

18. NEW ZEALAND CHILDREN'S DAY

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Martin Maguire
Corporate Plan Output: Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Vol 1 3.2 Text 6	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board that Social Services and Employment Minister Steve Maharey announced that New Zealand will have its own Children's Day on **29 October** this year. Children's Day 2000 is a joint initiative between government and community agencies. Primary agencies involved with the day are Child, Youth and Family, Barnardos and the Office of the Commissioner of Children. The day, chosen to occur on the last Sunday each October, will hopefully become an annual event where all communities in New Zealand are encouraged to have special activities where adults spend time with children.

Spending time with children is the major theme of Children's Day. There are four other key messages:

- Love and affection;
- Praise and encouragement;
- Listening and talking; and
- New experiences

Children's Day has its own web site, www.childrenday.org.nz, and will distribute a Children's Day kit to community groups in August with suggestions and ideas about what to do with children on 29 October.

Recommendation: That the Board place an order for a Children's Day kit, with a view to promoting a children's project in the Board area, on Children's Day.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the information be received.