



Callan Services News

Volume 6, Issue 3

January - March 2019

Callan Services News is a communication tool for the Network of Callan Services for Persons with Disabilities.

This quarterly Newsletter is about inspiring, sharing and advocating on behalf of Callan Services National Unit (CSNU), Callan Inclusive Education Institute (CIEI) and in particular the work of Inclusive Education Resource Centres (IERCs).

Through these kinds of services we reach out to the remote parts of PNG. Callan Services is present in 19 locations in 17 provinces. They are: Aitape, Vanimo, Wewak, Madang, Morobe, Goroka, Mingende, Wabag, Mendi, Hagen, Rabaul, Kavieng, Lorengau, Kimbe, Buka, Daru, Kiunga and Gerehu in Port Moresby.

Inside this issue:

Message from the Director 2

Address by Deputy Australian High Commissioner at the documentary launching 3

More stories on the launching 4 - 5

Review & Planning Meeting 6

National Day for Persons with Disabilities 7

Callan Services Network launches new documentary



Photo caption: On stage is the Papua New Guinea deaf community. At the far right corner is Br Kevin Ryan, CSNU Director delivering his closing remarks.

THE Network of Callan Services for Persons with Disabilities has launched Papua New Guinea's first documentary focused on hearing impaired people in the country.

The launch of the documentary 'Stigma Kills- Love Heals' is targeted at raising awareness on the challenges faced by people with hearing impairments in PNG and support services provided to them.

The documentary was launched on 22nd March 2019 in Port Moresby.

When speaking at the launch, Deputy Australian High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea Caitlin Wilson encouraged collaboration from key partners.

"Promoting inclusion for people

with disability is vital so they can enjoy their basic human rights and actively participate in their community and workplace. Only by working together we can achieve this shared goal," she said.

Callan Services National Unit (CSNU) Director Br Kevin Ryan thanked the partners for supporting Callan Services Network in delivering services to assist persons with disabilities and for the production of the documentary. He said the documentary will be a tool for promoting the rights of hearing impaired individuals throughout the country.

"This documentary sends a clear message - hearing impaired individuals have an enormous

contribution to make to our country but they currently face many barriers. We as a community must work together to helping this group of people realise their full potential," he said.

The documentary was funded by the Australian Government through the PNG - Aus Partnership, and Light for the World, Austria and managed by CSNU.

The mission of the Callan Services Network is to promote and build an inclusive community for persons living with disabilities. CSNU is the lead agency in the Network, which is providing health, education, rehabilitation and awareness support for persons living with disabilities.



Realising Rights



Br Kevin Ryan
Director of CSNU

Welcome to our new format for the quarterly newsletter of The Network of Callan Services for Persons with Disabilities – *Callan Services News*.

Ms Baeau Tai (Executive Assistant to the Director) is the new editor, who has taken over from Patrick Hikin. We thank Patrick for commencing the quarterly newsletter and for sharing many stories with us over 5 years.

For our colleagues in The Network of Callan Services: Community awareness and screening for or identifying disabilities, issuing of assistive technology or devices, national or international disability day celebrations, placing students with disabilities in schools and supporting their progress in education: these are all part of your daily and weekly work. **YOU** do not think that these activities are 'news' or special. To your co-workers in other locations they are news, especially if you can share your name and contact details so people can have a conversation with you.

They are also 'news' for funding partners, Board Members, people in other mainstream development organisations or in government agencies, and they are news also to people in the wider community.

Message from the Director

What you do, is not known by many other people. So 'Callan Services News' is a way of telling our story to others.

And most importantly, indirectly, it is helping to tell the stories of persons with disabilities.

Callan News relies on you to send in items for publication: photos, some names of participants and a short story can be sent to Baeau Tai whose contact details are on the back page. She can talk with you and edit your story notes for publication.

The 2019 Conference for The Network of Callan Services for Persons with Disabilities: **'Realisation of Rights'** will be a key theme of this year's Conference. Delegates from each of the 19 Inclusive Education Resource Centres (IERCs) and Callan Inclusive Education Institute (CIEI) and Callan Services National Unit (CSNU) will spend a week together (May 13 – 17).

