



Auckland Parents of Deaf Children

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

WELCOME

2021 was a year many of us will never forget and like many organisations, for the second year running, the global COVID-19 pandemic played a critical part in how Auckland Parents of Deaf Children was able to support its members. We once again had to navigate the digital world to help keep our members connected, supported and engaged in both our APODC community and the wider deaf community.

Despite 2021 being another unpredictable year across the globe, our members have stood strong together. Not only have you continued to support each other but, you have welcomed new families into our community. It is you, our members, that make us great and you who will help us evolve so that APODC can meet the needs of Parents and Children in the Auckland deaf community now and in the future. Thank you all for your continued involvement.

I would also like to thank our partners who have continued to support APODC this year: **Phonak, The Hearing House, First Signs, Deaf Aotearoa, Deaf Children New Zealand, Ko Taku Reo and Auckland Deaf Society, and our Grant providers Foundation North, Deaf Children New Zealand, COGS Manukau, COGS Franklin/Papakura, COGS Waitakere, COGS North Shore/Rodney, Lotteries Community Fund and The NZSL Fund.** Without each of you it would not have been possible for us to provide our members with the level of support and connection we have been able to in 2021.

To our dedicated and hardworking committee, thank you for your continued stewardship of APODC and your ability to change and adapt, as we've been asked to do many times over the past year. We've got some great aspirations for the coming years and I'm excited to see what we can achieve together.

It's been another wonderful year for Auckland Parents of Deaf Children. Through challenging circumstances we have grown our membership base and continued to offer events to our members so they can meet, connect and seek support and advice.

As we head into our 70th year, I am incredibly proud to be a part of this organisation. I look forward to continuing to build on the strong operational platforms we have set up over the past decades, as we evolve and grow to ensure we can be around for deaf children and their whānau for many more years to come.

Nga mihi nui



Willa Hand
President, Auckland Parents of Deaf Children



OUR YEAR

This year APODC has undergone significant change in our leadership and organisational structure. After eight years at the helm, previous President Kirsten Davis stepped down and into the role of Secretary. I would like to thank her for her stewardship of APODC during her time as President, and her continued support of the committee and APODC. We farewelled Viv Arkle from the committee and our coordinator of six years, Catriona Sainsbury, who also moved on to pastures new. While it is always sad to say farewell it does offer us the opportunity to welcome new people. We celebrate the addition of two new committee members, Anna Parks and Jess Fonoti, who have contributed strongly to our Society, as well as our partnership with Little Black Books who now provide us with professional bookkeeping services.

In 2021 the APODC committee had an increased focus on governance and strategy, building on the operational foundations put in place over the last eight years. One positive thing that came out of the COVID-19 lockdowns was the time they created. It allowed us to invest our time understanding how Auckland Parents of Deaf Children can continue to provide meaningful connections with parents and the deaf community in the coming years.

We, like many other not for profits, have taken time this year to assess the role we play in the community and for our members. Ensuring we are able to continue to offer services that provide our families with what they need, has been paramount. While we haven't been able to see as many of you face to face this year, we have set strong foundations for a connected year to come.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

We are proud to have been able to continue to serve our members and community this year.

Our Members

Our purpose is to connect and support families and whānau of deaf children so they can live their very best lives. For APODC, this is often done through a series of face to face events.

135
Members

20 new families
joined in 2021 - a **20%**
increase in members

34 *new
parents*

19 new Deaf or HoH children
along with **23** siblings

Ages of new deaf children

15 5yo and under (79%) **4** 6yo and up (21%)





Our Events

Against the odds we were able to organise several online and face to face events ranging from days out at Rainbows End to online cooking and well-being classes. These events helped to keep our families connected through a challenging and unpredictable year.

7 events

Coffee groups, Wellbeing sessions and C2 Cookery

65 families
278 attendees

2 full family fun days



Our Sponsors & Grant Providers

\$73,599
received

8 grants

COGS Rodney/ North Shore

COGS Manukau

COGS Papakura

COGS Waitakere

COGS Auckland

DCNZ

Community Lotteries

Foundation North

Phonak

NZSL Round 8 (held for 2022 events due to Covid-19 lockdowns).

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

In 2021 APODC improved our reporting standards by introducing best practice accounting principles, this provides increased transparency to our members on the financial health of APODC. APODC also became GST registered in 2021 which is a great milestone to achieve. Overall APODC is in a strong financial position as we head into the 2022 year.

