



Hi. I'm Karyn Kraal and I'm in a new role as your Community Connector with Fiordland Community House. The current government have recognised there is need in communities hard hit by Covid-19 and have supported the establishment of 125 positions of this kind throughout the country.

The Community Connector position has been created to support the health and wellbeing of people so that negative impacts of Covid-19 are minimised. 2020 has proved to be a particularly challenging year. I would encourage anyone struggling with the negative impacts of the pandemic to make contact so the team at Fiordland Community House can ensure they have access to appropriate care, support and connections to improve wellbeing.

I have recently moved to Te Anau from Whangaparaoa and am grateful to have received a warm welcome from those people I have had the opportunity to meet so far. I have a background in both government and non-government social services. I am a registered social worker and completed my Bachelor of Social Work at Massey University. I combined study and working part time while raising my two young children as a sole parent. I also worked in a volunteer capacity for St John Ambulance and Youthline. After completing my degree, I was extremely fortunate to be awarded a scholarship from Massey University. This scholarship allowed me to complete post graduate study in social service supervision.

I'm quite down to earth and approachable and am passionate about supporting people to achieve their full potential. I am also a strong advocate for social change and for the need to address inequality. I'm an animal lover, love fishing, walks around this beautiful area I'm lucky enough to now call home and V8's.

You are welcome to self-refer. Just pop into Fiordland Community House or give us a call on 249-7754 or email [office@fiordlandcommunityhouse.co.nz](mailto:office@fiordlandcommunityhouse.co.nz)