

Good afternoon,

I hope you had a very blessed Christmas and New Year. This is the first earthquake recovery coordinator update for 2014. If you want to read more about a particular topic, please scroll down the page. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any comments or questions.

Kind Regards and God Bless,

Matt

**1. Earthquake Recovery fund update and 2014 meeting dates**

**2. "Find the 900"**

**3. Canterbury Insurance Assistance Service**

**4. Haiti – 4 years after the earthquake**

## **Earthquake Recovery Fund Update and 2014 Meeting Dates**

The fund now has less than \$100,000 in it. The meeting dates for 2014 are Feb 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, Sept 3, Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3. If you have a project to help people post-earthquake this year it would pay to apply in the near future.

### **"Find the 900"**

"Find the 900" is a project to find and temporarily fix those households that may be going into this winter with outstanding issues of sanitation, weather-tightness and cold and excessively damp houses. More information will be coming soon but here is some initial information from CanCern.

We can identify homes on the flat land that are most likely to be in this situation by using the GIS data sets.

- A range of methods will be used to find those people not identified through the data sets (Port Hills, isolated damage, etc)
- Assessment teams will involve a pastoral support person to provide a 'listening ear' and ensure people have knowledge and access to relevant earthquake support services and a contractor who will assess relevant damage and arrange the temporary fixes (based on pre-agreed criteria).
- Working alongside other agencies that also have a winter warmth focus means housing issues that do not fit the criteria of 'Find the 900' may still be addressed.
- Setting criteria for what constitutes damage that needs to be temporarily fixed before winter is a vital aspect of the project so that we set the right expectations in the community.
- Temporary fixes done through 'Find the 900' will have no negative repercussions for the resident's final settlement or temporary accommodation.

- By using the networks that work in and for the community we are confident we will find those people who need work before winter.
- You, the residents of Greater Christchurch are the most important in terms of achieving success. Working for 'Find the 900' could mean volunteering time or skills or could be as simple as telling five other people about the project.

## **Canterbury Insurance Assistance Service**

CIAS provides assistance (to those facing additional challenges) with insurance related issues resulting from the Canterbury earthquakes. They are a charitable organisation providing a free service to assist people facing additional challenges to those resulting from the earthquakes. While they would like to help everyone, their resources are limited and are focused on assisting those most at risk such as.

- Are you elderly (generally over the age of 75) and struggling to manage the insurance claim process?
- Are you under a doctor's supervision for ongoing health related issues?
- Are you or someone in your household dependant on a carer?
- Are you under significant financial stress, to the point where your quality of life is suffering?
- Do you have a physical, learning, or sensory impairment which limits your capacity to manage your insurance issues?
- Are you a single parent living in inadequate living conditions, such as overcrowding?

### **How we expect to assist you to get progress and fair play from the Insurers and EQC**

Case Facilitator will meet with and/or talk with you

- To confirm you meet criteria for our service
- To gain an understanding of current issues related to your claim
- To understand why resolution has not yet been reached and where you would like assistance
- Case facilitator will summarise your current issue and discuss with the CIAS review team for options

Case facilitator will talk with you again to discuss options and together with you, agree on an action plan and assist you to implement the preferred plan, which could include:

- Call EQC or insurers on your behalf to gain clarity and/or arrange a meeting
- Attending meetings with you
- Draft or review letters, gather documentation, arrange support people
- Source experts such as QS/Engineers/Insurance experts/legal advisors which you might choose to contract
- Assist you with applications for financial or other assistance

- Help you to explore other options if your claim process cannot be progressed
- Work with on your behalf or refer you to other support agencies as you require

All the information about this service can be found at <http://www.cias.org.nz/>

## **“Haiti – 4 Years after the Earthquakes**

This is an interesting interview with a Bishop from Haiti who discusses what is happening 4 years after the earthquakes. You can read it at <http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/haiti-4-years-after-the-earthquake>

**Remember the Christchurch Diocesan Earthquake Recovery Fund is available to help you meet whatever post-earthquake needs you continue to find.**