

Paul Harris Citation for Kevin Goldsbury

Kevin has over thirty years of youth work and community work experience both as a volunteer and as a full-time practitioner. He has worked predominantly with 'at risk' Maori and Pacific Island youth and their families in Petone and the wider Hutt Valley. He spent fifteen years from 1980 to 1995 coordinating the 'Te Hou Ora' work in the greater Wellington region which included running a club locally in the Petone. Te Hou Ora projects included running local community-based clubs, counselling, camps both local and national, youth development early intervention programmes in schools, youth homes providing respite care and emergency accommodation for troubled teenagers.

During the 1990's Kevin and his wife Diane helped develop a community-based community development initiative in a high density Housing NZ community in Jackson Street. Kevin and Diane started and worked under the umbrella of 'Living Well Mission and Development' with a high percentage of his work assisting and being part of the development of Te Huinga O Te Whanau which remains in operation today. Kevin, Diane and their young family moved into the Jackson Street flats as tenants and lived in the community for five years.

In 2000 Kevin took on the Directors position at Wellington Youth For Christ with a responsibility for several local and regional youth work initiatives and projects including the establishment and supervision of over 25 Youth Service Corp and Conservation Corp pre-employment programmes in partnership with the Ministry of Youth Development.

In 2007 Kevin moved from YFC to establish the 'Ignite Sport Trust' which aims to inspire young people and impact on communities through sport. The work is now delivered throughout the Wellington Region and involves a range of initiatives including the delivery of the Sports Academy Programmes in local high schools and 'Sports Serve', an initiative encouraging sports volunteers to engage with schools and clubs as coaches and mentors. Kevin's passion for youth and community work continues through his work with Ignite Sport. His passion is to see the work grow and develop throughout New Zealand and throughout the Pacific Region. Already a branch has started in the Hawkes Bay.

Kevin has had a strong interest in all sports and especially cricket. He has coached at various levels from primary age at the Petone Riverside Cricket Club through to Premier One college cricket at HVHS where he also serves on the sports committee. Kevin is now involved with Petone Riverside Cricket Club as a committee member and more recently as a player.

A worthy recipient of a Community Paul Harris Award.

19th February 2013