



Annual Report

2023/2024

WHĀNAU MANAAKI



WHĀNAU MANAAKI

Whakakitenga | Our Vision

To be a respected leader in early childhood education and a strong advocate for children and whānau.

Contents

Board Chair's Message.....	1
Message from our CEO.....	2
Strengthening our Capability and Capacity as a Te Tiriti o Waitangi Led Organisation	
Place Based Histories.....	4
Correction to Place Names.....	5
Learning about Maramataka.....	5
Tame Iti Inspires at Conference.....	6
Innovate and Continuously Improve Teaching and Learning	
Te Akonga Ngākau.....	8
New Kindergarten Teachers' Collective Agreement.....	10
Landmark TONI Graduation.....	11
Toru Fetū Kindergarten Hosts Pacific Delegations.....	12
Strengthening our Financial and Organisational Health	
Celebrating One Year with South Otago.....	14
The Introduction of Esker.....	15
Operational Review.....	15
Improving Access for Tamariki, Parents and Whānau to Increasingly Relevant Services	
Child Advocacy.....	17
Launch of Piri'anga Alofa Pacific and Community Services.....	18
Le Fale Hosts Australian Delegation.....	20
Celebrating Diversity.....	21
Improving the Quality and Effectiveness of our Community Relationships	
Whānau Manaaki Social Services Profiled.....	23
Stone Soup.....	24
U Matter Volleyball Tournament.....	26
Porirua Night Market.....	27
Whānau Manaaki is in the Heart of our Communities	
Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens.....	29
Grant Funding.....	34

Board Chair's Message



It has been an interesting and challenging year for early childhood education, kindergarten and Whānau Manaaki here in Aotearoa.

The change in Government has meant a lot of mahi has been directed towards understanding the new environment in which we are operating as the future shape of the sector is being determined.

While some of the early initiatives have been challenging, particularly the removal of the 20 hours free ECE for 2-year-olds, it is important that as an organisation we engage with the democratic process and work with all stakeholders to advocate for our tamariki and show the vital importance of a diverse, high quality early childhood education sector in Aotearoa.

Within this environment of change, it is more important than ever that we look to our vision to be a respected leader in early childhood education and a strong advocate for tamariki and whānau as our north star, and hold this as central to all the decisions we make and the work we do.

As a Board, this means we are determined to enable our Senior Leadership Team to tap into

the massive internal knowledge that Whānau Manaaki has, from our kaiako to our Property Team to our drivers - every single person, to make sure that we weather the current headwinds and challenges to the kindergarten movement and to Whānau Manaaki well.

Kindergarten has played a fundamental role in shaping the culture and tone of Aotearoa since the establishment of the first service near Dunedin 135 years ago in 1889, and there's no way we won't be here in another 135 years. The reason kindergarten has been so resilient is the history of passionate people, from all walks of life, who believe in the movement deeply enough that they have always found ways to adapt to ensure the principles the movement was founded on are upheld, while evolving to meet the realities of the day.

We have moved from morning and afternoon sessions to full day sessions, and adapted to the pendulum of funding ups and downs over the years with various governments. Now we face similar challenges of adapting to overcome adversity, and the current kaitiaki of Whānau Manaaki and of the kindergarten movement, are ready to face that challenge.

We will do whatever it takes - lobbying our local MPs, educating our communities about the importance of keeping kindergartens in our local neighbourhoods, and, most of all, continuing to prove the value of kindergarten through the delivery of absolutely best practice ECE.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Robinson', written over a thin red horizontal line.

Martin Robinson

Board Chair, Whānau Manaaki

Message from our CEO



This past year has seen a new government sworn in, and significant changes to many parts of the public sector.

The appointment of Act Leader David Seymour to Associate Minister of Education, and Minister for Regulation has placed the early childhood sector under the spotlight, examining what constitutes high quality education, and what regulations are needed to keep tamariki safe in centre-based services.

Over the past months, there has been a rising clash of ideas and philosophy regarding these topics – between early childhood education as a commercial interest, or as a public good.

Whānau Manaaki is unequivocal in its advocacy of early childhood education as a public good. Our Association remains highly effective in our governance and operations, and its focus remains on providing high quality early childhood education and wrap-around social services to support tamariki and whānau.

“Marketisation and privatisation conceptualise ECE services as businesses - parents and children as consumers. They prioritise financial values; these are incompatible with valuing ECE as a public good, an institution in civil society”. (Prof Linda Mitchell)

To this end, we work to advocate for tamariki and whānau with other like-minded organisations and kindergarten associations through the Kindergartens Aotearoa Collective. We also continue to work with the Tauranga Kindergarten Association to explore a merger and have actively supported stand-alone community-based centres to continue to function and thrive.

Our staff have continued their wonderful work with tamariki and whānau, enjoying high relational trust and confidence because of the quality of the education and support that is provided. We have worked collectively to provide support to over 7,000 tamariki and whānau in the past year thanks to all our valued staff - the Navigators and Kaimahi that work to support whānau through our Piri'anga Alofa Pacific and Community Services team, the staff and Senior Teachers who are based in our support offices and the Administrators, Kaimahi, and Kaiako who provide high quality learning experiences for tamariki at our kindergartens.

