

Contact

Dr Prudence Stone is the National Executive Officer of Presbyterian Support New Zealand and Chair of ComVoices.

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Abstract

While still fragile, the community and voluntary sector is generally more stable and viable than it was two years ago. The ComVoices survey of 129 community and voluntary organisations shows that the sector continues to deal with increased demands, increasing costs and has been significantly impacted by COVID-19.

While much remains the same over four biennial surveys, we are also beginning to see some welcome changes, particularly in two priority areas that were identified by ComVoices as a result of previous surveys:

- Fair Funding that reflects community organisations' increased costs and reduces the compliance costs imposed on them
- Making it easier to work with government, including streamlined contracting, recognition of the sector's role in advocacy and harnessing community expertise in design and delivery of programmes.

Links

[State of the sector survey](#)

Michelle Kitney is the Kaihautū Chief Executive of Volunteering New Zealand.

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Volunteering New Zealand's State of Volunteering Report 2020 presents a snapshot of volunteering in Aotearoa New Zealand prior to Covid-19:

- 35.8% of organisations expressed concern over an ageing volunteer workforce
- 36.6% stated a lack of volunteers to be their biggest challenge

In 2022 we have done mixed-methods research into the State of Volunteering post-Covid. Some preliminary insights (research paper due later this year) are:

- The impact of Covid-19 has not been homogeneous nor constant among different groups and people
- Covid has impacted social relations among volunteers and how we connect
- Organisations with robust electronic systems for managing volunteers had higher retention and engagement rates.

[State of Volunteering](#)

[State of the World's Volunteerism Report](#)

Fiona Cram (Ngāti Pahauwera) is from the east coast of Aotearoa. She established Katoa Ltd in 2003.

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In 2010 and 2011 the Canterbury earthquakes prompted expressions of mahi aroha – work done by Māori (Indigenous peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand) out of a love for the people – in the emergency context of a natural disaster. Similarly, the Covid-19 level 4 lockdown that began in the last week of March 2020 showcased Māori caring for one another in the context of a pandemic. Whether people were paid or unpaid, out in their communities as essential workers or broadcasting via the internet from their living rooms and kitchens, Māori around the country engaged in mahi aroha. While celebrating the capacity of Māori to move swiftly and effectively to care for others, the past two decades have seen an overall decline in the time Māori have been able to devote to mahi aroha, particularly voluntary work. It is proposed here the decline in Māori home ownership and access to secure, affordable housing is a key challenge to Māori capacity for mahi aroha. It is therefore timely to consider Māori responsiveness during times of crisis and how access to housing might help ensure that this capacity continues into the future.

[Mahi Aroha: Māori work in times of trouble and disaster as an expression of a love for the people. Kōtuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Online.](#)

Contact

Janie Walker is the Kaiwhakahaere Matua of Community Research.

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Abstract

Community Research has free:

- [database of research and knowledge](#)
- [evaluation resources](#)
- [special collections](#) that elevate specific voices so that their perspectives and lived-experiences are validated and actioned.

Links

[Register of researchers](#)

Lemalu Silao Vaisola-Sefo is the Chief Executive of South Seas Healthcare. Silao's chiefly title Lemalu is from the district of Matautu, Lefaga.

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Bula Sautu uses national data to show the complex contributing factors that impact on health for Pacific peoples, from maternity to end of life, using a life-course approach. The report brings together a diverse range of Pacific health and equity experts to share their views of how effectively (or ineffectively) the health system is performing for Pacific peoples. Four areas for system-level change, and proposed early steps:

- A structural response is needed from the system
- The system must enable Pacific peoples to identify and design Pacific solutions
- Leaders and decision-makers in our training establishments and professions must take decisive action to support and grow the Pacific workforce required at all levels of the system
- We must address the unacceptable racism of our system, that is a driver of inequitable health care processes and outcomes, and is enabled by the structure of the system.

[Bula Sautu - A window on quality 2021: Pacific health in the year of COVID-19](#)

Susan Rapley was a Principal Advisor at Whaikaha Ministry of Disabled People and worked on disability equity for the COVID Vaccination and Immunisation Programme.

