

**Prison Care Ministries
Annual Report**

2012



**Supporting Families and Individuals
involved in the
Criminal Justice System**

ANNUAL REPORT OF PRISON CARE MINISTRIES 2012

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In recent days I've heard news reports that hundreds of mine workers on the West Coast of the South Island, in Huntly and also in parts of Australia will lose their jobs soon as demand for steel and coal reduces. The shutdown of the paper machines at one of the plants in Kawerau will also see more job losses. The USA is talking about another round of "Quantitative Easing" which will push New Zealand's exchange rate even higher, making it more difficult for exporters. Video footage showing many closed and empty shops in Northland and other provincial towns highlight the flow-on effects of these changes.



But, the good news is that Prison Care Ministries is still here and over the last 12 months, has assisted another 63 men with support and accommodation as they return back into society.



Our main statistics for this year are:

- Last year we started with a wait list of 103 and finished with 125
- New referrals last year was 186, this year 188
- Number of residents last year 55, this year 63



PCM has had some big organisational challenges this year. The main one was due to being able to finally take on some new staff. We had been putting aside funds and working towards this for several years and we were able to take on Andrew and Kevin as part-time staff, in the latter half of last year (2011). This was a bit of an experiment and has caused some growing pains, as it takes a lot of time and effort to capture and communicate the essence of experiences gained and methods developed by Geoff & Jill over the years as they come alongside and journeying with ex-prisoners, as they seek to restart their lives.



Simply having more people in our small office and having more conversations and interactions has meant we've had to adapt and compromise.

The other big hurdle has been for Andrew and Kevin to establish their own network of donors and supporters, to sustain their roles into the future. They've had some success but still have a long way to go.

We've been involved in a number of discussions with other groups of like-minded people, who are working towards setting up similar trusts in other parts of the central to upper North Island. They are keen to learn from PCM's experiences and may adopt some core aspects of our model. It's a privilege to be able to encourage and to pass on our experiences and acquired knowledge from working in this area to others as the needs in the community for this type of supports are great and unlikely to ever be satisfied any time soon.

A highlight of the year was being nominated for and receiving a Volunteering Waikato award that recognizes the voluntary work that PCM does in the prisons. This was well received and is a testimony to the many years of time and effort that Geoff & Jill and the team of staff and volunteers have put into the lives of the men we work alongside, before they are released. Well done team!

We've had two movie nights at Hamilton churches (where some of our staff attend) featuring the film "The Choir". These were well received and were a good opportunity to raise the profile of our staff and also make more people aware of the plight and potential of men in prisons.

In summary it's been a challenging, but good year and we look forward to reaping some of the benefits of having more staff on-board.

**Respectfully submitted
Alex Shepherd
Chairman - Prison Care Ministries**



Thanks to the following funders and supporters who ensure that Prison Care Ministries continue to offer support to those involved in the Criminal Justice system:

NZ Post
 Telecom
 Trust Waikato
 HCC Community Well-Being
 WEL Energy Trust
 COGS
 NZ Lottery
 Interspeed
 Geocon Soil Testing
 Fusion Print
 NZ Bible Society
 Rhema Broadcasting Group
 Maori Postal Aotearoa
 AH Franks Tyres
 Plastic Welders

Free Postage Envelopes
 Residential Phone Rates
 Wages
 Mileage costs
 Wages (new staff)
 Office costs
 Wages/Supervision (new staff)
 Internet Domain Sponsorship
 Photocopying Newsletter
 Printing
 Bibles
 Word for Today
 Calendars/Magazines
 Support
 Support



Other Trusts, Churches and Individuals who have generously made donations towards office rent, wages, general funds, house provisions and other needs as they arise.



Community Probation & Psychological Services
 Work and Income New Zealand
 James Family Op shop and other tenants
 Prison Staff & Chaplaincy
 Ellen Taylor, Auditor

Opening of Dinsdale Community Services

And a big thanks to our House Residents who really encourage us to keep going/

Thanks to our team of Volunteers who:
 Support residents,
 Write to those in prison,
 Help in the office,
 House maintenance,
 Bible studies, IT work,
 Accommodation treasurer and
 Staff supervision.