Guided by our governing board who set the strategic direction of the organisation, Whānau Manaaki can proudly attest that we have upheld our values and that we have helped make the world a better place.

Hapaitia te ara tika pumau ai te rangatiratanga mo ngā uri whakatipu

Foster the pathway of knowledge to strength, independence and growth for future.

Amanda Coulston

Chief Executive, Whānau Manaaki



Strengthening our Capability and Capacity as a Te Tiriti o Waitangi Led Organisation



Staff gather at the peak of Mataimoana

Place-based Histories

Learning about Local Māori History

As part of our journey as a tiriti-based organisation, our teaching teams around the country, along with our kindergarten communities, have been learning about local Māori history in their communities.

Many staff in Te Whanganui a Tara, including Porirua office staff, took the opportunity to learn about Te Hitori o te Upoko o te Ika (Wellington history) on a bus tour that included the Hutt Valley (Waiwhetu) and Miramar (Te Motu Kairangi)

The day included presentations from environmental campaigner and former city Councillor Ray Ahipene Mercer (Ngāti Ira), Ihaia Puketapu (Te Atiawa, Ngāi Tuhoe o Waikaremoana), artist Darcy Nicholas (Te Atiawa), and Dr Robin Skinner from Victoria University, about the history of the now enclosed streams and waterways under Wellington city.



Kaitiaki o Kaupapa Māori Louana Fruean and Ihaia Puketapu at Waiwhetu Marae

Left: Mother and daughter at Tui Park Kindergarten in Wellington

Correction to Place Names

Respect for Te Reo Māori

Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens has continued to respond to communities and authorities in situations where place names have been corrected or changed.

Pākaraka Kindergarten changed its name from Maxwell and Districts Kindergarten after the township changed its name, recognising that George Maxwell had been involved in a massacre of Māori youths in the nineteenth century.

In other situations, such as Te Ō Newtown Kindergarten, it was a long process that involved the community and consultation over several years. Their name now reflects both the regional and cultural legacy of the area.

For some kindergartens such as Papakōwhai and Ōwhiro Bay the change involved inserting a macron.

All these changes and the conversations and recognition that accompany them, increase understanding and respect for Te Ao Māori and Te Reo Māori.

We continue to monitor change processes, for example, consultation is underway on the proposed spelling correction from Petone to Pito One, which is before the Geographic Board.

Below left to right: Pākaraka Kindergarten, Te Ō Newtown Kindergarten, Papakōwhai Kindergarten and Ōwhiro Bay Kindergarten.

Te Ao Māori

Learning about Maramataka Māori

At Whānau Manaaki's conference in 2023 Māori astronomer and New Zealander of the Year, Professor Rangi Mātāmua, explained how western views of time had served to disconnect people from the natural world and its rhythms.

Rangi explained how Matariki had been embraced by the nation and was celebrated across the country. The celestial event connected all cultures and ethnicities as every race, culture and place looks to the stars for times to plant, hunt, celebrate, honour and remember.

His speech described the Maramataka Māori calendar which is a lunisolar calendar, referencing the moon and the sun. Traditionally used by indigenous people including Polynesians, Africans, Native Americans and Celts, the lunisolar calendar recognises the seasons of the sun and the phases of the moon.

Rangi explained how kaiako can use the signs from the natural world to teach and learn about seasons and activities, rather than rigidly following the Gregorian calendar. He described western concepts of time as one of the biggest colonising effects.

His kōrero challenged the audience to spend time outside, watching the signs of the sky and recognising other natural events such as the arrival of pipiwharau (shining cuckoo) or the flowering of the kōwhai.



Pākaraka
KINDERGARTEN



Te Ō Newtown
KINDERGARTEN



Papakōwhai
KINDERGARTEN



Ōwhiro Bay
KINDERGARTEN

Tame Iti Inspires

Conference Keynote Magic

Veteran Māori activist and artist Tame Iti inspired kaiako with his personal history and vision for the future, at last year's conference.

Tame, who is Tuhoē from Ruatoki, told of his childhood where he knew only the Māori world and Māori language. He explained how his world changed with the announcement at school that only English was to be spoken. It was the beginning of life lessons in how to become a Pakeha.

After school, Tame went to Christchurch to learn a trade, which he thought was a better option than milking cows. He also appreciated electricity. He was signed up to be an interior decorator, but in his first assignment, in a council flat, he had a door slammed in his face. Racism was new to Tame Iti.

After learning to read, write and speak English, Tame devoured books, including those by Marx, Stalin and Lenin which were popular with the Black Panther movement in the States. Socialism was seen as the answer for many Māori, who were working in big worksites like freezing works and car plants, and were highly unionised.

He says the '60s and '70s were a time for standing up and getting attitude, around the world.

In Aotearoa, Tame was part of the movement led by Whina Cooper to stop the continuing annexation of Māori land, using the slogan "Not one more acre".

Tame spoke of the value of music, art, poetry and dance to connect, and how people need each other, and how teachers can create the spaces that enable children to feel safe, to make mistakes, to share the magic, and share Te Reo and tikanga Māori.

He said although in his seventies he had no plans to retire, as there is so much to do, and he plans to carry on "as you only live once."