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Disability research involves creative and systematic activity to increase disability-knowledge. It is regularly carried out by researchers in academia, disabled people, disability and community organisations, and government agencies.

Disability research can be conducted using a range of approaches and methods, but it is critical that disabled people are central at all stages of the research process. Evidence gathered through high quality disability research is often translated into meaningful insights to inform and transform policy and practice.

[Guidance-and-resources/disability-data-and-evidence-resources/research-and-evidence](#)

Dr Gauri Nandedkar is the Kaitūhono Research Sector Engagement and Projects Lead of Community Research.

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Aotearoa New Zealand responded to the Covid 19 pandemic by adopting an elimination rather than a suppression strategy, which involved using traditional public health techniques of rapid tracking and tracing, isolation and quarantine. The home became the central mechanism of defence in national public health measures to manage the pandemic. The use of the home as a key tool in the Covid 19 management strategy has occurred within the context of a housing affordability crisis for those on low incomes and associated problems of housing precarity. This highlighted Aotearoa's persistent problems with unaffordable and insecure housing, as well as homelessness. The interplay between the housing crisis and Covid-19, and the way in which it was dealt with in the media discourse revealed complexities in the meaning of housing and home in Aotearoa New Zealand.

[Covid-19_media_constructions_of_housing_home](#)

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Rochelle Stewart-Allen is Kaiwhakahaere Matua Chief Executive of Hui E! Community Aotearoa.

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Just before Aotearoa went into its second nationwide lockdown in August 2021, Volunteering New Zealand and Hui E! Community Aotearoa checked in with more than 600 tangata whenua, community and voluntary organisations to see how they were coping. Here's what we found:

- Community organisations are running on empty after 18 months of pandemic pressures
- The sector is experiencing increased demand for its services from stressed communities
- The demand has not been met with increased funding from government and the philanthropic sector, and the challenges are starting to wear down workers and volunteers.
- The survey included focus groups with organisations caring for Māori, Pasifika, migrant and refugee-background, and disabled communities.

[Hauora-Wellbeing-Research](#)

Thalia Kehoe Rowden is the Strategy and Communication Lead at the Human Rights Measurement Initiative.

To speak to researchers on civil and political rights, economic and social rights, and/or human rights in the Blue Pacific, please contact:

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[HRMI Rights Tracker](#) (including downloadable dataset)

This study evaluates how well the New Zealand Government is complying with its obligations under the International Covenant for Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) regarding the right to adequate housing and the right to health care and protection. While we find some areas of compliance for both the right to adequate housing and the right to health care and protection, the study reveals serious and significant violations of the ICESCR. The structural indicators reveal pervasive breaches in the New Zealand Government's commitment to respect each right, while the process and outcome indicators reveal breaches in the New Zealand Government's commitment to protect and fulfil each right.

[HRMI report on international Human Rights During the Pandemic](#) (downloadable PDF available at that link)

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We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to 'build back better' in many different spheres. To do this we need to leverage and embed key system shifts brought to light through the rāhui, by taking the following actions:

- Decentralise
- Recognise and respect difference
- Value people and relationships
- Embed collaboration
- Build local economic resilience and redefine shovel ready
- Tolerate more risk.

[Shaping-The-Future](#)

Kate Prickett is the Director of the Roy McKenzie Centre for the Study of Families.

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The COVID-19 pandemic set up an environment that needed rapid research to understand how people were being impacted and whether and how government policy responses were creating or targeting potential inequities that resulted from quick policy decisions.

The Roy McKenzie Centre for the Study of Families and Children and the Institute for Governance and Policy Studies at Victoria University of Wellington have aimed to conduct research during the pandemic. It has filled gaps in our understanding of the economic and social impact of lockdowns on families, and the potential inequities in COVID-19 vaccine uptake as Aotearoa New Zealand rolled out their COVID-19 immunisation programme.

[COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Acceptance in a Cohort of Diverse New Zealanders](#)

[Covid-19 Life in lockdown](#)

Contact

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Warkina Tujuba has the Youth and Engagement portfolio on the African Community Council and Community Coordinator at Creative HQ.

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Angie Warren-Clark, Labour Party List MP, is the Chairperson of the Social Services and Community Select Committee of the New Zealand Parliament.

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