

**Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa New Zealand Trust – Annual General Meeting - 2013**

**Annual Report by Chairperson to Trustees**

This year 2013, marks ten years since the formation of the Edmund Rice Justice Group in Auckland which evolved into a charitable trust, the Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa New Zealand. In many ways, 2013 has proved to have been a critical year for the Trust and a chance to consolidate and reflect on our focus, our systems and the future.

A special mention needs to be made of the key role that both Christine O’Brien and Paul O’Neill have played this year especially in the immediate support of Chris Nolan in his work for the Trust and also in their stewardship of the Trust’s finances. The significance of their work was highlighted with Christine’s illness. Christine, you and your recovery have been continually very much in our thoughts and prayers.

Chris Nolan has continued to work at the Trust’s cutting edge especially in the area of post sentencing restorative justice. Chris, with Christine and Paul have continued to facilitate the various key partnerships especially in the Christchurch area. He has also kept an overview and involvement in the Street Retreat programme. Another person who has made a significant contribution to the activities of the Trust is Tony Kidd. Tony has kept the wider Network and community of key justice issues through his work with the Trust’s Facebook page and website.

A special thank you to Christian Brothers’ Oceania Province which has sponsored the work and activities of the Trust in 2013. As the Trust looks to the future, it is important to continue the work to achieve sustainability and secure sources of funding. The Trust is keen to continue and nurture the important partnerships with Oceania Province, Edmund Rice Centre for Justice Sydney and Edmund Rice International Geneva.

In terms of our future, a key strategy for consolidation and future growth will be the engagement of an executive officer for the Trust with the development the Trust’s presence again in the North Island.

As this year draws to a close, I am grateful to the other Trustees for their generosity, insights, dedication, commitment and passion for the mission of the Trust. It has been a significant commitment.

Kieran Fouhy

Chairperson

16 December 2013