He commended the kaiako for their passion, belief, vision and plan, and for sharing the magic.



Top: Kaiako from Katoa Kindergarten thanks Tame Iti.

Bottom: Staff enjoy Maramataka Māori Presentation with Rangī Mātāmua

Innovate and Continuously Improve Teaching and Learning



Te Akonga Ngākau

2023 Staff Conference

Our staff conference provides a major opportunity for professional development for all staff, as well as a once-a-year chance to gather together and to meet socially and professionally.

The theme of the conference was Te Ākonga Ngakau | The Passionate Learner.

The conference presentations provided knowledge and inspiration and provoked change in our practice and our kindergartens.

The ideas of Rangī Mātāmua and Tame Iti are outlined separately in this annual report, but all presentations contributed new ideas and opportunities.

Family violence activists Matt and Sarah Brown explained their work with perpetrators of violence and their goal of redefining masculinity to enable healing to occur. Their book, 'She is Not your Rehab', has been celebrated around the world.

Māori Fijian academic Rae Si'ilata spoke about how young children construct their identity as members of Pacific and Māori cultures, and about bilingual language acquisition.

As well as these keynote speakers, the conference provided 'taste of topic' presentations across themes that



included learning support, community engagement and pedagogy and curriculum.

An innovation was the poster series, where teaching teams shared good practice in a short poster presentation with photos, placed around the venue. These were eye-catching eye-catching and enabled people to read the walls between sessions.

Themes covered included the use of core-boards, the many benefits of getting involved in regular community events, establishing a rongoā mara, travelling on a Te Reo Māori journey as a team and moving to whānau based learning.

Feedback from those attending conference, those presenting and outside guests was very positive, and some suggestions have been incorporated for this year.



Hundreds of Whānau Manaaki staff gather together from across the motu

Left: Tamariki at Greytown Kindergarten, Wairarapa

“Each kindergarten and service is unique in its own community and that is where we believe our collective resource, expertise and effort should go. It’s what happens in kindergartens and with families and communities that matters”.

- Amanda Coulston CEO Whānau Manaaki



New Kindergarten Teachers' Collective Agreement Maintaining Pay Parity

Whānau Manaaki was pleased to implement the new Kindergarten Teachers' Collective Agreement, maintaining pay parity with primary and secondary teachers.

The agreement also secured improved conditions such as sick leave and introduced a cultural allowance for some kaiako, and sabbatical opportunities for some head teachers.

Whānau Manaaki continues to enjoy a positive relationship with the union for early childhood

teachers, with NZEI Te Riu Roa recognising our common and separate interests.

A collective agreement provides a strong basis for professional pay and conditions for our kaiako, and provides consistency across our region.

Pay parity with primary and secondary teachers helps ensure that teaching remains an attractive profession (as well as all the other awesome aspects of being an early childhood kaiako).



Senior Teachers Jane Horrax, Jodi Calder and Fiona Twaddle

Left: Amanda Coulston and great great niece Kōwhai Coulston-Fidow at 2023 Whānau Manaaki Conference

Landmark TONI Graduation Etu Ao Home-based Learning

Earlier this year we celebrated the 20th cohort of homebased TONI educators to graduate.

The students qualified with a Level 4 Certificate in Early Childhood Education. The term TONI stands for Teach, Observe, Nurture, In home.

The Etu Ao programme which operates in Porirua and Levin has been going since 2012, and more than a thousand children have benefitted while over 100 TONIs have been trained.

Whānau Manaaki has now had 18 successful courses in Porirua and two in Levin.

It was an emotional ceremony for the graduates and their families, with tears of pride and happiness. For many it is their first qualification and completing it while fulfilling other responsibilities such as family and work is a major achievement.

The TONI educators work with children in their homes, caring for and teaching up to four children in an atmosphere that nurtures language and culture.

The educators are supported by qualified and registered visiting teachers.

For some, the qualification may be the first step to training as a teacher and for all, it opens new possibilities.

We are grateful to Labour MP, Hon Barbara Edmonds who spoke at the ceremony, recognising the achievements of the women and the obstacles they had faced.



Labour MP, Hon Barbara Edmonds with graduating Etu Ao Students

Toru Fetū Kindergarten Hosts Pacific Delegations Fostering Pacific Language and Culture

Our kindergartens continue to provide opportunities for international visitors and those from Aotearoa New Zealand who wish to learn from our experiences, providing innovative teaching and learning programmes.

Toru Fetū, which won a Prime Minister's Award for Excellence several years ago, continues to be a drawcard because of its reputation for fostering language and culture in an environment that supports community.

A Fijian delegation from the Fijian Teachers Association Women's Network visited the kindergarten in November. The delegation was interested in visiting early childhood centres that teach Pacific children using the language of the children and their families.

They were touched and encouraged to see and hear the richness of the culture and language at Toru Fetū. The delegation said the experience challenged them to go back and work to reinstate the Fijian language into schools there. The languages policy in Fijian schools favours English as the medium for much of the schooling period.

Toru Fetū staff said it was a beautiful opportunity to share with fellow Pacific teachers.

Later in the year the Minister of Education from Timor Leste also took the opportunity to visit the kindergarten.



