

**HŌHEPA HAPPENINGS**  
**HŌHEPA WELLINGTON**  
MARCH 2025

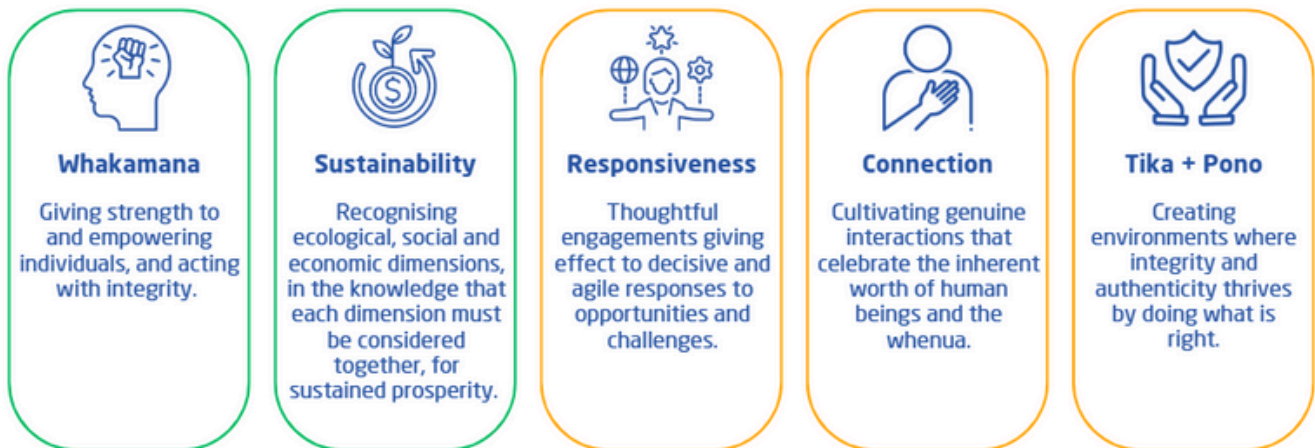


**Hōhepa**

every life fully lived



# LAUNCHING OUR VALUES



**February marked a significant milestone for Hōhepa Wellington as we officially launched our regional values.**

This is an exciting step forward, strengthening our independence and autonomy while maintaining close ties to the wider Hōhepa network.

Across all Hōhepa branches, the core values of Whakamana (empowerment) and Sustainability serve as a unifying foundation. At Hōhepa Wellington, we are proud to announce the addition of our own unique values: **Responsiveness, Connection, and Tika and Pono** (authenticity and integrity). These values will guide and inspire everything we do moving forward.

Our values are what truly set Hōhepa Wellington apart, distinguishing us as a unique and impactful service. To ensure a shared understanding and commitment, we dedicated time to explore the values together as a team.

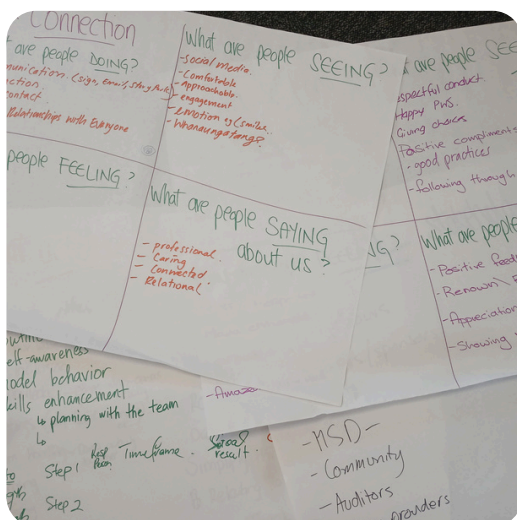
**During February and March, we held three interactive workshops** where staff had the opportunity to discuss and share ideas for embedding these values into our daily work. These workshops are a vital part of **building capability across our workforce**. They provide a clear understanding of the values that drive Hōhepa Wellington and establish a strong sense of purpose and unity.



## Workshop purpose

The goals of this values workshop are to:

- Learn about each of the Hōhepa Wellington values
- Understand why organisational values are important
- Collaborate on ways to embed the values into our work



We're thrilled to share that an impressive **84% of our permanent staff actively participated** in this process, showcasing their enthusiasm and dedication.