Other internal communications will follow soon about travel and other practical arrangements. What is important to communicate is that on the Monday and Tuesday of that week it is hoped that the participants will interact with other stakeholders to share the 2018 service delivery and training and other data from The Network of Callan Services.

Then Wednesday – Friday will be The Network of Callan Services Conference proper. The purpose of the Conference proper is: **'Beginning the journey towards the next Strategic Plan 2021 - 2026; building the community of the Network.'**

The agenda of the Conference: **Current reality; Journey of last few years; Dreaming of the future; Plan for action to develop the next Strategic Plan; development of a Planning Team and process to gather and refine data.**

Comments or ideas are welcome now, especially when they have emerged from reflection on your/our current reality (data, case stories of success and failure) and suggest a 'dream for the future': another idea/suggestion, or a question to be reflected on by all of us.

All that is shared at this Conference will contribute to the thinking about the Review of Special Inclusive Education in Papua New Guinea.

To all of you who are 'readers of this Newsletter', welcome to the conversation about the future of inclusive education and the necessary support services for inclusive education in Papua New Guinea. Thank you to all contributors to this edition of the Newsletter.

Yours sincerely

Br Kevin P Ryan
Director - CSNU



(L-R standing, front row) John Kaisek, Br Francis ToLiman, Sr Lorna Kawa, Doris Amboman (in green meri blouse), Jennifer Tamarua, Br Ambrose Tottenham. (Backrow standing from left to right) Br Kevin Ryan, Michelle Hau'ofa, Justin McGann and Martin Brash (Board Chairman). Sitting in front in a wheelchair is Jacqueline Boga Garoua. Missing in this Photo is Ben Theodore. Mr. Theodore who is visually impaired was on duty travel overseas. Photo taken during the 8th CSNU Board Meeting in March 2019 at Emmaus Conference Centre in Port Moresby.

Address by Deputy Australian High Commissioner, Ms Caitlin Wilson on Friday 22 March, 2019 during the official launch of the documentary 'Stigma Kills – Love Heals'

Acknowledgements

- Secretary Department for Community Development and Religion, Anna Solomon
- Secretary National Department of Education, Dr Uke Kombra
- Secretary National Department of Health, Pascoe Kase
- Callan Services National Unit Board Chairman, Martin Brash
- Callan Services National Unit Director, Br Kevin Ryan
- Representatives from the Papua New Guinea Deaf Association and community; and NGO's, Business partners, community leaders and advocates.

Good afternoon to you all. I am pleased to be part of today's event to launch the documentary titled - *Stigma Kills, Love Heals* - a locally produced film that aims to raise awareness of the issues that hearing impaired people live with every day.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Callan Services National Unit and all those that worked tirelessly on the development and production of this documentary. It has helped us to understand the challenges and focus our attention on what the future will bring for the deaf community in PNG.

As you may be aware, approximately 10 percent of the PNG population is living with a disability and, only an estimated two per cent of these people are able to access basic services. This shows a great disparity in the quality of living between persons with disabilities and the average citizen even when considering that most of the population live in rural areas with already limited access to basic services.

Papua New Guinea's National Policy on Disability acknowledges the rights and needs of people with disabilities and the need for wider support from across all sectors. Similarly, Australia's strategy for strengthening disability inclusive development requires all Australian aid investments to be disability inclusive.

The Australian Government is partnering with Callan Services National Unit to implement the "Education Opportunities for all Papua New Guinean Children Program" which aims to provide children across PNG with an education that meets their needs.

We are happy to have the opportunity to continue partnering with the National Department of Education and Callan to



Caption: Deputy Australian High Commissioner, Ms Caitlin Wilson (L) presenting her speech at the launch of the documentary 'Stigma Kills-Love Heals' at Holiday Inn in Port Moresby. Christine Kenia (right) from Red Cross Hohola is interpreting in Sign Language.

support 15 of the 23 Inclusive Education Resource Centres throughout Papua New Guinea. These centres are managed and staffed by the NDoE and provide services for people with disability both in the centre and through outreach services.

