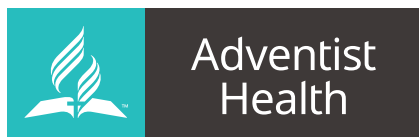


North New Zealand

South New Zealand

*New Zealand
Pacific Union
Conference*

South Pacific



New Zealand Pacific



We want to acknowledge and thank the organisations and ministries that have contributed towards our Champions network over the past year in various ways.

Thank you also to those who have helped to make this Champions Conference possible. We are so thankful for your Kingdom investment and pray God multiplies it and blesses you tenfold in return!

Called to Serve

We believe that we have all been called to serve others, just as Jesus did during His time here on earth. Our mission is to serve humanity so all may live as God intended. Our dream here in New Zealand is to see all churches actively serving their community and in turn serving God.

