**Calling for expressions of interest to become an *ELIA Wellness HUB*.**

Across the South Pacific Division, churches are being identified as potential sites to become ***ELIA Wellness Hubs***. The focus of a “wellness hub” goes beyond the running of individual health programmes and looks at the “whole person health”. This includes all seven areas of wellness identified by the ELIA Wellness model. (See Website reference).

This approach aligns with the ***Te Whare Tapa Wha*** or ***Fale Fono*** models of care and will thus be a familiar concept in many communities.

A church which becomes a Wellness Hub will be fully supported by ***ELIA Wellness*** and will play an active role in the community it serves. It will also become part of the network of ***ELIA Wellness*** ***Hubs*** across New Zealand, Australia and the Pacific Islands, thus facilitating collaboration and the sharing of expertise and experience.

***Becoming an ELIA Wellness Hub***

We are looking for pilot churches to become Wellness Hubs across New Zealand. If you are a church doing great things in the community and would like to come under the umbrella of ***ELIA Wellness*** then we invite you to contact us and we can chat about making that happen.

Churches which express an interest in becoming a Wellness Hub – a prestigious status – should pay close attention to the criteria for selection and become familiar with the support system which will be put in place when this occurs.

Just as with any franchise, there are significant advantages to being part of a wider, recognisable brand and network, as the church will be able to draw on the support of existing programmes and resources. (See section below) This initiative also aligns with the ***Community Champions Network*** and gives a formal umbrella for ***CCN*** churches to work under, should they choose and are successful in becoming a Wellness Hub.

Added to this, Wellness Hubs in New Zealand will become part of the network of the South Pacific Division-wide ***ELIA Wellness Hubs*** which will operate across Australia, as well as in our Pacific Island territories. This will give greater connection to our sister churches within our Division, where sharing resources, learnings, and experiences will benefit all who are part of this network.

***The criteria of the ELIA Wellness Hub***

There should be:

* support and commitment from the Church Board;
* trained passionate ***ELIA Wellness Partner***(s);
* an identified team, that includes an experienced health professional or health coordinator who will work together with other ministries in the Church;
* policies which adopt and promote whole-person health - using the ***7 Dimensions of Wellness framework*** (i.e. not just promoting an event or product);
* intentional strategies of how to take the community (target groups) on a journey of whole-person health, including the spiritual dimension;
* regular ***Wellness Snapshots*** (Health Expos) at least 3 times a year;
* other community groups (e.g. walking club, cooking club, Food ministry, Prayer groups);
* ***ELIA Wellness*** and other programs (around the 7 Dimensions of Wellness);
* events and community groups that are promoted on the ***ELIA Wellness Digital platform***;
* representative(s) sent to the ***ELIA Wellness Summit*** (once every two years);
* ***ELIA*** becomes a partner and provides input to new product development and feedback on ***ELIA Wellness*** resources to help us meet your needs and the community.

**Adventist Health and *ELIA Wellness* have developed the following to support the Wellness Hubs:**

* free Knowledge Centre – Over 190 Evidenced-based factsheets and videos from health professionals on topics around the ***7 Dimensions of Wellness***;
* free Lifestyle behavioural plans;
* evidenced-based programs (e.g. ***Live More Project, De-stress and Thrive, ELIA Kitchen, Forgive to Live***) and partnership with others to provide ***CHIP*** from ***Sanitarium***, ***Depression & Recovery*** from Dr Neil Nedley, and ***Journey to Wholeness*** from the General Conference;
* new Initiatives planned to come out in 2021 – ***ELIA Fitness***, Relationship seminar, ***Built for Success*** seminar (bringing in the spiritual element);
* ***ELIA Digital Platform*** and App to set up and promote your Community groups, Events and Programs so you can connect with the community.

Please contact me asap if this is something you feel that God is calling your church to play a role in being of service to your community.

**Adrielle Carrasco***Director: Adventist Health Ministries*

*New Zealand Pacific Union Conference*

***Email:*** adriellecarrasco@adventist.org.nz