

## **Child Poverty Bill a watershed for children**

### **Media release**

**30 January 2017**

Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa (ACYA) welcomes today's Child Poverty reduction Bill, calling it a watershed moment for children and young people in Aotearoa New Zealand.

"This Bill lays the foundation for well planned, effective child poverty reduction," says ACYA Chair Andrea Jamison. "Significantly it requires government's to develop a dedicated strategy to enhance and promote the wellbeing of all children.

"If passed, the Bill would legislate for an unprecedented level of priority for child wellbeing across the House and throughout government."

ACYA is hopeful that there is sufficient common ground for cross party agreement as efforts to reduce child poverty and enhance child wellbeing need to be long-term, and sustained to be effective.

"This Bill, and the debate that has preceded it, reflect widespread collective support for initiatives that promote the rights and wellbeing of all children," says Andrea.

"We have never been in a better position to create a society in which all children can thrive."

**ENDS**

For further information contact:

Andrea Jamison, Chairperson, ACYA

[Andrea.jamison@ihc.org.nz](mailto:Andrea.jamison@ihc.org.nz)

022 010 2290

Dr Sarah Te One, Coordinator, ACYA

[sarahteone@outlook.com](mailto:sarahteone@outlook.com)

027 291 9681

04 292 8351

### **About Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa**

Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa (ACYA) is a non-profit organisation made up of non-governmental organisations, families and individuals. ACYA's vision is to work towards a New Zealand where the rights of children and young people are upheld and embedded in law, policy, practice and wider society.

ACYA promotes the rights of our children and young people through advocacy and monitoring of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights instruments. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child covers all those aged under 18.

ACYA is a permanent member of the UNCROC Monitoring Group and the Country Focal Point for reporting to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.