



FNCDP

FIJI NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR DISABLED PERSONS



NEWSLETTER VOLUME 2/2010

ISSUE 14



New car wash centre
page 2



Northern disability centre
page 2



FPC 2010 Page 3



Disability Workshop
page 4



Roundtable consultation
page 6

Greetings from the FNCDP Secretariat.

I would like to take this opportunity in welcoming the readers of this edition of the FNCDP newsletter. The great momentum of activities and efforts by all hardworking individuals who are trying to improve the lives of people with disabilities at the end of 2009 continued with the same enthusiasm in the first quarter of 2010.



Dr Sitiveni Yanuyanutawa
Executive Director-FNCDP

The Secretariat wants to thank all those organizations that work tirelessly to try and advocate, create awareness and implement programs to assist in the alleviation of challenges by the disabled population. The main movers in the first quarter 2010 was the endorsement by Cabinet in February for the signing of the UN Conventions of Rights For People with Disabilities and its optional protocol.

A big "Vinaka Vakalevu" to all those who contributed in this major achievement as we wait for the signing of this important document by Fiji. The Northern Disability Centre in Labasa have completed its contractors tenders process and the new complex will finally start the preliminary works around end of April.

The First Phase will be completed around July 2010. I was able to visit the district committees in Savusavu, Taveuni, Labasa, Levuka, Kadavu and the Western Division from Sigatoka to Rakiraki. The quick staff furmover makes the continuity and consistencies of these committees a challenge.

The Secretariat wishes everyone the very best of their health so you all can endure for the rest of the activities that will be challenging you for 2010.

MAY GOD BLESS US ALL.....

OUR MAJOR MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2010 IS THE
SIGNING OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS FOR
PERSON'S WITH DISABILITIES AND THE OPTIONAL
PROTOCOL

The Secretariat FNCDP the governments focal point and National Coordinating body on Disability Development for Fiji announces the signing of the CRPD.

FULL COVERAGE ON PAGE 5



MACUATA DISABILITY CENTRE

A Northern Disability centre in Labasa will be operational from next year. The need for facilities for persons with disabilities was proposed by the Macuata District Committee in 2004 which the council took up to the government through its line Ministry the then, the Ministry for Women , Social Welfare and Poverty Alleviation. The allocation of funds came through, as the much needed attention, concern and commitment of government, particularly in view of its look north policy.

The facility would be located close to Labasa school for the handicapped. The facility will provide office space, , day care rehabilitation and skills training Programmes to individuals who are disabled.

With this the Ministry through FNCDP mechanisms will ensure that better services are delivered to persons with disabilities at the grass roots level through effective networking arrangements and maximum use of available resources.

The Construction of this facility and the services will provide a worthy investment by government which will directly benefit this target group in skills development, capacity building, positive self-esteem and better quality of life. In the Disability Survey that was conducted last year resulted that about 40 percent of the total disabled population is in Northern Division. This new facility for persons with with disabilities to be built in Labasa for the Northern Divi-



Minister, Dr Jiko Luveni and Permanent Secretary Mr Govind Sami and Dr Jiko Luveni Laying the foundation

sion is another significant input from the Government through our line Ministry towards the Disability sector as incorporated in the National budget. One of the main functions of the Centre will be to up skills persons with disabilities so that their skills can be better utilized in paid employment environment.

We would like to thank the government donation of \$300,000 for funding of this project to cover the first phase of the work, the PWD, FNCDP Secretariat the Macuata District Committees, office of the Commissioner Northern and all those who endured to make this project a reality.



Kavinesh Maharaj and Sanjeev Chandra washing the cars at the centre

STUDENTS ENGAGE IN CAR WASH ACTIVITIES

A small car wash centre was launched by us on Monday, February 08,2010. This new car wash centre is based at FNCDP complex in Brown St, Toorak.

The reason for having this new activity is that:

- ♣ Members/students will have the opportunity to experience having a paid job
- ♣ Create skills of these students apart from carpentry and sewing
- ♣ Mingle with outside people/Interact with people
- ♣ Learning new skills and techniques
- ♣ Keep them busy

There are 90 students at our Complex from 13 to 30 years and the students are really excited and overjoyed about this new business.

One of the new directions is to take up such activities for the centre.

The students are aiming to make money in this activity undertaken since Brown street is a popular area because the roads is busy almost all the time.

The council plans to create a mini market where the students work in:

- ♣ CARPENTRY
- ♣ JOINERY
- ♣ SCREEN PRINTING
- ♣ BOOK BINDING
- ♣ SEWING

These can be put on display and sold. The students are very excited in doing this small business.

The opening up a small car wash centre was initiated by the Executive Officer of FNCDP (Mrs. Kush Prasad).



