



Chairperson Report 2019

By outgoing Chair, Marie Young

The EMDR association of NZ has continued to go from strength to strength thanks, in large part, to the hard work and dedication of our board. Whilst many of the background tasks and functions of the board take place quietly in the background, members will no doubt be aware of some of the key outcomes achieved this year. The board is committed to working alongside EMDR Asia, our international regulatory body, to ensure only trainers, trainings and consultants who meet their recommended standards and guidelines are endorsed and approved by EMDR NZ. This means clinicians can feel confident the level of training and consultation they receive will be recognised in our sister organisations in other countries. With this in mind we are refining our processes and standards, and this year have made significant steps in setting the standards to be a Consultant. We have a number of people who have started the consultation training as we recognise the vital role consultation plays in assisting clinicians to feel comfortable using EMDR, and in maintain high standards of practise.

The terror attacks in Christchurch this year brought to the forefront the need to have an organised, coordinated response to humanitarian crises. We were grateful for the many offers of help from our own membership and those of the international community. We are particularly indebted to the work of board members Dr Kay Mackenzie and Astrid Katur, who coordinated the many offers of support and who have used the knowledge gained during this process to begin developing a process to guide us in any future humanitarian response.

One of the highlights for us this year was reaching a level of membership which allowed us to start hosting international speakers to bring their training to NZ. Many of you are attending the training from Dolores Mosquera this weekend, and we are grateful to have such an accomplished and skilful therapist and trainer present her work to us. As our organisation gains recognition internationally, it becomes the contact point for international trainers with an interest in coming to NZ. Thanks to the time and effort of Helen Rathore, Sandra Paulson and Mark Brayne are presenting trainings in NZ next year. We also continue to welcome Arianne Struik and Carlijn de Roos to NZ to offer their child trainings, and we are delighted that Renee Beere will be offering Child Basic Training next year. Supporting trainings is a significant achievement, and we encourage any member who wants to be involved in bringing training to NZ to contact someone on the board.

Whilst we have been pleased with our progress this year, it has not been without some difficulties. Prior to NZ having its own organisation, the EMDR Association of Australia had been representing NZ. Whilst it was important for NZ members to have the support of an EMDR organisation, it has taken longer than we hoped for NZ to have the recognition in Australasia it deserves. Despite these difficulties the board is optimistic that future collaboration with our Australian counterparts can occur in a way that is beneficial for both countries.

Because of changes within my job, I have chosen to step down from the board this year. I want to acknowledge the amazing support and wisdom of my fellow board members. I particularly want to thank Sally who took over the website manager role from me and has transformed the site with her knowledge and enthusiasm. Tom has been an invaluable wing man, and will be sadly missed. Elinor and Kay have the vital task of managing subscriptions and finances and we simply could not function without them. Glenda's obvious passion for EMDR and her advocacy for our organisation is unparalleled. Helen's ability to connect with international speakers has helped elevate our training presence, and Astrid and Irene our two previous Chairs have been an enormous support to me this year. The board is richer because of your involvement.

Marie Young
Outgoing EMDRNZ Chair