We have just had a “movie night” as a fund-raiser, and this fell on our 8th birthday since we became an established legal trust. Eight years of some exciting stories, most of which can’t be shared because they are “somebody’s life”! Our statistics show much is happening, how many lives are changed for the good, which is great for the community. Our vision and heart for this ministry has not diminished, but grown even further. We look forward to seeing where it will go. Our trustees have all been with us from the start, and support us in every way, which we appreciate. They have a very real heart for us and the ministry, and we value their advice, love, and involvement.

Over the years we have had volunteers working alongside us. Our volunteers have been a real help relieving us of much of the day-to-day work around the houses, especially with taking men grocery shopping. During this time we were able to save and raise finances through funding applications to enable us to employ staff. Andrew Dickson who joined the staff part-time in August 2011, and then Kevin Stephens the following month. It has been a year of development, with these two staff in training, with both internal and external input.

“We do not know what the future holds for us, but it is going to be good!”

Both of us have had reasonable health, with no problems following Geoff’s Neurosurgery in Feb 2011. We do both get tired at times with not having regular days off, but [usually] seem to be able to make use of our trips around the prisons as “working holidays”, to refresh ourselves.

Read holidays, we had two weeks in Samoa in January this year and came back really refreshed. It was our first real break for over three years, and was “lapped up” with enthusiasm. Going overseas took us away *mentally*, and this was enhanced by being with friends who took great care of us.

We have had many success stories, as always. One example is a guy who we had come to live with us in our own home temporarily,

due to us needing his room in one of the houses! He was doing so well and had a great mind-set to make changes. We felt he would be no trouble to us and deserved the continued support, even though his planned accommodation had fallen through. He had a job by then, which he still has today, and has the complete trust and confidence of his employer. He is another one of our life-time friends who call in to see us regularly. Another ex-resident who lived in that house with him has taken notice, he said to us on a recent visit to his flat to see him, "... if he can do it after his past, so can I ..."!

We do not know what the future holds for us, but it is going to be good! We have plenty of ideas for the direction of PCM, and trusting for the right people and resources to see these come to pass is exciting.

The potential after 8 years is as great, or even greater than we can even imagine!

Geoff McMillan
Managing trustee



Restoring



Our men have many talents and

Our waka



Carve & paint



Mat making-



Carving / painting

we are the proud recipients.

Andrew Dickson - Staff

It's a year since my first PCM annual report! I've been kept busy carrying on doing more of the same sort of practical help and social/emotional support that I wrote of in 2011. Since then I've continued enjoying my time with the men who have come through PCM .

- Employed 20 hours a week
- Married to Eden
- 2 Preschoolers
- Farmer
- Worked in Uganda
- Counselor training
- Attends The Reformed Church

The onward progress of many encourages while at the same time I've been saddened by the few who have chosen to fall back into relying on old habits and addictions (not necessarily drink and/or drugs) to help them 'cope' (not!) with the new and different stressors of negotiating life after release.

It's been especially encouraging that one of our success stories (released early 2011) has set himself up well work wise and church wise. More so because I now observe him offering his own brand of much needed support to guys he knew in prison who've been released in recent months. He seems to have a real heart for ministering to them socially and spiritually as he, wisely, continues to receive the same for himself from some neat Hamilton church folk - a couple of whom I know personally from our mutual Youth For Christ Te Hou Ora social work 20+yrs ago. Cool seeing such folk still making a difference!

For me personally the opportunities to listen to, and talk with, our guys individually about their life experiences and current situation over a cuppa is the one aspect of work that really lights my fire. The hope that I may be trusted with the chance to help them gain insight into their own heart motivations is what makes the myriad other administration and paper-chasing work involved with serving these men bearable.

It is actually hard yakka to do well and in this regard my on-going studies in Biblical Counseling continue to inspire me with the gaining of more useful knowledge and skills helping me help others.



