

The "I Have a Dream"® Charitable Trust



Key Events

- Dreamers sweep the Auckland City Photo Day Competition 1
- First annual Research Report 1
- SkyCity Cinemas help us recognise our wonderful Volunteers 1
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OK, we've had enough of winter here, thanks very much! It's been rather cold and wet in Auckland, but that hasn't stopped our Dreamers from being their normal creative, energetic and adventurous selves!

Photographers Extraordinaire!

Our last newsletter profiled the great time that our Dreamers had preparing for and participating in the Auckland City Photo Day Competition.

Well, they proved to be naturals at it, with:

- Wesley Tumai winning the competition!
- Luke Vakatini finishing in the top 6
- Salote Makasini finishing in the top 30



This is out of over 400 entrants, most of them adults! We are hosting an exhibition of the photos at the school – please come to the opening reception on Friday Sept 10th at 4 pm, or visit the following week. We will also be posting some of the photos on our web site www.ihaveadream.org.nz from Monday 13th Sept.



Report from our Researchers

We have been pouring over the data, conclusions and recommendations from Jan Hill and the IPDER (Institute of Professional Development & Education Research) at Massey University. This is the group that we retained to conduct research into the programme elements and results of the IHAD NZ project.

The bottom line is that there have been some noticeable improvements in the Dreamers, especially in more qualitative areas such as attendance, self confidence and attitude. We were hoping for more quantitative improvements in academic areas such as their PAT scores and reading levels, but there has not yet been an across the board shift. Mind you, this might reflect the fact that most of our first year was focusing on issues like Life Skills, whereas this year has seen an increased focus on tutoring, reading skill development, etc.

We welcome inquiries from anyone who would like to have a look at the reports we have.

Volunteers go to the Movies

With the generous assistance of some donated tickets from SkyCity Cinemas, we were able to provide each of our wonderful volunteers with two tickets to the movies. This is but a small recognition of the fantastic work, passion, energy and love that they share with the Dreamers.

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Rubbish and Recycling

Sandy Thomas, the Environmental Educator with the Auckland Regional Council, captivated the Dreamers on Friday August 6th with her tales and displays on the issue of rubbish (that's trash to our American readers) and recycling. They were all looking out the window at the school's rugby field, picturing it piled with rubbish to the height of a 10-story building which is what it would be if all of Auckland's rubbish was packed there for a year.

She had a fascinating set of products made from recycled plastics, including a nice-looking jacket, carry-bags, and the blue recycling bin itself! She soon had the Dreamers chanting the recycling ditty: "Wash it, Squash it, Put it in the Bin!"

The learning continued on Friday August 27th, when the Dreamers toured the Waitakere Refuse and Recycling Transfer Station. This field trip was a fun and interesting exploration of just what happens to all those plastic bottles, old newspapers, gardening waste, etc.



Mt Roskill Grammar School Continues its Great Support

MRGS, the local High School, has already provided the bulk of our current 50+ volunteers, and they continue to open their doors to us. On Monday, 26th of July, Ant and Scott lead the Dreamers on a walk to the High School, where the Principal, Ken Rapson, welcomed us, and then a team of senior students took small groups of Dreamers on a tour of the school.



Later in August, Ant was again welcomed into the school to conduct training sessions for a further 20 MRGS students, so that our Tutoring Programme can have consistent 1:1 Dreamer/Tutor sessions every day after school. We are indebted to Ken, the staff and the senior school students for their continued support.

Volunteer Profile

Karen Panckhurst has been a committed and highly involved volunteer almost since the programme started early last year. Karen first approached us offering to donate the IHAD-related domain names that she'd reserved. She visited us at the Dreamer Centre, and promptly volunteered to help with the After School Programme.

Karen's father was the first on his marae to attend university, which Karen credits with her own success in life, and her enthusiasm for sharing the gift of knowledge and education with the next generation.

Karen has just stepped back from her close involvement with the Dreamers, although she will continue to provide them with a wonderful example – because she has returned to university to gain a Masters degree in Entrepreneurship!



Quote of the Day

"It is better to build a child than repair an adult."

This is the slogan for a very successful Charter School, serving children from the immigrant communities of San Diego. If you're interested in this innovative concept, please read it at:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/education/20040627-9999-lz1n27preuss.html>

"The "I Have a Dream"® Programme helps children from low-income areas reach their education and career goals by providing a long-term program of mentoring, tutoring, and enrichment, with an assured opportunity for higher education."