Balance Sheet

Auckland Parents of Deaf Children Inc As at 31 December 2021

	31 DEC 2021	31 DEC 2020
Assets		
Bank		
APODC - Savings on Call	50,600.50	50,555.02
APODC Society Cheque	52,302.84	33,692.92
ASB - Term Deposit \$100K	100,000.00	100,000.00
ASB - Term Deposit \$150K	150,000.00	150,000.00
ASB - Term Deposit \$85K	85,000.00	85,000.00
Tax Account	8,290.00	-
Total Bank	446,193.34	419,247.94
Fixed Assets		
Computer Equipment @ cost	2,787.29	1,288.29
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Computer Equipment	(1,787.96)	(1,288.29)
Total Fixed Assets	999.33	-
Total Assets	447,192.67	419,247.94
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	338.00	1,361.92
GST	6,267.28	-
Income Received in Advance	52,914.38	-
Total Current Liabilities	59,519.66	1,361.92
Total Liabilities	59,519.66	1,361.92
Net Assets	387,673.01	417,886.02
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	(30,213.01)	5,763.79
Retained Earnings	417,886.02	412,122.23
Total Equity	387,673.01	417,886.02

Profit and Loss

Auckland Parents of Deaf Children Inc For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
Trading Income		
APODC Camp - (Family Camp Contributions)	-	350.00
Donations - Miscellaneous	1,695.95	50.00
Grant Received - COGS Manukau Sponsorship	-	2,000.00
Grant Received - COGS Rodney/North Shore	-	1,000.00
Grant Received - COGS Waitakere	67.38	2,000.00
Grant Received - Deaf Children NZ (Rainbows End)	4,600.00	-
Grant Received - Foundation North	-	38,563.00
Grant Received - Lottery Community Committee Auckland	12,826.94	24,150.00
Grant Received - COGS Papakura/Franklin Sponsorship	-	5,000.00
Grant Received - Deaf Children NZ(NZ Federation for Deaf)	-	3,714.87
Membership Fees	1,495.19	1,720.00
Total Trading Income	20,685.46	78,547.87
Gross Profit	20,685.46	78,547.87
Other Income		
Covid 19 Wage Subsidy	4,800.00	-
Interest Income	42.04	36.02
Interest Received - Term Deposits	7,883.43	12,920.33
Other Income	43.48	-
Total Other Income	12,768.95	12,956.35
Operating Expenses		
Accounting- Xero Subscription	677.03	779.70
Advertising	801.55	-
Bank Fees	40.00	-
Committee Expenses - (Functions.Gifts etc)	4,944.30	702.70
Consulting & Accounting	2,119.18	-
Contractors	4,022.95	-
Depreciation	499.67	-
Event - AGM Annual Event	-	550.00
Event - APODC Camp	373.91	37,146.90
Event - Children's Xmas Party	36.00	3,002.10
Event - Coffee Groups	50.00	-
Event - Deaf Deaf World	-	460.00
Event - Family Interactive Day/Joint ADS	1,254.00	1,161.51
Event - Inflatable World	119.63	325.00
Event - Parent Information Evening	-	200.00
Event - Rainsbow End	5,002.01	-
Event- ADS Youth Cookery Course	888.38	1,642.28
Event-Wellbeing Session	728.00	-
Interest Expense	-	0.81

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

Profit and Loss

	2021	2020
Interpreter Fees	1,366.14	1,234.79
KiwiSaver Employer Contributions	508.27	-
Legal expenses	181.26	-
Loss on Sale of Fixed Asset	-	174.29
Office Expenses	6.99	-
Penalties	250.00	-
Printing, Stationery & Postages	47.30	366.40
Salaries	16,942.78	-
Storage	-	61.65
Stripe Charges	66.49	70.39
Subscriptions	941.41	615.11
Telephone, Internet & Web management	1,683.47	1,881.67
Training and Conferences	97.00	-
Travel & Accommodation	69.70	590.13
Wages- Coordinator	14,820.00	19.00
Wages-Coordinator-NZ Lottery Commission	5,130.00	34,756.00
Total Operating Expenses	63,667.42	85,740.43
Net Profit	(30,213.01)	5,763.79



OUR TEAM



Willa Hand, President

In 2019, Willa's youngest son Emerson lost his hearing as a result of illness and is now profoundly deaf aided by Cochlear. It was finding her way to her first APODC event, Camp 2020, that provided Willa and her whānau the connection into the deaf community she was looking for. Coming from a hearing family, Willa has spoken of the benefits of meeting and engaging with other parents, learning about the community, and making connections that support Emerson as he grows.

Willa joined the committee in 2020, and she was elected as President in 2021. She is excited to progress the great work done by the committee in recent years, connecting families through fantastic events and ensuring APODC continues to meet the needs of Parents and Children in the Auckland deaf community now and into the future.

Willa has extensive business experience including expertise in membership experience and culture, strategy, governance, process improvement and facilitation and brings these skills to the table in her role as President for APODC.



Kirsten Davis, Secretary

Kirsten enjoys life in the country with her husband and two children, Xavier and Milan. Xavier was born with Charge Syndrome and has severe bilateral conductive hearing loss, aided with hearing aids. She joined APODC as she wanted to connect with other families and find a gateway to increase her knowledge into what supports were available to access.

Kirsten joined the committee in 2014, and was soon elected President. In 2021 she stepped down and into the Secretary role and she has continued in this role to date. She is proud of the changes the committee has made in the last few years and hopes to build on the progress they have made in creating a dynamic, accountable and visible organisation that prides itself on organising a wide range of fun events to allow connection and support.

