

## Sandy Thompson



I have been involved in the non-profit sector for over two decades in both a voluntarily and professional capacity. Following years of working within the child and youth sector, I have spent the past three years working with a range of organisations both in New Zealand and in the wider Pacific. These include social service delivery organisations, community advice and support networks and education organisations.

### **Lecturer:**

Unitec Graduate Diploma in Not-for-Profit Management (2004 – current)

Unitec Certificate in Community Skills (2003 – current)

### **Consultant - Trainer / Facilitator:**

Over the last 10 years, I have assisted a number of community organisations on a wide range of different projects including: fundraising; establishing new organizations; training development; strategic planning; team development; lobbying and advocacy; stakeholder communication and relationship development.

### **Executive Director:**

I have over ten years experience managing community organisations. My most significant role has been as the inaugural National Executive Director of the National Association for OSCAR (1994 – 2004). I participated in the establishment of the organisation and went on to lead the sector to become funded and supported by central government. This included the development of national standards; development of a national training certificate and the allocation of approximately \$72million over 8 years to the sector. I grew the organisation from being a small volunteer based agency to a strong professional national team providing advice and support services to community groups and networks. My success in NAOSCAR demonstrates not only my leadership and management abilities but also my commitment to building positive relationships between government, community and business. Empowering the community sector is a particular passion of mine.

### **Board Member/Funding Allocation:**

As a mother of four children, I have sat on a number of Boards of organisations my family has been involved with. Professional affiliated Board memberships include the *Auckland Out of School Care Network*, *Wellington Community Childcare Association*, and the *New Zealand Federation of Voluntary Welfare Organisations*. I also have experience participating in roles that involve the allocation of funding to community groups. This includes the McCarthy Trust funding rounds and more significantly the development of a funding allocation partnership with the Ministry of Social Development for OSCAR programmes.

### **Community Worker / Teacher:**

I have held front-line roles in community organisations providing recreational and educational services to youth both in New Zealand and overseas. High points for me include working with inner city at risk youth in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and a VSA teaching position on a rural island in the Kingdom of Tonga. I have participated in the development of a number of national publications of resources. As an editor for the School Age Childcare Publications Trust I have experience at both the writing and production ends of resource development.

### **Qualifications:**

Bachelor of Arts, University of Auckland; Teaching Certificate, Auckland College of Education; Graduate Diploma Not for Profit Management, Unitec.

### **References available on request**

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