

The "I Have a Dream"[®] Charitable Trust



Inside this issue:

<i>Key Events</i>	1
<i>Why IHAD?</i>	1
<i>Computer Lab</i>	2
<i>Dreamer Learning Centre</i>	2
<i>IPDER / Massey Evaluation</i>	2
<i>Volunteers</i>	2

Welcome to the second issue of the newsletter for the "I Have a Dream"[®] program in NZ. Please check out our web site (www.ihaveadream.org.nz) for downloadable files for the first issue and the Program Overview.

Key Events

The start of the program has been a great success. Especially noteworthy has been the incredible generosity from key corporate partners:

- **HP** has donated a complete Computer Lab for the IHAD program, including a server, 15 workstations, 2 printers and a scanner. The Dreamers and the Staff are incredibly excited about the learning opportunities that will be opened up by the impressive new facility.
- **ANZ Bank** has donated 20 used PCs for placement into the Dreamers' homes.
- **Microsoft** has donated software for

both the Computer Lab and the used PCs.

- We have started an *After School Learning Centre* for the Dreamers.
- The exterior wall of the Dreamer Learning Centre has been decorated with a great mural that captures the essence of IHAD.
- The IPDER group at Massey University has commenced their evaluation of the Dreamers and the Program.
- The search for volunteers continues!

Why IHAD?

Some people have asked how we picked Wesley Primary School, or even, why we're doing this. It can be summed up in a simple statistic, on the qualifications gained in co-educational schools in 1995:^{*}

- Decile 1 schools had 45% achieving C bursary, 32% leaving before Year 12
- Decile 5 schools had 72% achieving C bursary, 16% leaving before Year 12
- Decile 10 schools had 83% achieving C bursary, 14% leaving before Year 12

For our country to become the productive and harmonious place that we all want it to be, we cannot continue to have these kind of disparities in our educational out-



comes. While the Government recognises *social exclusion* with its variable funding scheme for the different Decile Schools, we have to realise that it is up to the community (individuals, businesses, charitable organisations) to fill the gap with social investment.

^{*} Nash and Harker 1998, "Making Progress: Adding Value In Secondary Education", Palmerston North: ERDC Press, Massey University.

Contact Details:

Project Coordinator:

Ant Backhouse

Project Sponsor:

Scott Gilmour

"I Have a Dream"[®]

Charitable Trust

P.O Box 27-501

Mt Roskill, Auckland

New Zealand

Ph: +64 9 620 5411

Fax: +64 9 620 5466

info@ihaveadream.org.nz

www.ihaveadream.org.nz



Computer Lab

As you can see in this photo, the Dreamer Classroom at Wesley Primary School now looks like a very well equipped corporate training room. The brand new **HP** computers, loaded with the latest **Microsoft** software, will be a tremendous asset for our Dreamers.

We are also overwhelmed by the generosity of **ANZ Bank**, who have donated 20 PCs for our Dreamers' homes. We are currently refurbishing these PCs, and loading up the software from **Microsoft**.

Above:

The Computer Lab in our Dreamer Learning Centre

Below:

The Mural on the outside of Dreamers Learning Centre.

Far Right:

Painting the school Garden areas on our community service day.

Dreamer Learning Centre

Ant Backhouse, our hard-working Project Coordinator, has started up the After School Learning Centre for the Dreamers with the start of the new school year. Because of the large Year 4 class (37 kids) we have split the Dreamers into 2 groups. One group comes on Monday and Wednesday, with the other group on Tuesday and Thursday. The whole class comes on Friday, which is our Community Service Day. So far we have done some painting and

gardening around the school, which was great fun, very productive, but rather dangerous (i.e., think of 37 nine year-olds armed with paint-brushes!).

As you can see in the photo (left), the mural that Ant commissioned for the exterior wall of the Dreamer Learning Centre is a super representation of the Dream that we (parents, teachers, community) all have for our children.



IPDER / Massey Evaluation

We have commissioned Jan Hill and the team at Massey University's IPDER (Institute for Professional Development and Educational Research) to conduct an initial 18 month study of the IHAD NZ program. This will cover two main aspects:

1. The learning outcomes of the Dreamers
2. The elements and activities of the Program itself

We are doing this to both ensure that we are achieving worthwhile goals for the Dreamers, and to provide hard data to other potential sponsors on the ROI (Return on Investment) of the program.

Volunteers

Ant and his wonderful wife Nina have been getting some assistance from some of the Dreamers' parents and siblings, but we are in need of more volunteers. Please look at our web site for an overview of the various volunteer opportunities, and encourage anyone you know who might want to get involved with these wonderful kids as they embark on their Dreams.

"A century from now it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, or how much money I had in the bank....But one hundred years from now the world may be a better place, because I was important in the life of a child."

"The "I Have a Dream"® Program 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."