We have engaging opportunities and activities lined up to further integrate these values into our service over the coming months. You can find the details of the first challenge on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.



## FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER Linda Windley



As summer winds down and autumn starts to creep in, we find ourselves at that in-between time of the year. The long, sunny days are giving way to cooler evenings, and the vibrant greens of summer are beginning to transform into the warm, earthy tones of autumn.

The past few months at Hōhepa Wellington have been brimming with activity, offering opportunities to focus on the service we provide, the people who choose to work here, and the people we support. The launch of our values marks a pivotal moment, guiding our journey as an independent organisation within a national service framework.

At the leadership and governance levels, we recently participated in the MSD Community Consultation process which included questions relating to the needs assessment process.

Encouragingly, our efforts to diversify income streams through grants, donations, and fundraising are beginning to yield positive results. I'm excited to see this momentum continue and look forward to achieving even more success in this area.

Ngā manaakitanga  
Linda

***"Our highest endeavour must be to develop individuals who are able out of their own initiative to impart purpose and direction to their lives." - Rudolf Steiner***

## A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS | COOKING CLASSES WITH VAI



Onion bhajis, Southland cheese rolls, vegetarian omelettes - if you're not coming along to Vai's cooking classes, you're missing out! Vai, one of our amazing Team Leaders, is sharing her passion for cooking in the most meaningful way - by leading weekly group cooking classes in The Studio. Once the cooking is done, participants gather around to enjoy the incredible dishes they've prepared together. Sharing a meal becomes more than just tasting food - it's a **celebration of collective effort and creativity**.



These classes embody our values of:  
**Whakamana:** empowering others by building their skills and confidence.  
**Connection:** fostering a sense of belonging and encouraging social inclusion  
**Sustainability:** celebrating the use of ingredients grown onsite.





# WHAT'S HAPPENING ONSITE?

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



This summer Spotswood were very excited to have a lovely archgola installed off their living space, providing shade over parts of the deck and enhancing the indoor outdoor flow.



Showing incredible **perseverance and motivation**, the people we support have been feeding our worm farm with self-collected food scraps. Over time, this has created a valuable liquid fertiliser, which is being used to **nourish our entire gardens**, for free! It's wonderful to see how we can appreciate nature's cycles and live in a way that reflects our values.



## MEET THE LOCALS with Grayson

In each newsletter, Grayson will be posing hard-hitting questions to a member of our community. This time, it's our Director of Services, Elisabeth Patelesio.

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

*I love Mediterranean food. And I really don't like raw fish/ika mata!*

What TV & movies do you like?

*I like the classic, Friends. And I recently watched Adolescence which was excellent.*

Where did you grow up?

*I grew up in Te Awanga, Hawkes Bay.*

Do you have any pets?

*I love animals, but we don't have any pets. They're a big responsibility!*

What's something you're really good at?

*My DIY skills are pretty good, I've been working on them.*



My middle name is James, do you have a middle name?

*I do, it's Sophia.*

Can you play any instruments?

*I took clarinet, saxophone and piano lessons as a child. But I was more into sports than instruments.*

Do you snore?

*Only occasionally.....*

## A WORD FROM THE BOARD

### Helen Anderson



First and foremost, I'm a parent. My son James has been living at Hōhepa for two years now, and it's been incredible to see him thrive. He Facetimes me several times a week, always cheerful and enjoying life, and comes home most weekends to stay closely connected to family and friends.

Though I'm no longer actively researching, I am a seismologist and my speciality was big earthquakes, not just in New Zealand. That was a wonderful career which involved travelling and engaging with colleagues all around the world. I went on from that to be Chief Scientist and then Chief Executive of the science Ministry, and for the last 16 years have been involved in company governance. That's meant chairing and being a director on many boards and inquiries, including those which investigated building failures in earthquakes. Creating safe and inspiring environments for people is my particular interest so that fits naturally with our board's focus on developing our Otaihangā site over time.

I feel privileged to be part of the broader Hōhepa whānau and my personal mission is to ensure that many others in our community get the same opportunity.

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## FRIENDLY REMINDER TO SLOW DOWN

As part of our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of the people we support, our staff, and our neighbours we would like to remind everyone to please drive slowly along Pitoitoi Street, and even slower once you enter our site.