AFFILIATES COLUMN 2010 FIJI PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE ROVING EYE



FIJI SPORTS COUNCIL AWARD-

Fiji Sports Council Award Night was held at the Tattersal Laser Centre on Friday 26 February 2010. We are proud to inform our members that Sisari Davui was awarded the “Young Male Athlete of the year Award”. Sisari is a student of Sunshine Special School in Lautoka. He won the blue Ribbon Gold Medal 100m final in the 2009 Chow games held at the TFI stadium.

2009 FASANOC AWARD-

Iliesa Delana was awarded the FASANOC President Commendation Award” held at the Holiday Inn on Saturday 6th March, 2009. We are very proud of this achievement after he won the gold medal in the high jump event held at the Arafura Games in Darwin.



INCLUSIVE SPORTS-

The Fiji Vikings Rugby Club of the Fiji Association for the Deaf have been given the green light to register and participate in the Suva Rugby Union weekly competition. This is another milestone achievement for our members in our inclusive sports social model of inclusion. The Vikings will feature against local Suva Rugby Clubs in the competition.

SPORTS AMBASSADOR-

Two FPC Sports Ambassadors, Lynda Panapasa and iliesa Delana Toured the Northern Division with the Fiji Disabled Peoples Association officials to promote sports in our community based outreach program. The duo have established sports relationship with Cakaudrove, Bua, Macuata members. This is a bonus FPC achievement whereby we are able to take our sports to members in the rural community rugby.



In addition, two other Youth sports ambassadors Iliesa Delana and Eni Leuwai attended the Pacific Youth Conference held at Manukau, Auckland on 15th -19th March 2010. The conference focused mainly on sports development.



PACIFIC JUNIOR SPORTS-

All children in special Education Schools around the country enjoyed participating in the Pacific Junior Sports Program delivered by FPC staff during the school term. About 140 activity games for children 6-12 years of age. This sports curriculum are delivered on the values that they are fun, challenging, inclusive, develops Childs well being and full participation.

SOCIAL MODEL OF INCLUSIVE SPORTS(COCA COLA GAMES)

The Fiji Paralympic Committee has confirmed participation of 20 athletes in the 2010 Coca Cola Games, through its social Model of Inclusion Program. The game will be held at the TFL Stadium at the end of April. Labasa, Ba, Sigatoka, Sunshine, Ra and Gospel Special Schools will be participating . This is taking a giant step towards the right direction.



\$9000 BED AUCTIONED

A bed was drawn as a door prize at a cocktail party by Comfort Home Furnishing Limited.

Arun Narsey the winner stated that the bed sold off in on the spot auction and the proceeds given to the charity.

The company topped the amount to \$9000 and gave it out to three charities;

- ♣ The Dilkusha Home
 - ♣ Fiji Vocational Technical Training Centre
 - ♣ Rotary Club
- They decided that the money should be distributed evenly among three charities. The Lautoka money will be used to fund students education. Olivia Natanieli, Deaconess of Dilkusha Home

education of the 25 children at the home.

Mr. Chandra, Managing Director of Comfort Home Furnishing said that had always been helping organizations.

This has made it possible for charity organizations to get some assistance from the business communities .



DISABILITY AWARENESS WORKSHOP -SPONSERED BY JICA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF FIJI(JAAF)

The secretariat, conducted a workshop on 10th March 2010, at the FNCDP Complex. About 50 participants attended this workshop. This included the staff of FNCDP and FVTTCPD (Fiji Vocational Technical Training Centre for Persons with Disabilities). There were wide range of participants: JAAF (Ex-participants in the area of disabilities), Disabled Persons Organization, Teachers and staff of Special Education Institutions, Parents of Children with Disabilities, Persons with disabilities thus focused on gender balance.

The main purpose of this workshop are as follows:

- ♣WHAT IS DISABILITY
- ♣FINDINGS OF DISABILITY SURVEY(BRIEF)
- ♣ISSUES OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES
- ♣SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.

The General Secretary of JICA Alumni who is also the Executive Officer of FNCDP (Kush), hosted welcome and prayer session and at the same time introduced the main funder to the workshop, JICA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF FIJI.

The Project Officer of the FNCDP as facilitator of the workshop presented on this topic which saw the paradigm shift of the definition within the Fiji context however with the basis from the World Programme of Action for Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of person with Disabilities. This workshop had two guest Presenters, the first Presenter was Mrs. Elaine Robb, ABV Volunteer based at ILO office, Suva. She presented on the topic "EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING". She was invited to present on Vocational Training and employment of persons with disabilities. She emphasized on focusing on developing persons with disabilities through recognizing their abilities and talents. A slide show of persons with disabilities in Australia working various sectors such as agriculture, sales, marketing, business, commerce was shown to the participants.

