AUCKLAND REGIONAL MIGRANT SERVICES
CHARITABLE TRUST

PATHWAYS, CIRCUITS AND CROSSROADS CONFERENCE

7 December 2010

Dr Mary Dawson
Executive Director

“Leading the way in facilitating successful settlement for migrants and refugees in the Auckland Region”
Key Programmes and Services

Funded by Department of Labour

- Settlement Support NZ Services (Auckland and Manukau)
  - Information provision for newcomers and service providers
  - Increasing responsiveness by mainstream providers
  - Identifying local issues/gaps/duplications
  - Coordination/fostering of information/orientation activities
  - Marketing/promotion of SSNZ

- Regional Settlement Support coordination
  - Regional activities – network/steering group /newsletter
  - Identifying regional issues
  - Coordination of regional responses re information provision
Key Programmes and Services

Funded by MSD (Work and Income)
- Migrant Employment Assistance Programme
- Refugee Employment Assistance Programme

Funded through other sources (eg COGS, DIA, Council etc)
- Development of the Regional Settlement Website
- English Language Advisory Service
- Volunteer Work Experience Programme
- Advocacy initiatives
In 2009 - 10 ARMS centres dealt with over 9,000 clients and visitors.

Over 350 activities/workshops coordinated, delivered, or hosted by ARMS.

ARMS collaborated with over 100 organisations during the year.
CURRENT POSITIVES

- Positive relationships & collaboration
- Strengthening of refugee voices and greater participation
- One Auckland
- Community building and development and engagement
- Migrant organisations and enterprises
- Income generation options
CURRENT CHALLENGES

- Lack of cohesion and clarity in terms of government priorities
- Non-eligibility for employment assistance
- Location of newcomer services
- Diversity of newcomer groups/migrant and refugee communities and their various needs/areas of residence etc
- Managing expectations of funders, communities, mainstream providers, researchers, media, etc
- Need for more connectivity between NGOs and business/private sector
- Need for more needs-based specificity in programme delivery
- Lack of funded provision for innovation and entrepreneurial initiatives, social or cultural
- Multiculturalism – requires more focus on connections between all ethnicities including NZ born