Through the project we have seen:

- 205 Teachers trained to teach students with disabilities,
- 44 Teachers completing diploma programs in Inclusive Education,
- 176 Teachers trained in basic PNG sign language benefiting 248 students with a hearing impairment

1,662 children with disabilities registered at an IERC, 325 of those with a hearing impairment; and 322 children receiving early intervention support through the IERC and 594 children have been involved in Inclusive education in a mainstream setting.

Australia's partnership with Callan Services National Unit agreed to support the production of the documentary *Stigma Kills, Love Heals* to supplement Callan Services' outreach work with the hearing impaired community. This partnership aims to break down barriers limiting the ability of people with hearing impairments from reaching their full potential.

This documentary helps us to advocate for the rights of those who have hearing impairment. We hope it will generate

understanding and support from communities across the country to be more inclusive.

I am happy to announce that TV Wan has agreed to air the DVD to all of PNG, furthering their reach.

We are privileged to have with us today one of the participants of this documentary Ms Nipeth (pronounced Nee-pet) Guande (pronounced Goo-an). Nipeth is a student with the Callan Services Target School in Simbu province. Her story of the challenges she faces daily while always remaining positive is an encouragement for us all to live to the fullest.

Callan Services, the PNG Government, the Australian Government, and indeed all partners in attendance today share a similar goal of promoting inclusion for persons with disabilities so they can enjoy their basic human rights and actively participate in their communities and in the workplace. Only by working together across governments, donors, civil society and the private sector can we achieve this shared goal.

Again, I would like to applaud Callan Services for their work in this area, and I hope that today's launch will mark another chapter in progressing towards equal rights and opportunities, and improved quality of life for Papua New Guineans.

Turn to next page for the rest of the speech and more stories and photos of the launch.

More stories & photos from the documentary launching

..... continue from page 3

Inclusion for children and persons living with disabilities is the business of everyone and we all have an important part to play.



2nd from left, PNG Deaf Association President, Josh Yembo, next to him on right is First Assistant Secretary for Department of Community Development, Konio Doko, 5th from left, Deputy Australian High Commissioner, Ms Caitlin Wilson with deaf school children in orange T-Shirts. In the background is James Knox, Senior Lecturer at CIEI Mt Hagen.

Key Points

1. Four-year program of AUD4 million (K9,397,944.44) under DFAT's Disability Section (Disability Inclusive Development Fund)
2. The program commenced in July 2016 and will end in June 2020.
3. The project is implemented by Callan Services National Unit (CSNU) under the Education Capacity Development Facility.
4. This project aims to provide children across PNG with an education that meets their needs. It does this through a number of activities including:
 - Support to children and adults living with disability including providing assistive devices,
 - Screening and referrals, promoting the correct use of PNG Sign Language and braille; and
 - Increasing awareness of the rights, knowledge and advocacy skills for people living with a disability, their families and the broader community.

More dialogue needed for Special Inclusive Education Policy

The key work of Callan Services National Unit (CSNU) is to support the National Department of Education (NDoE) in implementing its policies mainly the achievement of Universal Basic Education requires a strong complementary policy for Special Inclusive Education.

CSNU Director Br Kevin Ryan said this in his closing remarks at the launch of new documentary titled: "Stigma Kills – Love Heals" in Port Moresby on 22 March 2019.

He congratulated the Department, which with the support of UNICEF is moving into a review of the current Special Education Policy (SEP).

"This is an exciting time for the Department and those of us within CSNU, and I am sure Callan Inclusive Education Institute (CIEI) which focusses on professional development of Teaching Service Commission Officers in inclusive education," he said.