Kevin Stephens - Staff

It's nearly been a year and the time seems to have gone so fast. Everything's coming along slowly and sometimes I feel I'm not taking enough slack off Jill and Geoff, they've put so much into Prison Care Ministries that sometimes when things aren't up to scratch it frustrates them, I can understand!

The system at Work and Income NZ has changed more than once since Andrew and I have started work for PCM. Working part time coupled with a lack of consistency in our weekly routine makes it a challenge to try and get a system that is fast and efficient, there are a lot of dynamics in our job and staying on top of things and knowing which things to do first is vital to the smooth running of the ministry. I have no doubt Andrew and I will be able to carry the ball eventually, and having some sort of system in place is very important to keeping PCM going in the right direction and continuing on with Gods work.

There are plenty of success stories of how some of the men do really well and there are also stories of how some of the men get a chance and blow it.

**However whether the men do well or not,
PCM are always there to support
them through the
good or bad.**

I've just finished doing an 11 week Community Law Center course which involved Human Rights, Employment Law, Insurance Law, Tenancy Law and a few others that are relevant to the situations we deal with, with the men. I found most of the course light hearted, entertaining and educational. There are so many gray areas in Law that if you don't know the basics you can be easily lead astray, and for the men having definite insight into what their legal rights are can create peace of mind.

So being up with the play involves a lot more than common sense so the men get the best help possible. Employment Law and Tenancy Law definitely help the men when they apply for jobs or are looking for a place to stay.



The Choir



Shown with the permission of Antidote Films, Australia. We give thanks for the 50% discount they gave us.

We received donations of \$2100.00 over the two showings

Music triumphs over diversity

That was the message I took from the movie "The Choir". This inspiring story of Jabulani, and a group of fellow inmates who battle to survive in Leeukwop Prison, South Africa's largest prison where drug taking, rape and violence are rampant. Young Jabulani is recruited into the prison choir, giving it's members the chance to show they are capable of changing for the better.

Throughout the movie, I found the singing and harmonies truly wonderful, sending shivers down my spine. Music certainly has the power to heal. We had a great turnout for the night with approximately 180 people in attendance.

Melanie

The second showing was held on September 1st 2012 the

**eighth
birthday**

of Prison Care Ministries



**The Prison Meal - Breakfast, Lunch and Tea. October 13th 2012.
Thanks to those who donated finance/items to cover the meal.
We had an attendance of 97 people and a profit of \$1700.00**

Thank you Geoff and Jill and your team for a very encouraging and positive evening. The interaction of "living" the prison life made the evening so real and gave me a taste of what it is like to have a prison breakfast, lunch and dinner. I was really impressed with the unity amongst the helpers in the kitchen and for all the others that helped for the evening. I saw lots of smiles and laughter and the food was really great. I liked the dress code of the tee shirt and jandels. The testimonies really touched my heart and they were so genuine. My faith was encouraged and challenged. I will be praying that I have more boldness to tell others what God has done for me..... not easy sometimes.

I thoroughly enjoyed the evening and really great to see the young people also there enjoying it. Keep up the great work you are doing - you are a great team.

Thank you heaps

Pam

A surprise evening very exciting and entertaining. Very well organised and well managed. Personally, I was in anticipation all evening wondering what was going to happen next. An interesting insight into prison life, obviously not as harsh as real prison life. The testimonies by various people who had come the the Lord were interesting. It was good to meet with new people, and share a meal with them. The food was excellent and plenty of it. Thank you to those who prepared it, who worked so hard in the kitchen. Special thanks to Geof and Jill McMillan and the other 'Prison Officer'. The venue was just right for the event. Overall a very enjoyable evening. Well done!

