

Lakes Webhealth will cease to exist 31 July 2009 unless we get your help!

Dear Webhealth Service provider

We have just received the sad and surprising news that Lakes DHB will cease to fund the Lakes Webhealth website and our great Webhealth District Co-ordinator Rosalie Crawford whom many of you know for her excellent work in linking and promoting community resources.

The DHB funding for Lakes Webhealth will cease at the end of July 2009. The reason given is that we are not "a core health service", not because of any performance issue Lakes DHB has with Webhealth.

If we cannot obtain funding this means the Lakes community will lose a valuable resource that helps your clients and your potential clients find the details of the service you provide and other services you might want to refer them to. **For some of you this means your presence on the World Wide Web will be gone.**

The Lakes community will also lose one of their best and most trusted resources for relevant health and social service information, and an important way they can be informed about what is going on. Did you realise that **1,946** Lakes people used our community noticeboard in March? And that you are one of **799** providers registered on Lakes Webhealth? Over **10,000 people**, that's **10%** of the population of the Lakes District used Webhealth in 2008. That's proof we are a core service!

How can you help?

You can help us in at least three important ways:

1. Let all your contacts and clients know about what is happening to the Webhealth service and encourage them to communicate to Lakes DHB about the importance of the Webhealth service to them. Communications can be addressed to:

Mary Smith
General Manager Planning and Funding
mary.smith@lakesdhb.govt.nz
07 348 1199 Ext 8647
Postal:
Lakes District Health Board
Rotorua Hospital
Private Bag 3023
Rotorua Mail Centre 3046
2. Contact Lakes DHB yourself and let them know how important Webhealth is to your service and the community you serve. Top keyword searches for the March quarter were counselling, Maori providers, GP's, children, bullying, parenting, dentists, clubs and more.
3. Give us any leads and ideas about alternative sources of funding we could investigate to keep the Webhealth service going. We want to keep Lakes Webhealth going, growing and working for you! If you and the other 798 providers listed on Webhealth **contributed \$90.00 a year** we could keep it going!

We sincerely appreciate your support. If you would like more information or have suggestions you can contact your District Co-ordinator Rosalie Crawford on **0800 932 432** or Rosalie@webhealth.co.nz or myself here at head office in Hamilton at the numbers below or graham@webhealth.co.nz

Best regards



Graham Potter Manager Funding & Marketing Webhealth Linkage Trust