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## HELPING HANDS

At Hōhepa Wellington, there's always more we'd love to accomplish than time and resources allow. To bring some of these ideas to life, we've partnered with Volunteer Kāpiti, a local organisation **dedicated to connecting volunteers with meaningful opportunities**. Initially, we're hoping to find volunteers keen to lend a hand with gardening and grounds maintenance. Watch this space!

We have also teamed up with Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club to host an exciting fundraising Golf Day! This event promises plenty of fun while offering a fantastic opportunity to strengthen local connections, showcase the amazing services we provide, and raise valuable funds. **If you're interested in sponsorship or donating items for our auction or raffle, we'd be delighted to hear from you!**

Contact Shelley Elliott on 0272515422 or [Shelley.Elliott@hohepawellington.com](mailto:Shelley.Elliott@hohepawellington.com)





# LIVING OUR VALUES

As part of embedding our values into our daily work, and encouraging everyone at Hōhepa Wellington to keep the values at the front of their minds, we asked each of the homes to participate in a photo challenge.

Each home was tasked with submitting photos that reflect each of the values in action.

Here is just a selection of the awesome images! We're sure you'll find them as inspiring as we do.



## Whakamana

Giving strength to and empowering individuals, and acting with integrity.



Whakamana is embodied through actions that empower and support others. It represents a beautiful concept that honors and uplifts individuals, fostering growth and unlocking their potential.



## Sustainability

Recognising ecological, social and economic dimensions, in the knowledge that each dimension must be considered together, for sustained prosperity.



Looking after our whenua, recycling, and utilising the sun and wind rather than the dryer are some of the many ways our community reflects our commitment to sustainability.



# LIVING OUR VALUES



## Tika + Pono

Creating environments where integrity and authenticity thrives by doing what is right.

Tika + Pono highlights the importance of mutual respect and trust, where commitments are honoured, and promises are kept.



## Responsiveness

Thoughtful engagements giving effect to decisive and agile responses to opportunities and challenges.



Sometimes being responsive means noticing, and reacting, when the car needs charging, the garden needs watering, or the weeds are getting out of hand.



## Connection

Cultivating genuine interactions that celebrate the inherent worth of human beings and the whenua.

These images capture the essence of connection - a moment of warmth, trust, and genuine presence. True connection goes beyond words.



## FROM GOOD TO GREAT

This quarter we've started refining and improving the **induction and orientation process for all new Support Workers**. First impressions really matter, and we want our team to feel welcomed, supported, and excited to grow with us.

There are lots of policies, learning modules, documents and demonstrations that form part of the journey to becoming a Hōhepa Support Worker. We're working to make sure that every part of this process is consistent, accessible, and empowering. We believe that creating a positive, supportive experience during those first few weeks makes a big difference — it helps our team members settle in, stay, and thrive.

*"Man is not a being who stands still, he is a being in the process of becoming" - Rudolf Steiner*



## WELCOMES AND FAREWELLS

Over the last couple of months we welcomed new Support Workers Reea, Stephanie, Dwight and Elan to Hōhepa. They've been orientating at our Spotswood and Te Koha Aroha homes in the Otaihangā village, and we're delighted to have them join our community. We've had a small number of staff transitioning between casual and permanent roles to accommodate their work-life balance. We've also said goodbye to 1 part-time and 4 full-time Support Workers, and wish them well with their next steps.

## OUR FANTASTIC NEW PICNIC TABLES | PELORUS TRUST

Over Summer we recieved the wonderful news that our application for a Pelorus Trust grant was successful! The grant was for the purchase of **two picnic tables, made by our friends at The Shed Project Kāpiti**.

These fantastic picnic tables have been situated at our nursery and are being put to excellent use by the people we support and our staff. They provide spaces to work hard potting seeds, and a spot to relax with friends.



As a small disability provider, grants like these ensure we're able to continue offering a wide range of activities that help the people we support lead fulfilling lives.





What an awesome group at eurythmy - a beautiful blend of movement, music, and speech that nurtures both the body and soul. It enhances balance, coordination, and self-expression.

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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!

# Hōhepa

every life fully lived

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**Donations are always appreciated.**

Please give us a call or visit:  
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