Toru Fetū Teachers and Fijian Delegation

Strengthening our Financial and Organisational Health



Celebrating One Year with South Otago

Continuing to Grow our Organisation

April 1, 2024 marked the one-year anniversary of South Otago kindergartens joining our organisation.

Part of the reason for kindergarten associations coming together is to improve financial viability, so kindergartens can concentrate on their programmes rather than just staying solvent.

The move from the five kindergartens helped support the move from an old office in Balclutha into the new community centre, Te Pou Ō Mata. The new facility provides a central location, warmth, light and is also close to other community organisations such as Plunket, which helps the association better support local families.

Over the year each of the South Otago kindergartens has developed a new tohu or logo, which reflects the individual communities of each kindergarten as well as the Whānau Manaaki family. This process helped communities come together to reflect on what is important to them and reflects the local curriculum in each place.

Following the move by South Otago, Whānau Manaaki has continued to explore closer relationships with other kindergarten associations around the country.

This includes Inspired Kindergartens, who continue to work closely together with us to explore merger.



Balclutha
KINDERGARTEN



Goldfields
KINDERGARTEN



Milton
KINDERGARTEN



Poupoutunoa
KINDERGARTEN



Rosebank
KINDERGARTEN

Left: Tamariki from Kahurangi Kindergarten in the Wairarapa

Above: New Whānau Manaaki South Otago Tohu

The Introduction of Esker

Using AI to Streamline Processes

This year we introduced Esker, a more effective way of paying and receiving invoices.

The new system uses AI to recognise invoice information and approval processes.

It's a more effective way for us to organise our invoice coding, approval and payment processing.

It stores invoice and payment data, and this is accessible to kindergartens, meaning there is no need to hold onto paper records.

This enables us to manage spending approvals in a large organisation using agreed spending limits.

As Whānau Manaaki's work has grown it is important that our systems evolve so that we remain efficient. The Esker programme involved training around our region with Administrators and Head Teachers, before it went live in August.



Tamaiti from Taihape Kindergarten

Right: Etu-Ao Administrator Melvina Martin

Operational Review

The operating model of Whānau Manaaki is based on the premise that we are a learning organisation focused on delivering our strategic intentions and aspiring to meet our vision.

The last few years has seen Whānau Manaaki undertake and embed major changes within our support office structure. The focus for the future is to grow our collective understanding of the systems, processes and tools we need to achieve more.

At the heart of our operating model we are building a set of tools to ensure that our values are visible and our obligations are met. The Whānau Manaaki control environment (Strategic Plan, frameworks and operations strategies, policies, procedures and guidance) must set clear expectations for our people to know why we exist, how we do our mahi and what we need to do individually and collectively to build for the future. Likewise, all our teams, kindergarten-based or in supporting roles, need to know how their work impacts on tamariki, parents and whānau, and each other.

The introduction of the Team Strategy and Action Plan (TSAP) for all teams has been pivotal in supporting us to explore our context and recognise all the participants, their aspirations, priorities and what success should look like. Teams can then plan their activities out to meet their identified priorities. Working in relationship through the collection and analysis of evidence supports greater insight and a better understanding of what has value in their context.

This strengthening of good evaluative practice has already proven to be a sound foundation for the organisation to improve practices in a wide range of ways and to build even better supports for a learning organisation focused on continuous improvement.



**Improving Access for Tamariki,
Parents and Whānau to
Increasingly Relevant Services**

Child Advocacy

Advocating for Children and Families

Whānau Manaaki has continued advocating for children and families both as a kindergarten association and through our membership of Kindergartens Aotearoa.

We have made submissions on a variety of issues, ranging from supporting network planning in early childhood education through to opposing the fast-track consent process, which initially sought to leave permission for major projects in the hands of three MPs, removing environmental safeguards.

We have made submissions on consultation exercises carried out by the Ministry of Education as well as to parliamentary select committees.

When the new government was formed, we wrote a briefing to outline our priorities in the sector based on our values.

Where possible, we appear before parliamentary select committees to reinforce our position, to answer questions from those MPs who are committee members and to give our staff an opportunity to share lived experiences and to participate in the democratic process.

We also continue to speak out publicly on issues of relevance to children and families, with press releases and media comment. We welcome the opportunity to advocate for the needs of children and families, for example, in defending the extension of 20 hours free to two-year-olds, promised by the last government and axed by this government before it took effect in January.



Left: Tamaiti from Miramar Central Kindergarten in Wellington

Right top to bottom: Senior Teacher Nga Ropu, tamaiti from Miramar Central Kindergarten tamariki from Waitangirua Kindergarten in Porirua

Launch of Piri'anga Alofa Pacific and Community Services

Formerly Amataga o le Folauga

Whānau Manaaki celebrated the launch of Piri'anga Alofa Pacific and Community Services in November.

The launch was to officially recognise and bless the new name for Pacific and Community Services which were previously known as Amataga O Le Folauga which translates as 'the beginning of the journey'.

Along with the new name, Piri'anga Alofa marks a new stage of the growth and development of community services which now operates as a separate business unit under Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens.

The new name and logo help promote our organisation as a social services provider and reflects the many activities we have been involved in, promoting health and wellbeing in our communities. This includes everything from sports activities to home ownership.