He recalled a key message from the recent Pacific Disability Forum in Fiji that should be helpful to the review of the SEP. The message is: "Facilitators of Inclusion help inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in mainstream activities such as education, health, church, cultural and legal activities." He noted three of the five facilitators which were important to inclusive education are;

1. Accessibility (e.g. physical infrastructure that allows access, braille language text books and associated services, PNG Sign Language services: teaching of the language and interpreter services),
2. Support Services: locating and identifying children with disabilities at an early age (screening eyes/vision, ear/hearing, easy access to health services for CWDS etc.)
3. Assistive Technology: Wheelchairs, crutches, hearing aids, spectacles, devices to assist children with low vision to read and technology that assists people who are deaf and blind to hear and speak.

"I know that who is or should be doing work in the area of -



CSNU Director Br Kevin Ryan delivering his closing address at the launch.

- assistive technology is a special concern of Dr John Pokana of NDoE. It is also a special concern of CSNU and many others in The Network of Callan Services."

"This suggests that during the review of the Special /Inclusive Education Policy, we all need to continue the dialogue with children and adults living with disabilities, their families and also with staff of IERCs. We also need to add conversations and consultations with the Department for Community Development and the national and provincial providers of health services and assistive technology."

CSNU, which as a Faith Based Development NGO supports access services, supports the provision of appropriate health services, and the provision of assistive technology. These are all done to assist the Departments of Education, Health and Community Development to fulfil their policies and objectives. Inclusion in education requires this access, support services and assistive technology.

"The current and future Special Inclusive Education Policy, the Disability Policy of PNG, the Pacific Framework on Disability, and the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities are

..... continue in page 5

...continue from page 4

- wonderful guides for CSNU.”

Br Kevin also referred to the welcome remarks made by CSNU Board Chairman Martin Brash during the launch. Mr Brash “cleverly” focussed on the four CSNU values ‘Respect, Presence, Compassion and Justice’.

“Underneath all that, guiding CSNU and all of what are now called Edmund Rice Ministries, is a man called Jesus and what we now call his Gospel. Those who try to understand the life and message of Jesus and the true meaning of the Callan Services values referred to by Mr Brash in his opening remarks is all about “inclusion and empowerment”.

He appealed to everyone to support the PNG Deaf Community and the PNG Deaf Community to draw a new circle and draw all of PNG into their community.

He thanked all the key relevant government departments, disability organisations, The Callan Services Network, and funding partners. He made special mention of funding partners mainly the Australian Government through DFAT and Light for the World, Director of the documentary, Brent Macpherson of Stretch Productions, who in many ways contributed to making the documentary a reality.



Joseph Moide, Acting First Assistant Secretary with Teacher Education & Inspection Division at the National Department of Education (NDoE). He is delivering a speech on behalf of Department of Education Secretary, Dr Uke Kombra.

Caption for Photos below:

1. Special guests at the launch of the documentary.
2. Nipeth Guande, the deaf girl featured in the documentary. She is in CSNU Port Moresby office kitchen.
3. CSNU Deputy Director Benson Hahambu is trying his very best to understand Brent Macpherson in Sign Language. Mr. Macpherson’s company Stretch Productions produced the documentary ‘Stigma Kills - Love Heals’.

Photos taken By: **Freddy Kuduk**

Building and enhancing inclusive societies

PNGAus Partnership
Callan Services is supported by the Australian Government through the PNG-Australia Partnership



Teachers, Nurses and staff learn new things



Participants at the January 2019 Review & Planning meeting in Port Moresby

THIRTY three participants attended a Professional Development and Review & Planning Meeting in Port Moresby from 28th January – 1st February 2019 at Emmaus Conference Centre in Port Moresby.

The participants comprised of staff from Callan Services National Unit (CSNU) and Callan Inclusive Education Institute (CIEI). They travelled to Port Moresby from Wewak, Goroka, Mount Hagen, and New Guinea Islands Region.

Key issues discussed on the 5-day meeting included Operational Plan 2017 – 2018 review, confirming the 2019 – 2020 Operational Plan, Results Monitoring Framework, PNG Education Policy consultation, CSNU Staff Professional Development on policies and financial procedures.