Ken





Back L-R. Waikeria Volunteer coordinator- Nadine Allen, Trustee-Maraenui Taituha, Chairperson-Alex Shepherd.
Front L-R.PCM Staff-Andrew Dickson, Geoff & Jill McMillan, Kevin Stephens.



volunteering waikato

"enriched lives and communities through volunteering"

2012 VOLUNTEER EXCELLENCE AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

PRISON CARE MINISTRIES

ON YOUR NOMINATION FOR THE

TEAM EXCELLENCE AWARD

VOLUNTEERING WAIKATO ACKNOWLEDGES THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION THAT YOU HAVE MADE TO THE COMMUNITY


VOLUNTEERING WAIKATO - GENERAL MANAGER


BOARD OF TRUSTEES - CHAIRPERSON

DATE
20/06/2012



In June, the Volunteer Excellence Awards were held, organised by Volunteering Waikato and sponsored by various local businesses. Prison Care Ministries were nominated by the Waikeria Prison Volunteer coordinator for the 'group award'. From a dozen nominees, they received a special commendation, and were gifted with a framed certificate and gift basket for their efforts. Established in 2004, Prison Care Ministries provide a vital service for men released back into the wider Hamilton community. They run four houses, interview male prisoners throughout NZ; and select men to live in these houses. The next level of support is assistance in finding permanent housing, putting the men in touch with support groups; anything that will ensure they don't return to prison

The Southwester

A second chance.

A Melville couple have been recognised for their decades of work both in the community and through their efforts helping prisoners reintegrate into society. Geoff and Jill McMillan established Prison Care Ministries in 2004, initially to provide support accommodation for inmates released from prison.

They believe every prisoner who does not re-offend means less crime and less pain for the person and the community. The organisation provides support accommodation as a "stepping stone" and also helps newly released prisoners with issues such as finding work, setting up appointments with organisations such as WINZ, opening bank accounts, obtaining drivers licenses and arranging medical appointments.

Their work caught the attention of Waikeria Prison volunteer coordinator Nadine Allen, who nominated Prison Care Ministries in the 2012 Waikato Volunteering Awards, where they were awarded the Team Excellence Award.

The couple have worked in prisons and with those in need since the 70s. They moved to Hamilton in 1975 to be house parents in an Emergency Women's hostel run by the Combined Churches Social Services.

Geoff taught at Melville High School in the Technology Department and helped establish Te Manaakitanga at Melville High School, the first marae built on a state school campus. They built their home in Melville 1978 and continue to live in the suburb. Their four children all attended school in Melville and over years they have provided shelter to foster children, families and others in need.

Geoff left teaching in the late 70s to become a minister and began visiting prisons to hold church services, initially while on secondment in Wellington then Waikeria, where Geoff was associate Chaplain from 1995 to 1999, with Jill working on Chapel Services and Bible Studies.

Michael Ferri, Wholeness Editor, May 2012

Geoff and Jill McMillan began conducting church services and bible studies in New Zealand prisons while with Open Air Campaigners over 34 years ago.

Their hearts were one in this and in 1999 they accepted an invitation to go into full-time prison ministry.

It was well known that support housing usually fails inside one year, but after hearing the question repeated time after time, "Where can I go when I am released?" Geoff and Jill established Prison Care Ministries in 2004. They started with one house and now seven years later

they have four houses running, knowing without a doubt that the Lord has "done all things well."

Geoff and Jill visit the prisons to meet and to get to know their prospective residents, and follow up with letter writing.

Nearly all the men that come into their housing programme already know them and know what is expected of them when they arrive at their new home.

The ministry is relational, with many of these hardened men coming to call Geoff and Jill mum and dad, an expression of endearment, not disparagement!

Prison Care Ministries also supports some family members, help-

ing them to re-adjust to having their loved one released from a period of incarceration - invariably a different person than the one they once knew.

If support is not there then the struggles that are faced alone can put many a man back behind bars, after of course leaving more victims in the community.



Friends

Friends always help and love one another
And are always there in the times of storm
Friends are loyal and loving sisters and brothers
As they're part of God's family, so gracious and warm.

Friends are a precious gift from Heaven high above
Who are always faithful, devoted and so very true
Friends also become close like a pair of white doves
Because they show love, compassion and pray for me and you.

