



Servants Health Centre

We are here to serve

100 Princes St, Dunedin

June 2010

The Opening Ceremony in February went very well and marked “officially” that the clinic was now well and truly open and active. After a brief reminder of our start up story Andre van Rij reflected on how the servant words of Jesus applied to us as his followers

“The Spirit of the Lord is open us, because he has anointed us to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent us to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”

Rev Bruce Elder then spoke of the challenge of getting alongside those coming to the centre and helping them in their broadest needs. We had visitors from a number of organisations within the community with whom the Servants Health Centre would be working. They wished us well. The final essential of the occasion was to prayerfully seek God’s blessing on those who are leading at the front line in the Centre.

Funding- Those in Otago may have read in the ODT in a follow up article on Servants Health Centre that things are going well and we are making ends meet. Yes, sort of, that means we are covering the monthly rent but there is still much more to put in place and to cover for the running of Servants Health Centre. We continue to need the support with donations and we are also pursuing the assistance from Trusts for some specific needs.

While Servants Health Centre at its heart is made possible by generous voluntary commitments there are some roles for which payment is necessary. It is essential to have continuity in the clinic and there is a need for people who will be there most of the time. Consequently there are still significant financial challenges ahead.

Recruitment. Monday and Friday afternoons are times that urgently need more general practitioner input. Please pray that we can get to a stage of reliably having a general practitioner covering all hours of the week when the centre is open. With school holidays some relief for our regular team to allow them to get away for a break and family time is much needed.

Volunteers in all other areas also continue to be needed – and prayed for!

Staffing Fiona Arnold has been doing a fantastic job as the manager at the centre. Her energy and enthusiasm has been remarkable. Fiona came in to get Servants Health Centre going 6 months ago and it has been a tireless fulltime voluntary activity. Her family have shared her with us but we urgently are working on ways to free her up and to have a more sustainable way of managing. Please pray for this.

Recently Alex Lo, chartered accountant, has offered his assistance to become the Treasurer for the Servants Health Centre. This is most welcome to ensure that our financial administration and responsibilities are in good hands. This will also provide support for Joy Cowan who is doing the financial data entry at the centre.

Who are coming to the Servants Health Centre? Lik Loh, one of our medical team is also in the Otago GP registrar training programme. Some of his time is given to doing research – he is following closely the demography of the patients attending which will helpfully inform what the needs are and how we can best plan around these. More of this will appear in future newsletters.

Capacity As had been anticipated a time would come when the numbers who attend the Servants Health Centre would exceed the capacity to provide medical care. We are already close to this – we have more than sufficient physical capacity at the centre but need to extend the number of volunteer doctors and nurses as well as support people. In the mean time we need to give some priority to regular enrolled patients but maintaining flexibility to welcome needy first time visitors. Pray that this can be managed well. **Please pray for more volunteers to grow the work !**

On going Support Please contact us if you would like to donate. Servants Health Centre has charitable status for tax purposes. Donations can be made directly electronically to the: Servants Health Centre Trust, Kiwibank 38-9009-0573316-00 Please include your name and phone number in the reference fields so we can contact you and provide a receipt. Thank you.

Want to know more about Servants Health Centre ? What is our basis ? How are we organized ? Who are the Trustees ? Who do we aim to serve ? How can you participate ? What does it mean to be part of this healing community of Jesus' followers ?
Check our web site www.shc.org.nz

If you are interested in working at the Centre, you will find on the website an 'Expression of Interest' form (also available from our reception) – please complete this and return to us.

Drop in – yes come in and see the clinic. You can't miss us - great signage out on the verandah, the red neon sign in the window, at 100 Princes Street – main street Dunedin, one block south of the Octagon. Staff are very busy during the day but you are welcome especially to the prayer time at 8:45am daily.