The Principal of CIEI Wewak Mr. John Kaisek delivered the opening remarks.

He urged all participants to stay focused during the meeting because important issues like the Operational Plan for 2019 – 2020 would be discussed.

“There are rules for every game and for a team to win, the team members must know their role and be skillful in their position. Presence is one thing but tuning in to all the discussions and activities is another.”

He said CSNU is well organized with its values and statement of purpose that should be a guide to everyone.

Br Kevin Ryan facilitated the meetings throughout the week. He showed a power point presentation outlining the following context;

Visioning and Strategic Planning (a CSNU Board journey), Director & formation succession planning, The Stigma Kills, Love Heals launching, PNGSL Dictionary and Grammar work, Relationships with the Government of PNG, Funding through Callan Services Partners and MoAs among parties within the Network.

Group discussions and activities were conducted like sign language demonstration which was a refreshing and new experience for new employees.

Prayer and formation and reflection at the personal level, work place and professional level were part of the program that combined advocacy on Edmund Rice history, values, statement of purpose and professional goals.

Our Partners

in The Network of Callan Services

Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

CBM and New Zealand Aid

DKA Austria

Light for the World, Austria

Mary MacKillop Today

Congregation of Christian Brothers Oceania Province (CBOP)

Edmund Rice Foundation Australia (ERFA)

Save the Children/Summer Institute of Linguistics

The Government of Papua New Guinea

EarsInc.

Our Values

The values that shape how we work are:

1. Respect

Treat with dignity – ourselves, family, colleagues, work ethics, those we serve, community, partners, property and environment

2. Presence

Attuned to God in the mystery of life and work.

3. Compassion

Respond to our communities with an open heart and hand.

4. Justice

Bring to life barrier-free and rights-based communities.

The Network of Callan Services observe National Day for Disabilities

The National Day for Persons living with Disability was observed in the country on 29 March 2019. With the theme 'Remove barriers, build resilient societies, create opportunity that leaves no one behind', Department for Community Development and Religion (DfCDR) with partner organizations observed the day with a breakfast at Holiday Inn in Port Moresby.

In Kiunga and Wewak, The Network of Callan Services celebrated the day in different ways. Senior Monitoring & Evaluation Officer with CSNU, Roweng Bomen said in Kiunga, the

celebration started with a morning assembly and prayer with the Bishop of Daru-Kiunga Diocese, Bishop Giles Cote. "The celebration focused towards promoting the diocesan value "CARE". In the past, staff from the IERC would march to town to create awareness on the rights of People with Disabilities (PWDs) and promote an inclusive society showcasing what people with disability are able to do.

"This time the staff and clients of Kiunga Callan IERC decided that they would visit the prisoners at Kiunga Police Station and patients at Kiunga

General Hospital and present gifts, especially basic necessities like food, soap etc.,"

The motive of the celebration was to tell the community that people living with disabilities also care about people around them therefore everyone should take care about each other. The CSNU values should be a guide to everyone living in today's society that they are dependent on each other.

The CSNU values; Respect, Compassion, Love and Justice should be promoted in our communities so that PWDs are liberated.



In Wewak, a team made up of officials from CSNU and CIEI created awareness to commemorate the day.

CIEI Lecturer, Cecilia Bagore advocated on visual impairment and how important it is to get visually impaired clients educated. She said "blindness should not be a limit or barrier; there is still hope, and Callan Services is here for you". She called for children and adults living with visual impairment to get registered with Callan Services and be empowered to discover what potential they have to change the way they are.

Alice Embe, Child Protection Manager at CSNU highlighted the types of abuse and violence experienced by CWDs and the types of services provided to clients of Callan by Child Protection at CSNU and its network of resource centres nationwide.

John Paul Hemene (*deaf person, now a teacher in sign language*), appealed to parents of children with disabilities not to overlook the ability of their children. He said, "if I can, your children can, nothing is impossible." He said parent should not put their children with disabilities behind closed doors because that is also an abuse. It is their right to be educated, just like any other children.