Genuine friends neither mock nor judge
For any wrongs or mistakes that you may commit
Friends also never hold on to a grudge
Even if I lose control, thank you for allowing good honest friends.

And to share with them our problems and your loving word
I know Father God that you want us to share this trend
Inform others that you only want to be heard
Through an anger fit.

Friends are all from different kinds of nations
And they also have different kinds of culture and religion
But I realize that God has given this precious inspiration
And that we are to share the good news to every region.

Also genuine friends stay tightly connected
And become loyal, faithful, trusting and honest
Friends also know what is precisely expected
From themselves as one day God will reward his promise.

Shaun—resident
Used with permission

Prison Events

Paremoremo Prison

The Way Forward

November 11th 2011

Presentation and discussion by the Rehabilitation and Reintegration Services Teams.

Waikeria Prison

100 Year Celebration

November 11th 2011

Welcome:

Haka, Powhiri, Wero

Visit to the Chapel

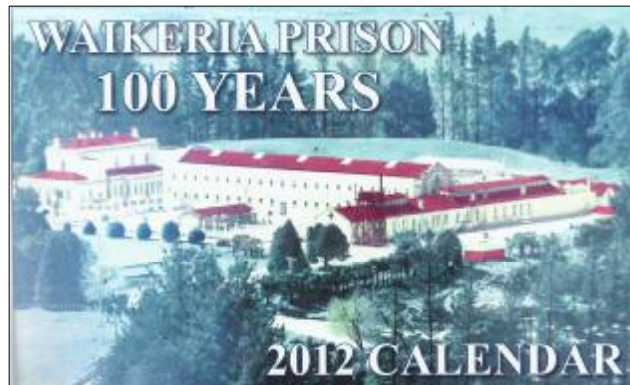
Tour of Medium Security

Bus through the old village site

Unveiling of plaque

Service to acknowledge staff who have passed on

Poroporoaki



Spring Hill Prison

27th April 2012

Accommodation Stakeholders Presentation

Christmas BBQ

23 residents and past residents arrived for Christmas Day breakfast.

A total of 34 including staff, trustees and family members.



**Pancakes, bananas, cream.
Sausages, bacon & eggs, onions and mushrooms.**

Some of our thoughts over the years

“With every challenge comes an achievement”

“People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care”

“When success comes – celebrate, congratulate and graduate”

“Always assume the best”

“You will see it when you believe it”

“Attitudes and habits= = Character”

“The power of good is stronger than the power of evil”

“Even if only one man was to be successfully reintegrated we have a success story”

“We are all being observed everyday by someone”

And from an ex resident -

“I thought that my life was over when I went to prison.... Today my life is simple but it is the greatest life I have ever had”

Trustees



Alex Shepherd - Chairperson.
Software Architect, NetValue Ltd.
Alex and Judi have 3 children and attend Chapel Hill Community Church where Alex is a part of the church Missions Team.
Previously an approved visitor to Waikeria Prison.

Len Caley

Barrister- Specialises in Criminal law.
Len and Davina have 2 children and attend Hamilton South Baptist Church.
Previously an approved volunteer to Waikeria Prison.



Maraenui Taituha
Staff at Fairfield College.
Maraenui and Alison have three children and attend a Home Church.
Previously an approved volunteer to Waikeria Prison.

Geoff and Jill McMillan

Staff - Prison Care Ministries.