The launch was a successful community occasion including more than 80 special guests including Mana MP Hon Barbara Edmonds, Porirua's Mayor Anita Baker and Porirua City Councillor Kathleen Filo.



Speakers included Lealamanu'a Aiga Caroline Mareko, Mama Kitona Taura, Papa Tea Joseph, Pastor Teremoana Taura, Talamalie Moamoa Faleafaga, Te Rūnanga O Toa Rangatira representative and Board member Hayley Galo and our CEO Amanda Coulston.

Pictured left to right on page 12: Toru Fetū Kindergarten Assistant Head Teacher Alana Nootai, Etu Ao Administrator Melvina Martin, Etu Ao Officer Lolenese Siu-Kapisi, Piri'anga Alofa Pacific and Community Services Senior Lead Caroline Mareko, Nuanua Kindergarten Senior Head Teacher Ina Ropu-Tengaru, Senior Teacher Nga Ropu, Le Fale Navigator Presley Ah Hoi.



Board Members Anne Prescott, Jessica Firmin and Hayley Galo



Piri'anga Alofa and Whānau Manaaki Staff



PIRI'ANGA ALESFA

pacific and community services

making a positive impact on the life of others

Le Fale Hosts Australian Delegation

Ministry of Social Development

The Le Fale Jobs and Skills Hub in Porirua hosted senior public servants from Australia earlier this year to see how our employment and training service works with its community.

The visit was organised by the Ministry of Social Development which supports Le Fale with funding.

Le Fale Navigator Presley Ah Hoi explained to the visitors how the hub works to successfully place people in jobs and to sustain their employment, as well as supporting people and staying connected if their employment does not work out for any reason.

Piri'anga Alofa Pacific and Community Services Senior Lead Caroline Mareko said that the service works because the staff are from Porirua and can relate easily to their clients, rather than coming in as outsiders giving advice.

The visitors David Hazlehurst, Natalie James and Lisa Keeling were able to see the welcoming environment at Le Fale, with people walking in from the street to seek help.

Back Row: MSD representatives Andre Tuimaseve and Matt Clement, Nate Lambert Le Fale Administrator. Middle Row: MSD Regional Commissioner for Social Development Gagau Annandale-Stone, Secretary of the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations Australia Natalie James, Chief Executive Officer, Services Australia David Hazlehurst, MSD representative Emma Dixon, General Manager, Telecommunications Modernisation, Automation and Architecture Australia Lisa Keeling, Piri'anga Alofa Community Services Lead Caroline Mareko. Front Row: Le Fale Navigators Tali Mareko, Presley Ah Hoi and Kasey Burns



Celebrating Diversity

Language Weeks and Cultural Events

Our kindergartens celebrate language weeks, including Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori and the many Pacific language weeks, as well as festivals relevant to our communities.

These special weeks and cultural events give families an opportunity to be involved in the life and activities in kindergartens and promote pride in our different cultures. Tamariki enjoy having their family involved in the programme and feel proud of their knowledge and culture.

Cultural and religious festivals such as Eid and Diwali and Chinese New Year have been widely celebrated in kindergartens for several years, and we add more festivals to reflect our families and staff.

In the past year for example, Wellington South Kindergarten celebrated Onam, which is a Hindi festival that is widely celebrated in Kerala in India, where many of the families come from.

We also encourage our families to share small momentos or artifacts from their culture – reading a book in their home language, possibly a traditional tale, or bringing in a piece of music from their homeland.

Belonging is a core principle of our curriculum Te Whāriki and it affirms children's sense of belonging and identity to have their language and culture celebrated at kindergarten with their peers.

Top to bottom: Alana Nootai from Toru Fetū Kindergarten in Porirua recorded a video for staff in celebration of Epetoma o te reo Māori Kūki 'Airani-Cook Islands Māori Language Week

Celebrating the Festival of Colour at Petone Kindergarten in Lower Hutt

Birchville Kindergarten Celebrates Chinese New Year in Upper Hutt



Improving the Quality and Effectiveness of our Community Relationships



Whānau Manaaki Social Services Profiled

Hardship and Hope

The national magazine, The Listener, profiled Whānau Manaaki's work in the community in a series, Hardship and Hope, on community-led responses to poverty.

Award winning author and journalist Rebecca Macfie spent time with Whānau Manaaki services, investigating how we support families, particularly in Porirua East. She went out with the Etu Ao transport team to gain an understanding of how everyone contributes to supporting families and education.

"This is about nation-building," Chief Executive Amanda Coulston says in the article. "It's about people feeling successful. Success isn't about having money. It's about people feeling that they belong, that they can contribute, and that their identity is celebrated. This is about mana and dignity. It's about each of us helping each other".

Rebecca says she was impressed with the holistic, expansive approach that Whānau Manaaki takes, focussing on child wellbeing while showing a clear understanding of what families need.

"I was really struck by the kaupapa of not judging, while removing hurdles and barriers in practical ways to enable children to thrive."

After the series, Rebecca won a prestigious fellowship at the Stout Research Centre at Victoria University, where she is building on her feature writing to create a book about community responses to poverty which will include Whānau Manaaki's work.

