

HŌHEPA HAPPENINGS
HŌHEPA WELLINGTON
DECEMBER 2024



Hōhepa

every life fully lived



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MILESTONE HOME OPENING

In November we celebrated the official opening of four new homes at our main Hōhepa Wellington site on Pitoitoi Street. These purpose-built homes allow us to continue offering individualised, holistic support to people with intellectual disabilities – helping each person grow, learn, and reach their full potential. We were surrounded by people we support, family, friends, staff, tangata whenua, and tradespeople involved in the construction, as the homes were blessed.



These homes were possible thanks to the incredibly generous support of Dorothy Spotswood.

Since 2018, Dorothy's contributions have enabled numerous transformative projects at Hōhepa Wellington. We continue to be deeply appreciative of the opportunities her generosity brings.



FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER Linda Windley



Welcome to our newsletter! We're really excited to be strengthening our connection and engagement with our community and support network.

This year has been full of highlights and growth for Hōhepa Wellington. We've increased the number of people we support, expanded our staff, and added more homes to our village. While all our values are at the heart of our decisions and actions, this year, **responsiveness** has been particularly important. Changes to disability sector funding earlier in the year required us to pivot from some of our initial plans.

While change can be unsettling, I believe we've navigated this curveball successfully, and I am optimistic about Hōhepa Wellington continuing to thrive.

I'd like to wish our community of supporters a joyful festive season. We look forward to reconnecting with you all again in the new year and continuing to strive towards our vision of every life fully lived.

Ngā manaakitanga
Linda

"In a community of human beings working together, the well-being of the community will be the greater" - Rudolf Steiner

CHRISTMAS ART COMPETITION

We had some beautiful entries into our 2024 Christmas Art competition. These were displayed in the Studio at the Home Opening Event and, when the votes were tallied, Simon's Santa was a clear winner.

For a Hōhepa Wellington first, we transformed the top 3 artworks into Christmas cards to share with our neighbours and other community supporters. Seasonal and cultural celebrations are focal points of community life at Hōhepa Wellington and enrich the lives of everyone who lives and works here.



WHAT'S HAPPENING ONSITE?



As always, there's plenty going on onsite to take care of Hōhepa Wellington's whenua and connect with nature.

-  Our Estate Environmental Lead, Jeremiah, guides an "estate management mahi" group. The eager participants work on collaborative projects, such as seed growing, as well as researching and learning about the diversity of plants found onsite.
-  Our nursery has undergone a tidy up in preparation for growing plants for our future wetland restoration work.
-  We're also busy planning future onsite work to ensure all mahi aligns with our long-term goals for this land.

MEET THE LOCALS *with Grayson*

In each newsletter, Grayson will be posing hard-hitting questions to a member of our community....starting with our GM, Linda.

What is your favourite food? And what food don't you like?

Cheese and ice-cream are my favourite food groups.

And I really don't like peas!

Do you like watching TV & movies?

I do, I particularly enjoy thrillers.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Matamata, in the Waikato.

Do you have any pets?

Not at the moment. I used to have two large dogs - one was a great dane, and the other was a mastiff.

Can you play any instruments?

Absolutely none!



What's something you're really good at?

I've been working hard on my baking, and I'm getting pretty good at it.

What's your favourite thing to bake?

I love to bake a lemon and yoghurt cake.

And most importantly.....

Do you snore?

Not at all!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Christmas is a wonderful time to come together and celebrate the year that's been. And this year we have had plenty to celebrate! Our staff, people we support and their families enjoyed a wonderful Christmas celebration, which included candle dipping and carol singing. It was a joyous occasion filled with laughter, warmth, festive spirit and some pretty funky attire!



FROM GOOD TO GREAT

We are committed to the Hōhepa vision of "Every life fully lived" for our entire community, not just the people we support. Our staff do an amazing job, and by identifying opportunities for growth and development, we can provide the right training and learning experiences at the right time, in the right way. We want our staff to feel valued, supported, and appreciated at work. Currently, we are focusing on leadership development with our House Managers. We are enhancing their skills and knowledge through a series of values-based workshops, facilitated by an expert in Organisation and Personnel Development, Mediation, and Executive Coaching.

*"The smallest thing in its rightful place can lead to the highest goals" -
Rudolf Steiner*

OUR NEW EV! MERIDIAN DECARBONISATION FUND



If you follow us on Facebook (and we hope you do!), you might have seen our exciting news - our application to the Meridian Community Decarbonisation Fund was successful and we were generously gifted an electric vehicle (EV)!