Kirsten is a Clinical Psychologist and has extensive experience working with young people and their whānau. She is passionate about enabling families to have increased access to their wider community. She brings these critical insights to her role as Secretary and supports the committee as they continue to build APODC's role in the deaf Community.

OUR TEAM



Leanne Zhu, Treasurer

Leanne became involved with APODC when her son was diagnosed with unilateral hearing loss. APODC made Leanne and her family feel included and welcome from the start. They have enjoyed meeting other families, sharing experiences and learning from each other.

Leanne joined the committee in 2017 and became Treasurer in 2021. As a committee member she has enjoyed planning and coordinating activities and as Treasurer she ensures APODC's financial administration is in order and oversees the management of committee funds in conjunction with the accounts officer. She has also been a great help in connecting with new and existing members and helping families to build relationships.

As a parent of a deaf child Leanne knows the importance of knowing what resources are available to make the journey a little easier and brings that understanding as a parent to her role as a committee member.



Anna Park, Committee Member

Anna, her husband James and their son Theo have been members of APODC since 2017 when Theo was just 2. Theo, who is now 7 years old, has bilateral severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss, identified as a mild loss at birth, which has since deteriorated. APODC gave Anna and her whānau a huge amount of support, as well as providing her a group of good friends among the parents of other deaf kids.

Anna joined the committee in 2021 because she wanted to give back to an organisation she had really benefited from joining. She is currently learning NZSL and speaks some Te Reo Māori. She hopes to one day be fluent in both.

In the year since being elected to the committee Anna has helped with events, hosting our event at Inflatable World before lockdown, and planning Camp 2022 (which unfortunately had to be postponed). She has also been a point of contact for members and non-members who had questions or concerns or just needed information.

OUR TEAM



Caroline Sutcliffe, Committee Member

Caroline has two beautiful girls, Ava and Aubrey and together hit life at full speed. Ava is profoundly deaf (with a few additional needs) and uses NZSL as her main mode of communication. As a family they have been on an amazing journey learning NZSL.

They became members of APODC in 2018 as Caroline wanted to give back to an organisation that provides so many opportunities and support to children and families like hers.

Caroline is a Speech Language Therapist with 13+ years experience working in the paediatric field who owns two private practices; The Speech Room and The Move Room. Her extensive knowledge and training in AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication), hearing impairment and much more, allows her to bring a unique perspective to the events and resources we offer as we continue in our pursuit to be an inclusive organisation.



Jess Fonoti, Committee Member

Jess, who is proudly of Samoan descent, her husband John and their five children have been a part of the APDOC community ever since their two youngest children were diagnosed with unilateral hearing loss. Jess and her aiga have enjoyed many APODC events over the years and are grateful for the opportunities they provided to be able to reflect on, and celebrate, the hearing journey her youngest children are on.

Jess joined the committee in 2021 as she wanted to help serve the Deaf Community by supporting APODC to further expand its reach to Pacific families.

Jess is a senior social worker, currently working as a Neighbourhood Lead for The Cause Collective, Manukau. She has previously worked in Family Harm under Counties Manukau Health, and various social service agencies for the past 20 years, both Pacific and mainstream. She is passionate about connecting with people and brings another level of understanding of how to reach and work with people across a range of communities. Soifua ma ia manuia

OUR TEAM



Jo Weaver,
Committee Member

Jo and her partner moved from the UK, in 2007, to Aotearoa where they live with their three children. Her partner and two youngest children all wear hearing aids for different degrees of sensorineural deafness. Jo believes APODC events are a great place for families to enjoy quality time together, network with others and share experiences.

Jo has been a committee member since May 2018 and is passionate about supporting connections between families, and offering friendship and support. Knowing about deafness and understanding 'the system', has made her family's journey somewhat easier than it may have been and she uses her experience to support others in a similar situation.

Jo is an experienced Speech-Language Therapist who works privately. She has experience working for MOE, Special Schools and spent many years working at Kelston Deaf Education Centre (mainly in the pre-school). Jo helps APODC to build and nurture their networks with many professionals working in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community.



Tim Huang,
Committee Member

A teacher introduced Tim to APODC in 2015 when they told him about a coffee group they were hosting. Tim decided to attend and, after meeting the wonderful members, he himself decided to join with his two children, Adam and Emma. Adam was diagnosed with microtia of one ear when he was born. This condition means the external ear is small and usually has a closed ear canal which causes Adam to have one sided hearing loss. Tim continues to learn about the difficulties of single sided hearing and is passionate about promoting awareness.

Tim has been a committee member since 2018 and during his time he has helped host several coffee groups and provide input for event planning and previously held the post of Treasurer. Tim understands that there are many challenges in bringing up a child nowadays and knows from experience how vital organisations like APODC can be in the journey of parents who are entering into the deaf community.

Tim works in IT but his passion is in the education and training space. Since joining the committee he has been supporting parent education sessions.



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or joining our community.

Or if you have queries and would like to speak to
someone, email us on coordinator@apodc.org.nz.