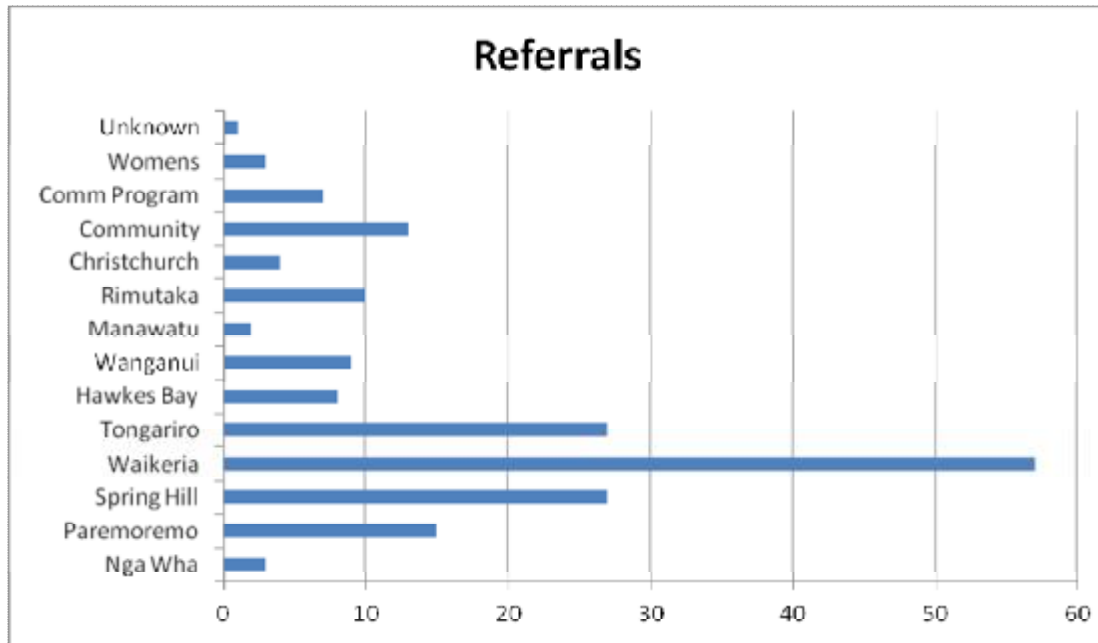
Geoff and Jill have 4 children and 12 grand children. They attend Chapel Hill Community Church.

Geoff first visited a prison 45 years ago with a Church team and has continued visiting over the past 28 years with OAC Ministries and Prison Fellowship (Waikato). He has been an Associate Chaplain at Waikeria Prison.

Geoff and Jill were involved in a search group with a concern for men in prison. This led to the establishment of Prison Care Ministries in September 2004. They are approved visitors to all North Island Prisons.



**Statistics for the 12 months from
1st September 2011 to
31st August 2012**



**Community program—men released to a program in the
community serving a sentence of Home Detention
Women—3 women requested accommodation from
Women’s Prisons.**

Staff visit as many applicants as possible for the initial interview. This helps to build a relationship and makes the transition back into the community easier for the men and Prison Care Ministries staff.

	Visits	Interviews	Men
Community program	2	4	4
Paremoremo	3	16	16
Spring Hill	3	19	18
Waikeria	10	60	39
Tongariro	2	23	17
Hawkes Bay	2	17	13
Wanganui	3	13	14
Rimutaka	1	5	5

A further 15 men were known to us and 3 men arrived at the office.