Previous page: Rebecca Raupiti and Dempsey Broad of the Transport Team in Whanganui.

Top to Bottom: Kaiako Peta, tamariki and Whānau at Fanau Pasifika Kindergarten in Levin, Harriette Vine Kindergarten in Whanganui and Parsons Avenue Kindergarten in Levin



Stone Soup

Supporting the Community

Four Whanganui kindergartens regularly take part in the community event, Stone Soup.

Every two months on a Saturday they gather to share kai, enjoy music, a talent quest, kōrero, giveaways and various stalls.

The atmosphere is full of aroha and laughter. The kaupapa is to support a collective, collaborative community.

The name comes from an old European folk tale which features in some classic fairy tale books, about a traveller in a village who made soup without ingredients (except stones), by asking people to contribute what they had.

The kindergartens involved – Barsanti, Marie McFarland, Gonville, and Harriette Vine - work collaboratively to ensure the event is well supported and lots of preparation, such as baking, making up playdough packs and preparing kai happens in the lead up.

Kindergarten staff enjoy the day and the value of connection with the community.

Kaiako spend time building relationships with other networks resulting in lots of positive outcomes for our kindergartens. Chatting with past, present and future whānau is a high priority for our teachers.



Whanganui Whānau enjoy Stone Soup Community Day

“We love seeing our wider community come together rain, hail or shine and connecting with loads of smiles and laughter over amazing kai. Mauri ora!”

Barsanti Kindergarten teacher Debra Turchie says it’s a great opportunity for connection, and to market the kindergartens to families.

“It’s about family, relationships, community, being visible and promoting the importance of early childhood education.”

The event takes place whatever the weather and encourages community kōrero and celebrates success. As a result of this approach, various programmes have been set up to support tamariki, youth and community.

The kindergartens set up an area with sand, dough, blocks, drawing and other activities while providing snacks.

The Transport Team sometimes also join the gatherings, and this helps publicise the van service to families. Relationships with community groups helps with activities such as census and community gardens.



Above: Whanganui kaiako and friend of the kindergarten help out at Stone Soup



Gonville
KINDERGARTEN



Marie McFarland
KINDERGARTEN



Barsanti
KINDERGARTEN



Harriette Vine
KINDERGARTEN

“Being able to give back and provide a service to my Gonville community means so much”.

U-Matter Volleyball Tournament

Connecting the Pacific Community to Health Services

Support from Whānau Manaaki helped Pacific students in Horowhenua gain confidence and pride in their achievements and abilities through volleyball.

Whānau Manaaki led a health-focused volleyball tournament in Levin called U-Matter as a way of engaging the Pacific community, particularly males, in connecting to health services.

The raw talent of one local team caught the eye of referee Nuuvea Fuamatu (known as Matu), who works for Whānau Manaaki. He has national and international volleyball experience and offered to coach the team.

Navigator Lead Alice Mose-Tuialii took on the role of manager and the team was ready to step up.

Whānau Manaaki was able to use Whānau Ora funding to help meet the costs for the Horowhenua College students.

Another Whānau Manaaki staff member Kadence Mose-Tuialiu has coached the girls' team with guidance from Matu.

With the support, the Horowhenua College team qualified for the second division (from the fourth division) and was runner-up at the Manawatu volleyball regional tournament.

Alice says it's been awesome to watch the young men grow in confidence. "It's been rewarding, absolutely, a humbling experience". She says their teachers have reported a change of attitude to school as a result of the volleyball success.



Whānau Ora Navigator Team Lead Alice Mose-Tuialii and Community Navigator Amos Telea



Porirua Night Market

Supporting the community

Our Le Fale Jobs and Skills Hub has worked to support the Friday Night Pacific Markets at the Cook Island Hall each month. This initiative backed by the Council, helps local small businesses showcase and develop their products and services, and it has served as an opportunity for local youth to be the crew that helps with setting up and packing down the stalls.

Le Fale Team Lead, Fala Tavita, says volunteers enjoy the experience of contributing. “They love it – the experience of contributing, doing something meaningful and giving back to the community”.

Around six volunteers are needed for each market, and there are always more ready to help than required. There haven't been issues with young people not showing up for their shift or coming late.

Fala says generosity is a value for the community, and young people don't always get the chance to show this. Some people are very shy to put themselves forward for volunteering roles, but if they are paired with others they know this is a safe place for them to build confidence.

For some of the volunteers, the experience helps applications to join either the police or armed forces, and gives them access to people who can act as referees for paid work or courses.

The young volunteers gain practical skills and experience relating to event management, teamwork and customer service. These experiences support their development and confidence and sense of achievement. The networks and contacts developed help the young people with their next steps towards careers and training.



Porirua Night Markets - Image provided by Porirua District Council.

