



**CMDHB Media Statement**

**13<sup>th</sup> June, 2006**

**Announcement of Resignation**

**Stephen McKernan, Chief Executive Officer  
Counties Manukau District Health Board**

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Stephen McKernan from his position as Chief Executive Officer with Counties Manukau District Health Board.

Stephen has been appointed to the position of Chief Executive and Director General of the Ministry of Health and will be taking up his new role on 31<sup>st</sup> of July.

Stephen has been in CEO roles for the past eight years with four of these at Counties. During this time he has made a major contribution to our organisation's success.

CMDHB Chairman Pat Snedden says Stephen goes with best wishes from the Board.

Over the years Stephen has continually supported the development of innovative care solutions and has been a key driver in many programmes including Let's Beat Diabetes, Chronic Care Management and the Healthy Housing programme.

Stephen has led his team to improve the health and wellbeing of our community, increasing access to both primary and secondary care services, working toward clarity around long term plans for development, and developing or upgrading many CMDHB buildings and facilities. Of particular note have been the Cardiac Catheter Lab, the Neonatal Unit and the soon to be opened National Burn Centre.

"We know that this has been a difficult decision for Stephen to make and not one that has been taken lightly. Stephen pondered over this decision for a long time, being torn between his role at Counties Manukau District Health Board and the opportunities the Director General of Health position presents. We thank Stephen for his leadership over the past four years and wish him and his family well for the future," says Mr Snedden.

An appointment to the role of Acting-CEO will be announced within the next week.

For media enquiries please contact Lauren Young and Associates on 09) 378 8433.