Began the year with a wait list of 103 men

Received 188 new referrals

Total 291 referrals

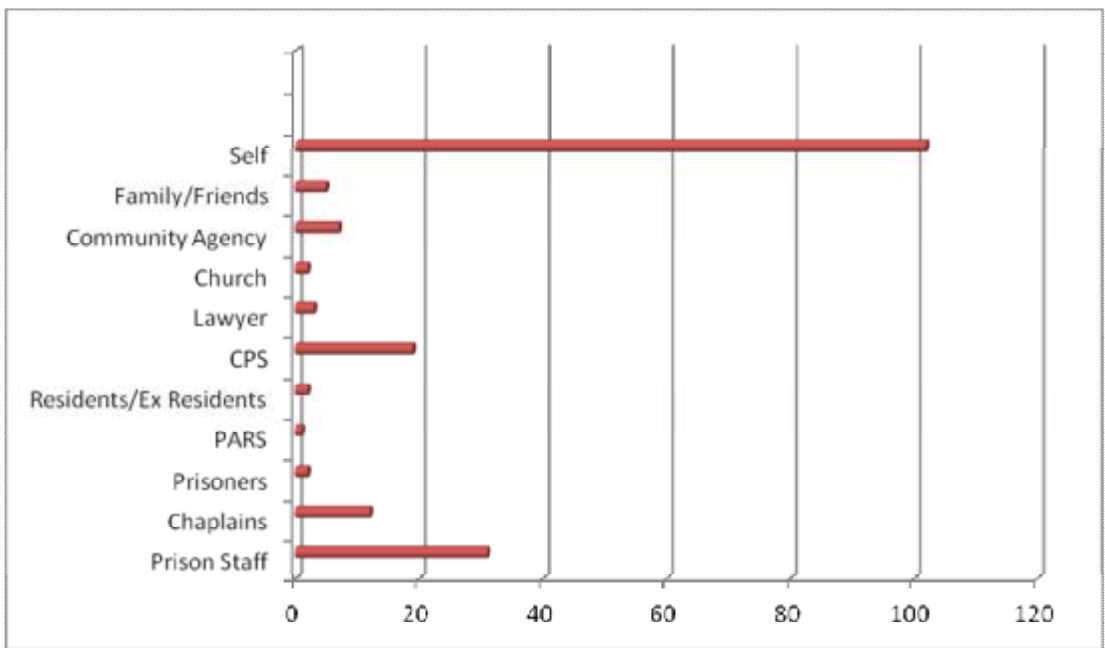
No further contact 102

Released to PCM 64

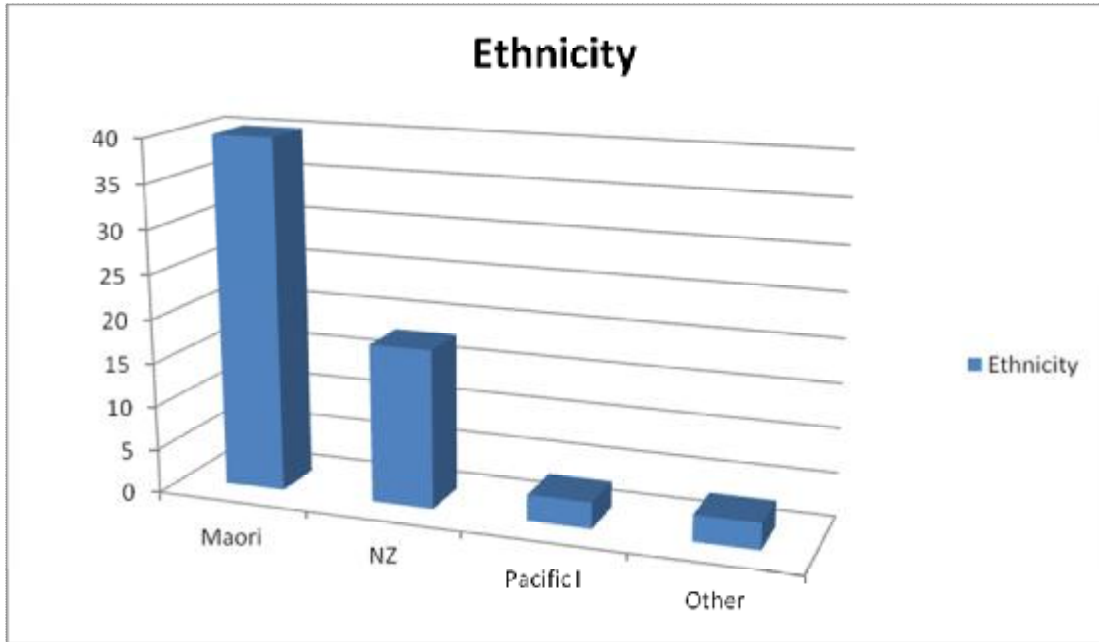
Wait listed 125

No further contact:
 Released elsewhere 34
 No reply 24
 House full 17
 Unsuitable 23
 Unknown 4