Right: Tamaiti from Pikopiko Clyde Quay Kindergarten in Wellington



Whānau Manaaki is in the
Heart of our Communities

Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens

Adventure

18 Longitude Place, Whitby 5024

Aramoho

15 Field Street, Whanganui

Arohanui

74 Bartholomew Road, Levin

Ascot Park

175 Conclusion Street, Porirua 5024

Awatea

19 Awatea Street, Porirua

Balclutha

1 Lanark Street, Balclutha

Barsanti

19 Rogers Street, Whanganui

Bellevue

50 Link Road, Newlands

Berhampore

3-5 Stanley Street, Berhampore

Betty Montford

46 York Street, Levin

Birchville

12 Amber Grove, Birchville, UH

Brian Webb

28 Victory Crescent, Tawa

Brooklyn

62 Todman Street, Brooklyn

Brown Owl

5 Aniseed Grove, Upper Hutt

Campbell

25 Campbell Street, Karori

Carterton

3 Victoria Street, Carterton

Central

32 Keith Street, Whanganui

Churton Park

86 Churton Drive, Churton Park

Cottle

117 Thackeray Street, Upper Hutt

Discovery

3 Pullen Lane, Whitby

Doris Nicholson

1122 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt

Durie Hill

25 Maxwell Avenue, Whanganui

East Harbour

99 Muritai Road, Eastbourne

Fanau Pasifika

76a Cambridge Street, Levin

Goldfields

62 Whitehaven Street, Lawrence.

Gonville

86 Alma Road, Whanganui

Greytown

1b McMaster Street, Greytown

Harriette Vine

5 Watkin Street, Whanganui

Hataitai

8 Taurima Street, Hataitai

Heretaunga

9a Ruru Crescent, Heretaunga, UH

Irmgard Ritchie

88a McLeod Street, Upper Hutt

Island Bay

100 Melbourne Road, Island Bay

Johnsonville West

34a Kipling Street, Johnsonville

Kahurangi

11 Surrey Street, Masterton,

Karori

155 Campbell Street, Karori

Katoa

52 Takapuwahia Drive Porirua

Khandallah

24 Everest Street, Khandallah

Lansdowne

30c Totara Street Masterton

Lyll Bay

89 Apu Crescent, Lyall Bay

Manaia

53 South Road, Masterton

Maraeroa

36 Astrolabe Street, Porirua

Marie McFarland

40b Cornfoot Steet, Castlecliff, Whanganui

Martinborough

Roberts Street, Martinborough

Masterton West

159 Cole Street Masterton

Matairangi

112-114 Waipapa Road, Hataitai

Matariki

6 William Durant Drive, Upper Hutt

Meta Riddiford

17 Daniell Street, Featherston

Milton

20a Coronation Court, Milton

Miramar Central

32 Parast Street, Miramar

Moira Gallagher

24 Hampshire Street, Porirua

Miramar North

20 Whanganui Street, Miramar

Mount Cook

160 Tory Street, Wellington

Newlands

13 Horokiwi Road West, Newlands

Ngahina

Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu

Ngaio

65 Ottawa Road, Ngaio

Northland

22 Albemarle Road, Northland

Nuanua

5A Warspite Avenue, Porirua

Ohakune

58 Arawa Street, Ohakune

Onslow

1a Delhi Crescent, Khandallah

Ōtaki

68 Waerenga Road, Otaki

Ōwhiro Bay

96 Happy Valley Road, Ōwhiro Bay

Pākaraka

1655 SH3, Pākaraka, Whanganui

Papakōwhai

5 Yarrow Place, Papakowhai

Paparāangi

10 Mark Avenue, Paparangi

Paraparaumu

27 Donovan Road, Paraparaumu

Paremata

51 Paremata Road, Paremata

Paremata Creche

69c Discovery Drive, Whitby Porirua

Parsons Avenue

20 Parsons Avenue, Levin

Petone

10a Tennyson Street, Petone

Petone Beach

20 King Street, Petone

Pikopiko Clyde Quay

Cnr Elizabeth & Brougham Streets, Mt Victoria

Plimmerton

8a Beach Road, Plimmerton

Pūtiki

21 Te Anau St, Whanganui

Poupoutunoa

6 Westra Street, Clinton

Pukerua Bay

1 Wairaka Road, Pukerua Bay

Raumati Beach

32 Raumati Road, Raumati Beach

Raumati South

45 Tiromoana Road, Raumati South

Rosebank

14 Naish Street, Balclutha

Seatoun

14 Gore Street, Seatoun

Silverstream

51 - 53 Kiln Street, Upper Hutt

South End

265 High Street South, Carterton

St Johns Hill

19 Parsons Avenue, Whanganui

Strathmore Park

50a Strathmore Avenue, Strathmore

Sunshine

21a Sunshine Avenue, Karori

Tai Tamariki

55 Cable Street, PO Box 467, Wgtn

Taihape

Toroa Street, Taihape

Taitoko

36 Kincross Street, Levin

Tairangi

1 Omapere Street, Porirua

Tawa Central

21 Oxford Street, Tawa

Te Manawanui

1 Grey Street, Shannon

Te Ō Newtown

9 Hospital Road, Newtown, Wellington

Te Puna Ako ki Tōtara Puku

Whanganui East School, Patapu Street, Whanganui

Te Timatanga Hou

19 Wilton Street, Levin

Titahi Bay

48 Herewini Street, Titahi Bay

Toru Fetū

36a Astrolabe Street, Porirua

Totara Park

7a Denver Grove, Upper Hutt

Trentham

19a Tawai Street, Upper Hutt

Tui Park

12b Mexted Terrace, Linden

Una Williams

12 Macara Street, Masterton,

Upper Hutt

14a McParland Street, Upper Hutt

Wadestown

45 Oban Street, Wadestown

Waikanae

91 Russell Reserve, Ngaio Road, Waikanae

Waiouru

25 Kenningston Street, Waiouru

Waitangirua

4 Kalingo Street, Porirua

Waitohi

34 Moorefield Road, Johnsonville

Wanganui East

58 Nile Street, Whanganui

Wellington South

103 Owen Street, Newtown

York Street

2 York Street, Masterton

Top to bottom: Tamariki from Parsons Avenue Kindergarten in Levin, Barsanti Kindergarten in Whanganui and Karori Kindergarten in Wellington.