The second Presenter was Mr. Tom Bristow form Project Heaven who presented on Special Education Needs of Children with Disabilities. He is a consultant of the Christofel Blind Mission who spoke on the learning and intellectual disability. The feedback from the participants were encouraging, some of them shared their life experience with everyone and the workshop ended with a hearty lunch which was shared by everyone.

The need for future workshops on disability was highlighted including the raising of awareness on disability issues to other sectors and mainstream organizations

The Secretariat FNCDP would like to take this opportunity to thank JICA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF FIJI for sponsoring this workshop and all the hardworking staff of FNCDP and FVTTCPD who contributed to the successful delivery of this awareness workshop.



Top: Sainimili Tawake (Project officer) doing a presentation
Bottom: staff and parents who attended the workshop



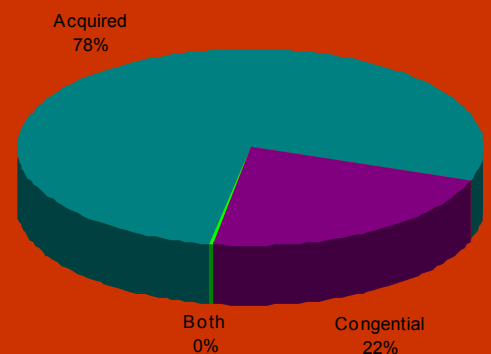
TOTAL PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES BY SEX:

In Fiji, according to the baseline survey conducted by the FNCDP, the total disability population is 11,402 with 5222 females and 6180 males; 46 percent and 54 percent respectively.



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES BY MEASURES OF DISABILITY BY SEX

78 percent of persons with disabilities acquired their disability compared to 22 percent who are born with their disability 40.5 percent of those who acquired their disability are men while 37.5 percent are women or girls with disability.





SIGNING OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The Secretariat, FNCDP the governments focal point and National Coordinating body on Disability Development for Fiji announces the signing of the United Nations Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its optional Protocol by the Fiji Government on 2nd June 2010.

The signing of the CRPD is a milestone achievement for us, its affiliated organizations and people with disabilities in Fiji.

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of all stakeholders who worked tirelessly on disability development in Fiji and lobbying for the signing of this prestigious conditions.

We would like to commend on the support and assistance provided by:

- ♣ The Fiji Government
- ♣ The Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Poverty Alleviation
- ♣ The Thirty Three (33) affiliate member organizations of FNCDP which includes organizations providing services to people with disabilities and Disabled Peoples Organization (DPO's)

We will continue to strive for "A Barrier Free and Rights based Society" for all Persons with Disabilities in Fiji which means People with Disabilities are giving the opportunity to equally and fully participate in all facet of live.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT



WORKSHOP ON DISABILITY TRAINING ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Bula Vinaka to you all !!

I have traveled extensively throughout Asia and the Pacific but this was my first visit to Fiji. I was made very welcome and I felt very much at home. I spent 8 weeks researching and reviewing vocational training and employment opportunities for people with disabilities and I was based in the ILO office in Suva. During this project, I met some wonderful people who were very passionate about providing and improving the opportunities and services available for people with disabilities. There are some good things happening that can be built upon but I found that there was a general lack of understanding and appreciation in the community of the abilities of people with disabilities. I spent time talking to people in government, employers, the unions and current service providers and exchanging ideas about what people really needed. We discussed some strategies for improving communication. I was impressed by people's willingness to sit with me and be very open about how things were going. I spoke to families and carers and people with disabilities who really wanted to see changes and were willing to work to help make these changes happen. I presented my findings and recommendations at the National Forum and Consultation on Vocational Training and Employment in April 2010 in Suva. This forum was attended by representatives of the government, employers, trade unions, service providers and people with disabilities. Many ideas were talked about and people who attended were very frank and open about their thoughts. The Fiji National Council for Disabled Persons is trying to make changes for the better and it is vital that they continue this work. There are employers who are ready to give people an opportunity but these employers need assistance with disability awareness training for their staff and they also need to see for themselves the abilities of people. There is also a need for tailored and appropriate training for people with disabilities if they are to take their place in the community as contributing members of that community. I am hopeful that the National forum will assist this process and I wish to thank all those who participated.

Moce Mada !! from Elaine Robb and please contact me on Elaine@encompass-cs.org.au if you would like to share your ideas.

FNCDP RECEIVES
FUNDING
ALLOCATION OF FROM
EU

CURRY NITE—2010

The Fiji Vocational and Technical Training Centre for Persons with Disabilities consist of students from the 81 enrolled at the beginning of the school term. At any one time we normally have 70% -90% attendance.

