HPF - Looking back; looking forward

We work in a challenging socio-economic environment and the impact on our resources and capacity is inevitable. Like many of our members, HPF has needed to adapt to these changing times. We aim, however, to remain sustainable; maintaining health promotion as one of the solutions to health inequity and upholding hauora as everyone’s right.

We have achieved some significant milestones this year and have great plans for the future.

Two HPF videos earned praise around the world
In February this year HPF released two videos that have earned widespread praise from health promotion and public health leaders across Aotearoa and the world. The two-minute videos explain the discipline of health promotion [link] in the Aotearoa context and their associated competencies [link]. These practical tools are the latest additions to the resources produced, gathered and distributed through the HPF website; for the on-going professional development of health promoters.

Successful Population Health Congress
The 600 participants at last year’s Population Health Congress [link] hailed it as a great success. Hosted by HPF, in partnership with the Public Health Association and the NZ College of Public Health Medicine, the Congress offered an unprecedented depth and breadth of information, skills and networking opportunities.

Perhaps most importantly the Congress delegates signed a declaration [link] to collaborate on key issues facing population health today.

Increasing use of the Health Promotion Competencies (NZ HPComps)
It is good to see that an increasing number of education providers are now referring to the 2012 NZ Health Promotion Competencies in their health promotion courses. This will lead to a growing number of health promoters graduating from these programmes around the country, equipped with the most current competencies.

Health Promotion Professional Society established – planning next phase
Over the years our members and the health promotion workforce asked HPF to take the lead in the establishment of a professional society for health promotion practitioners. Thank you so much for all the ongoing advice and support from many of you in the sector. The Society became a legal entity in July 2014 and its founding board members are currently mapping out the next phase.

**Future developments**

Hauora; health and wellbeing; is being viewed increasingly in a broader socio-economic context; where promotion, prevention and protection – rather than the treatment of diseases – are acknowledged as approaches that yield enduring health gains, real financial and economic value.

**Memberships are on the rise**

Membership renewals are only due this month, but already we have exceeded membership renewals by 15% on last year. Benefits of membership will increase this year, with workshop fees remaining at the same low rate for members, while they are rising for non-members. A first-tier organisation (1-10 employees) will gain benefit from membership after sending just two staff on one of HPF’s workshops [link]. Enquire about membership [link] and find out how your organisation can benefit.

**Increased number of introductory health promotion courses**

Starting in July, HPF will increase the number of health promotion courses from two to five a year. Visit the training section of our website [link] for details of upcoming courses.

**Health promotion training for Whanau Ora and Healthy Families NZ health promoters**

In response to the need for capacity-building among Whanau Ora workers, HPF has developed a bespoke one-day health promotion workshop. The Forum can customise its workshops and courses to fit providers with other specific needs. These are in addition to our current offering of workshops and the certificate of achievement course.

We look forward to working with you in the forthcoming year.