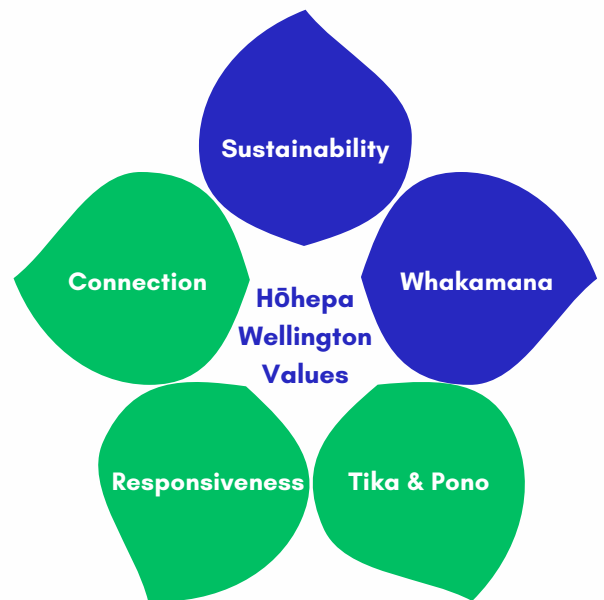
This EV is based at one of our community houses, and the joy on the housemates' faces when we surprised them with the car was priceless. Their reactions truly said it all!

A huge thank you to Meridian for this incredible gift. This new set of wheels will ensure that the people we support can attend all their activities around the community in style and safety, while also helping us move closer to our sustainability goals.



LIVING OUR VALUES

At Hōhepa Wellington our values inspire and guide everything we do. These include the national Hōhepa values of Sustainability and Whakamana, which connect all Hōhepa communities. Plus, our own unique values of Connection, Responsiveness, and Tika & Pono. These bespoke Hōhepa Wellington values will be officially launched early next year.



Sustainability | The responsible use of resources socially, ecologically and economically.



Whakamana | Empowering and fostering the strength and capability of others through subsidiarity.



A WORD FROM THE BOARD

Andrew Brown, Chair



Most of my career has been shaped around operational service in the military. I have experienced first hand the effects of war and conflict, and the impact that this has on people, communities and, in particular, people with disabilities. During my career, I have built up a range of skills and experiences that can be put to other uses, in other organisational contexts. This includes organisations such as Hōhepa.

I joined the Board of Hōhepa Wellington to share my skills and experiences, give back to my community, and to be part of a truly great organisation aligned with my values.

As Chair, my role is largely behind the scenes. With my Board colleagues, I ensure we govern the organisation well, and help manage the delivery of truly great outcomes.

Looking ahead to 2025, I am excited about progressing the next phase of our 10-Year Vision. This includes developing our Otaihanga site with improved roading, parking, hard landscaping, and essential services and facilities. In line with our motto, 'every life fully lived,' we also aim to begin work on our market garden, native tree nursery, and other productive and purposeful activities that reflect our unique character.

UPDATE | NEW PHARMACY

As part of our commitment to quality improvement, we are transitioning to a new pharmacy. This change brings several fantastic benefits:

- 24-hour on-call pharmacist support
- Free blister packing, saving hundreds of dollars across the service
- Free medication delivery

We will provide more information early in the new year.

HELPING HANDS

Having a community of support around us helps to move things forward. Our wonderful supporters are always eager to get involved, and we truly appreciate the time, effort, and aroha they bring. Recently, Shane, Pamela and Maggie put in some serious effort in the nursery - see the before and after evidence!

We believe that everyone's unique skills, experiences, and talents bring something valuable to the table. Everyone has something to offer, teach, and learn, making our community richer and more vibrant.

If you have the inclination, there are many opportunities to spend some time with us helping with garden work, compost management, and plant care.

Please reach out to Shelley Elliott on 0272515422 or Shelley.Elliott@hohepawellington.com





We're working hard to raise Hōhepa Wellington's profile and share all the incredible things the people we support, and our staff, do every day.
Please follow us on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#). The more you like, share, and comment the better!

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40 Pitoitoi Street, Otaihanga,
Paraparaumu
Phone: [+64 4 297 2102](tel:+6442972102)
Email: wellington.admin@hohepa.com

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