The centre trains the different type of disability such as intellectually handicapped physical handicapped , deaf, visually impaired and multiple disabilities. All trainees belongs to one of the nine(9) different Vocational & Technical training section/unit/department which are managed by grant in aid staff or semi volunteers .

FUNDRAISING DRIVE EVENT

The centre planned to operate 6 fundraising events this year, 2 in each term, but unfortunately only, 1 managed to operates, the Open day to be held today was cancelled due to commitments and crisis throughout

the term.

The curry night was successfully done, both parents, friends, staffs, management came up with positive comments after the function. The programmes started at 6:00 pm to 10:00pm.

Invited guests:

- ♣ FNCDP Director/Acting Centre Manager- Dr Sitiveni Yanuyanutawa
- ♣ Asst. Director, Min. for Social Welfare— Inoke Loganimoce
- ♣ Mr Sadrugu Ramagimagi— Manager Labour Standard , Ministry of Labour
- ♣ Overall Total of Parents/friends- 100 to 150 people

MAJOR ISSUES FOR WHICH TOWARDS ARE INTENDED FOR:

- ♣ MAINTENANCE OF CENTRE BUILDING- changing of leaked roof, leaked toilets, painting and building
- ♣ PRODUCTION FACILITIES
- ♣ LEARNING FACILITIES
- ♣ FUEL-bus, brush cutter, compound cleaning
- ♣ WAGES-Supervisors, teacher aid

We would like to thank the parents/ Teachers/Friends and companies for have helped and donated towards this fundraising drive and making it a success.

A BIG VINAKA VAKA LEVU!!!!!!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FUNDING RECEIVED FROM EUROPEAN UNION

We were granted a three year funding support from the European Commission to develop persons with disabilities and mainstream their issues at all levels of our society. The funding granted to the FNCDP was directly under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights Scheme, a funding category of the EU Commission. Funding was sought to the EU Commission to support recommendations of the nationwide baseline survey from the various communities on the need to mainstream disability issues. The absence of disability awareness and training has forced people with disabilities and their families live in isolation and face discrimination with their human rights violated. The E.U Commission is solely for the purpose of disabilities and targets a whole range of different communities such as disciplinary forces, medical personnel, educators, employers, travel and land transport operations, civil aviation, sporting bodies, media, trade unions, faith organizations, civil society organizations, provincial councils and families and communities of persons with disabilities.

The major beneficiaries of this project is the general public of Fiji. Enhanced awareness not only helps disabled persons in a variety of ways, but will also help build a better, stronger society where all are treated on a much more equal basis and with mutual respect.

We would like to thank European Commission.

FUNDING RECEIVED FROM UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN (UNIFEM)

We have secured funding from UNIFEM to conduct a series of Disability Care Giving Training in 6 provinces. We hope to train at least 400 people in all these 6 provinces. The training will be conducted from August 2010.

The Convention is necessary in order to have a clear reaffirmation that the rights of persons with disabilities are human rights and to strengthen respect for these rights. Although existing human rights conventions offer considerable potential to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, it became clear that this potential was not being tapped.

FNCDP COMPLEX
3 BROWN STREET
TOORAK, SUVA, FIJI
PHONE: 3319045/3319162
FAX: 3319046
EMAIL: fncdp@connect.com.fj
WEBSITE: www.fncdp.org

USE OUR AFFILIATES
COLUMN TO TELL YOUR
STORIES

CONTACT:
KUSH PRASAD

ROUNDTABLE CONSULTATION “MAKING WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES VISIBLE”



Roundtable consultation in
Nausori and Suva



We conducted a roundtable consultation in the eighteen districts. The Project Officer, Sainimili Tawake was conducting the roundtable consultation in every district from which they have gathered information before publishing a report of their survey findings. Ms. Tawake said that the council is now working on strengthening its structures to cater for the community and people at grassroot level.

Ms. Tawake said that they wanted to inform people at district level of the results that they have collected from their areas so that are aware of it before they release the report. The main objective of this consultation was to discuss the outcome of the Making Women with Disabilities Visible, National Disability Survey, Discuss the impact of discrimination and human right violation faced by people with disabilities especially girls and women, highlight the essentiality of enforcing the implementation of relevant disability policies, addressing gender related issues on the situation of persons with disabilities and promote the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the National Disability Policy.

We have trained key personnel such as District Officers, Provincial Officers, Medical Officers, Senior education officers, village nurses, village head men, caregivers, family members and persons with disabilities themselves including women with disabilities. During these training issues pertaining to women children and youth with disabilities were highlighted

M s. Tawake would like to thank the team of FNCDP for their tremendous support all through out this survey.