Above: Wadestown Kindergarten in Wellington

Below: Tamariki from Barsanti Kindergarten in Whanganui



Grant Funding

Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens wishes to acknowledge and thank those organisations that continue to give generously to our kindergartens.

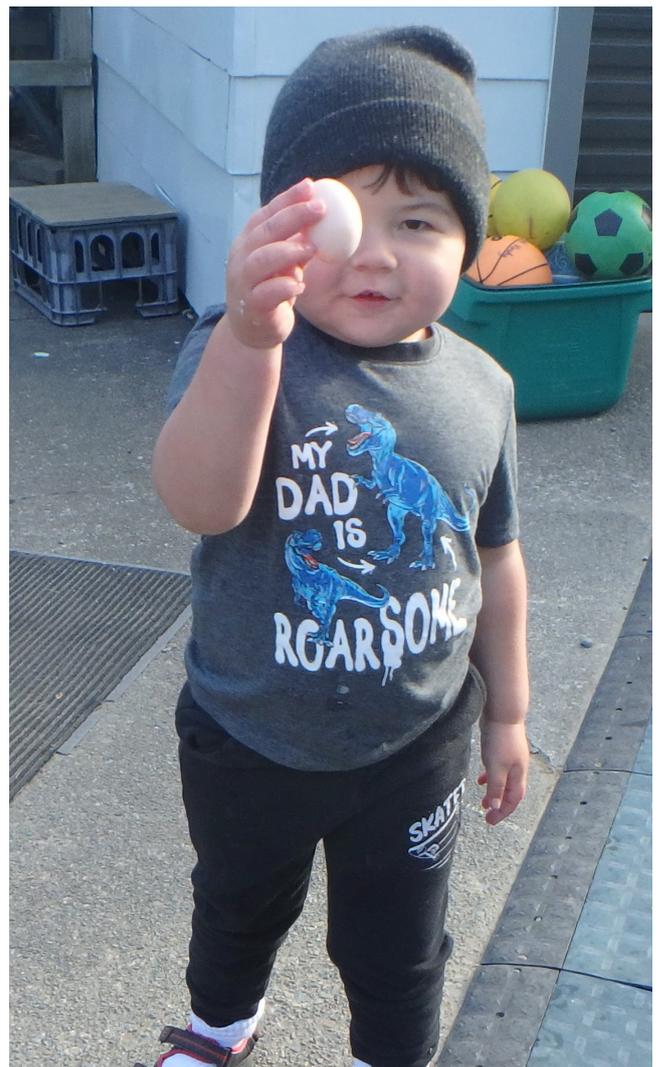
We rely heavily on grants from community organisations to keep our kindergartens well resourced and to assist with their ongoing development and maintenance.

Your gifts are appreciated by us, our communities and most importantly those tamariki who benefit from attending our kindergartens.

In the year to 30 June 2024 the following organisations contributed to our kindergartens:

Pelorus Trust
Thomas George McCarthy Trust
Philipp Family Foundation
Air Rescue Services Ltd
The Trusts Community Foundation
Hutt Mana Charitable Trust
Trillian Trust
Four Regions Trust
Greytown Trust Lands Trust
Alexander McMillan Trust
Clutha Valley School
Dunedin Casino Charitable Trust
Four Winds Foundation
Wellington City Council
The Lion Foundation
Trust House Foundation
Carterton District Council
Terawhiti Trust
Eastbourne-Bays Community Trust
South Wairarapa District Council
South Wairarapa Rotary Club

Warwick Anderson
Clegg Family Charitable Trust
Kingston Sedgfield (NZ) Charitable Trust
Eastern & Central Community Trust
The Vogelmorn Foundation
Waikanae Baptist Church
The BRC Charitable Trust
M G Martin Charitable Trust
Masterton District Council
Balclutha Round Table
Otago Masonic Charitable Trust
Greater Wellington Regional Council
Waihikurangi Trust



Tamaiti from Ōtaki Kindergarten in Kāpiti

Aku mihi nui ki a koe, Thank you!



Philipp Family Foundation

Everything in life is connected



SERIOUS ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY





GREYTOWN TRUST LANDS
Growing the Community since 1871



Kingston Sedgfield Charitable Trust
Proudly administered by
Trustees Executors



WHĀNAU MANAAKI

**Whānau Manaaki Kindergartens
Unit F 15 John Seddon Drive, Elsdon, Porirua 5022
P.O. Box 50-743 Porirua 5240
www.wmkindergartens.org.nz**