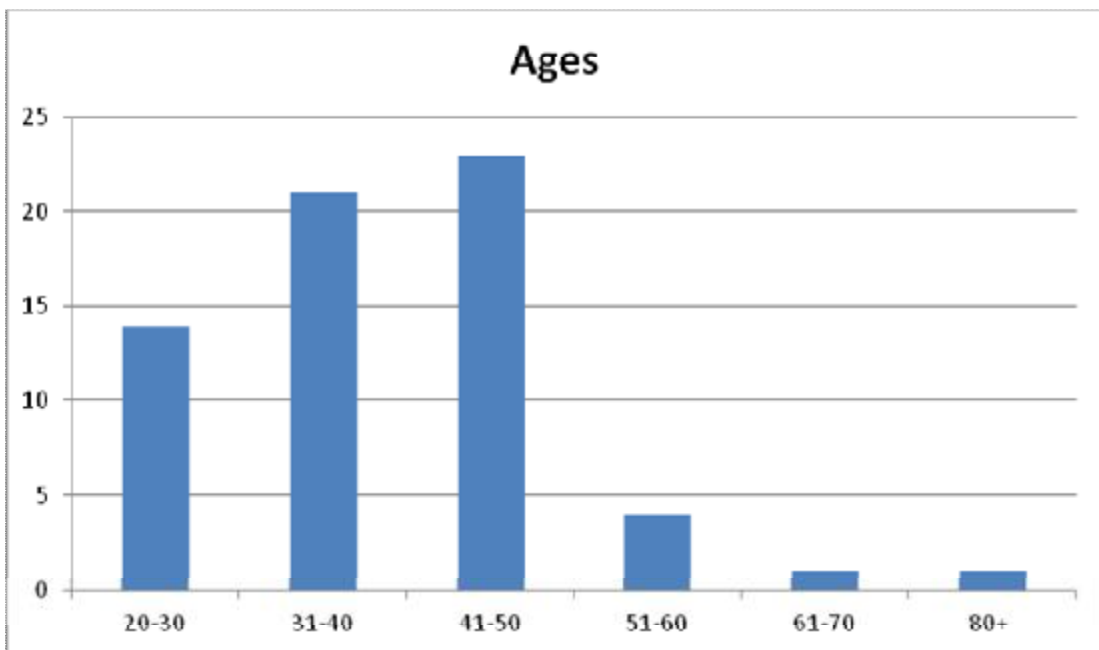
Released to PCM
 63 actual residents but 1 man released twice.



Residents



Other—Indian, Scottish, Italian and English



Residents outcomes

We had a total of 63 residents and 64 placements as I man came into the house twice.

We thank our landlords as they have to negotiate with their Insurance company to house men who have a criminal record.

Length of stay

1-night	2
3 nights	1
2-4 weeks	3
1-2 months	14
2-3	6
3-4	14
4-5	8
5-6	1

6 men were recalled to prison for breaching their Parole Conditions. e.g.

Working without permission,
Breaking a curfew
Alcohol

Being in the wrong place
Being asked to leave and have nowhere to live.

3 men had a warrant out for their arrest for breaching conditions or re offending and left the premises.

**Current residents in
at end of stats year
14**

Residents moved on to:

Flats	23
Private board	7
Boarding houses	2
Family/friends	7
Night Shelter	1
Disappeared	1
Warrant arrest	3
Recalled	6

Prison Care Ministries staff continue to give support to men after they have moved from the houses and have on-going contact with around 35 of our past residents from 2004 - 2011, 3 from the first house opened in 2004.

Staff are supporting families through the difficulties of having a family member in prison.

Our audited accounts are not included in this electronic version of our annual report.

To view our annual accounts via the Charities Commission web site;

- Go to www.charities.govt.nz
 1. Use [Search the Register] – (left hand side)
 2. Type in our NUMBER which is CC22440 in the SECOND field
 3. Click on [Search] at the bottom of the page.

Search results will show Prison Care Ministries Details under Registration

- 1. Click on PRISON CARE MINISTRIES
 2. Scroll down on right to the link to Annual Returns
 3. Click on the year that you want
- In supporting document(s) you will find the Audited Accounts.pdf ready to be down-loaded
- Click on that PDF file to download