



EDANZ Newsletter **April 2008**

THIS MONTHS METRO HAS AN INDEPTH LOOK AT EATING DISORDERS.

Welcome to EDANZ second newsletter.

A lot has happened at EDANZ since our first newsletter which was sent out just before Xmas.

As a reminder our two primary objectives are to support families and carers of eating disorder sufferers and to lobby for, and participate in, the improvement of services in the upper North Island.

IF YOU WANT INFORMATION ON EATING DISORDERS OR JUST SOMEONE TO TALK TO YOU CAN EMAIL OR CALL US:- 09 5222679 or info@ed.org.nz

Perhaps the most significant event over the last 3 months is the feature article in this month's METRO magazine. A number of EDANZ members were interviewed for the article and we are pleased attention is being focused on the lack of services in the Auckland/upper North Island region. We hope it will spur more debate and provide impetus for inpatient and full day care facilities being introduced to Auckland sooner rather than later.

We were delighted to receive funding from the Lotteries commission and are now moving to develop a comprehensive website which will provide a great deal of useful information to families and supporters of eating disorder sufferers. We believe what we are attempting to put together could be an example to the rest of the healthcare sector on how to provide comprehensive information for specific areas. Watch this space....www.ed.org.nz

We know our website and help line are making a difference as we have had 30+ unsolicited calls and emails from families with an eating disorder sufferer not knowing where to turn. It is distressing to us that young girls are still slipping through the primary healthcare net and ending up in hospital before they are even diagnosed with an eating disorder. We believe a more comprehensive website and more visibility for our group will mean we can help many more families.

A VERY GOOD WEBSITE TO LOOK AT FOR INFORMATION AND ALSO SOME INSPIRATION IS www.b-eat.co.uk. CHECK OUT THE VIDEOS OF RECOVERED ANOREXICS....THERE IS HOPE.

Through our involvement with the Greenlane run Eating Disorder Service we have been invited on to a national technical taskforce looking at the framework for public sector eating disorder services. While it sounds complicated in essence we are very pleased to be able to represent the 'consumers and their families' on this national committee that is working towards improving the services for eating disorder sufferers,- and we are very grateful to EDS for recommending our involvement. For an organisation like ours- that has only been in existence for 6 months- to be invited onto a national committee is a big tick.

We are working with EDEN (Eating Difficulties Education Network) to set up the first national get together of Non Government Organisations (NGOs) interested and active in the eating disorder area. As a group we believe we are more likely to be effective in lobbying for better services and it will provide the first opportunity for an exchange of ideas, practices and problems between groups across New Zealand.

We want to continue to grow our membership and would welcome you agreeing to become a member of EDANZ. We suggest a voluntary donation of \$20 as a guideline only. You will receive invitations to meetings/get togethers we organize regular updates on how we are progressing against our objectives and the knowledge that you are contributing to an organization run by a group of volunteers trying to make life better for those families unfortunate enough to be afflicted with this very destructive illness.

If you would like to become a member of EDANZ you can email us at info@ed.org.nz or send your contact details and donation to EDANZ, PO Box 37-942, Parnell, Auckland.

If you are able to transfer your donation electronically our bank account details are Eating Disorder Association New Zealand # 123030 0692750 00.

Metro magazine - Starved for Treatment (April 2008)

April 2008 edition published a comprehensive article about Eating Disorders and the lack of in-patient and day patient treatment in the greater Auckland region. To access this article:

<http://www.metrolive.co.nz/metroarchives/metroarchivearticles/tabid/230/ArticleID/6248/Default.aspx>

Ministry of Health Position

For an update on improvement of services for eating disorders the Ministry of Health published the Future Directions for Eating Disorders in NZ Document in March2008.The exact address to access this Document is:

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<http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/future-directions-for-eating-disorders-services>