Anton Kari, a volunteer client while appreciating the work of The Network of Callan Services made a general remark to people who abuse persons living with disabilities that "your discrimination and abuse contributes more to my disability."



Caption: In Kiunga town, children and the community are getting ready to present gifts to prisoners at Kiunga prison and patients at Kiunga General Hospital. Story and photo By: ROWENG BOMEN



Caption of photos on left and below:

The Wewak Team doing awareness in Wewak town on the rights of persons with disabilities on National Day for Persons with Disabilities.



Callan Services National Unit assist deaf sisters

CALLAN Services National Unit made a special visit to two deaf students in Kokopo early this year.

The deaf students are Geraldine and Valerie Pulpulis. Both girls were unable to continue onto Grade 9 at a mainstream school because their disability affected their studies.

CSNU Project Manager Melanie Palili said the girls didn't have access to an interpreter and that affected their performance in school.

With the help of the Australian Government through DFAT, both girls continued their education at Kabaleo Vocational school in 2018 because they had an interpreter to assist them.

The girls are happy with the support that CSNU had provided through an Interpreter and that they could continue to go to school.

Their mother now wants to be an advocate and wants to share her experience as a mother of deaf students.



Photo caption: Geraldine Pulpulis (L), Valeri Pulpulis (right) and their mother in the middle. Story and photo By: **Melanie Palili**

Statement of Purpose

We, the Network of Callan Services for Persons with Disabilities, inspired by the life of Jesus and the work of Edmund Rice, express the liberating heart of God, so that persons with disabilities in Papua New Guinea participate and contribute meaningfully in an inclusive society.

As part of Edmund Rice Ministries Oceania in the Christian Brothers Oceania Province (CBOP), and in partnership with Catholic Dioceses, other Churches, government, international and PNG based non-government organisations and local communities we:

- Provide inclusive education and community based inclusive development services to help children access inclusive and effective education
- Work with children and families to develop their full potential
- Provide quality community based rehabilitation services to persons with disability for improved health and functioning to participate in local communities
- Provide and facilitate the development of higher level skills in education, health and support services personnel
- Create new policies, positions and services to promote an inclusive society
- Enable appropriate responses by researching emerging needs related to those at risk in society, especially persons with disabilities, and
- Provide sustainable, quality services with effective leadership, governance, and monitoring and evaluation.

Any comments, queries, contributions in story and photos, please send them to Baeau Tai at Tel: 675 71994536 Email: baeau.tai@callanservices.org or baeautai3@gmail.com

Christchurch Tragedy

Defenceless and innocent women, children and men, fifty of them, were killed and thirty-four injured in the terrorist attack on Friday 15 March 2019 during prayer at the Al Noor Mosque and the Linwood Mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand.

The members of The Network of Callan Services for Persons with Disabilities, as member of the worldwide Edmund Rice Network are in solidarity with our Edmund Rice brothers and sister in New Zealand, with all New Zealanders, and in particular with the community and families who are dealing with this enormous loss.

We are also in solidarity with all those who daily, in our own country of Papua New Guinea, suffer any sort of violence and bullying in their homes, having their homes burnt down and gardens trashed in tribal fighting or by police, in their communities and in schools. Even more important we are called to speak out and to take-action against any storytelling that promotes violence as 'justice' or promotes it as a source of laughter and fun.

About Callan Services Network

The Network of Callan Services is the largest provider of services to children and adults living with disabilities in Papua New Guinea.

It's a leading disability rights, advocacy and representative Network of and for all people with disability in Papua New Guinea.

We are a national, cross-disability organisation – we attempt to respond to the needs of people with all kinds of disability.

We are a non-profit, non-government organisation and a faith – based development organisation

that shares the liberating heart of God through 'Respect, Presence, Compassion and Justice' ensuring that persons with disabilities are equipped to participate equally in social and economical settings of their local communities.

This gift of COMPASSION may ultimately call us to act and speak alongside persons with disabilities as they strive for JUSTICE and for the ideals described in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which will provide all of them with the privilege and gift of living.

