

# **Heart Kids NZ Annual Report 2023**



# About Us

## Heart Kids New Zealand

For over 40 years, Heart Kids New Zealand has been providing crucial, lifelong support, information, connection, and hope so that heart kids and their whānau never face their heart journey alone.

We are the only national organisation in Aotearoa NZ that offers free, lifelong care and support for children, teens, adults, and whānau impacted by childhood heart conditions.

News of a childhood heart condition can turn a family's life upside down. But no one has to face that journey alone. We walk alongside families through diagnosis and treatment, offering support, knowledge, and guidance. We make sure that our heart families have this support freely available during hospital stays and at home in the community.

Our dedicated family support team is there for everyone navigating a heart journey. Families often face separation, loneliness, isolation, financial hardship, stress, and uncertainty about the future. Our team of trained, passionate family support taituarā are based around Aotearoa NZ, ensuring families are supported when and where they need it most.

Heart Kids New Zealand's services are comprehensive and inclusive. We offer educational resources to help families understand heart conditions and manage treatments.

**We are the only national organisation in Aotearoa NZ that provides free, lifelong care and support for children, teens, adults and whānau impacted by childhood heart conditions.**

We also provide emotional support through in-person support and peer connections, enabling families to share experiences and build a supportive community. Practical assistance, such as care packages, meal vouchers, and travel cost assistance, helps alleviate the daily challenges faced by families dealing with childhood heart conditions.

Our annual events, like Little Heart Day and Heroes for Heart Kids, bring together communities and raise awareness and funds to support our mission. These events, along with our annual camp, create joyful and memorable experiences for heart kids, helping them feel included and understood.

Our heart community consists of:

- **Our 13,000+ members** who are as diverse as the childhood heart conditions they face.
- **Our dedicated family support taituarā** who support heart children, youth, adults, and their whānau at Starship Children's Hospital, Auckland City Hospital, local hospitals, and at home.
- **Our network of passionate branch committee volunteers** who have lived experience and tirelessly raise funds for locally delivered services and family events.
- **Our group of enthusiastic event volunteers** who return each year to ensure our children and teen camps run smoothly.
- **Our network of heart heroes** – donors, community fundraisers, corporate partners, and ambassadors – who ensure our services remain free for members, despite Heart Kids NZ not receiving any government funding.
- **Our board members** who volunteer their time and expertise to act as guardians of the Heart Kids NZ mission, vision, purpose, and values.

Through this extensive network, we are able to provide comprehensive support to heart kids and their families, ensuring they never have to face their journey alone. Heart Kids NZ is committed to making a positive impact on the lives of those affected by childhood heart conditions, and we are deeply grateful to all who contribute to our mission. Together, we provide the care, support, and hope that our heart kids and their families need to thrive.



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PO Box 108 034 Newmarket, Auckland 1149

[www.heartkids.org.nz](http://www.heartkids.org.nz)



*Supporting Heart Kids through life*

# Acknowledgement of the Late **Ross Blackler**

The late Ross Blackler was a servant to the core for Heart Kids New Zealand. He began his service to the Charity as a committee member of the then Heart Children Canterbury Committee. In 2004 he became a Board member for the Upper South Island.

During his tenure on the board, he saw through various changes to the charity as a whole that have made what we know as Heart Kids New Zealand today. He was always the first to help in a fundraiser, no matter what hour of the morning it started. He assisted and lead camps and other various local and national events. He was a firm believer in the ethos of Heart Kids which is supporting a heart child through life.

In 2016, along with his wife Suzie, they became life member of Heart Kids New Zealand in recognition of his services to the charity. This was a very proud moment for him and something in which he cherished. In 2021 he retired from the Board of Heart Kids New Zealand to spend time with his family and friends.

His legacy of service, commitment, and kindness continues to inspire all of us at Heart Kids New Zealand. We are deeply grateful for Ross Blackler's enduring contributions and are honoured to acknowledge his memory in our annual report. His spirit of service and dedication remains a guiding light for our organisation.



# Ā Mātau Tāngata

## Our People

### Our Staff

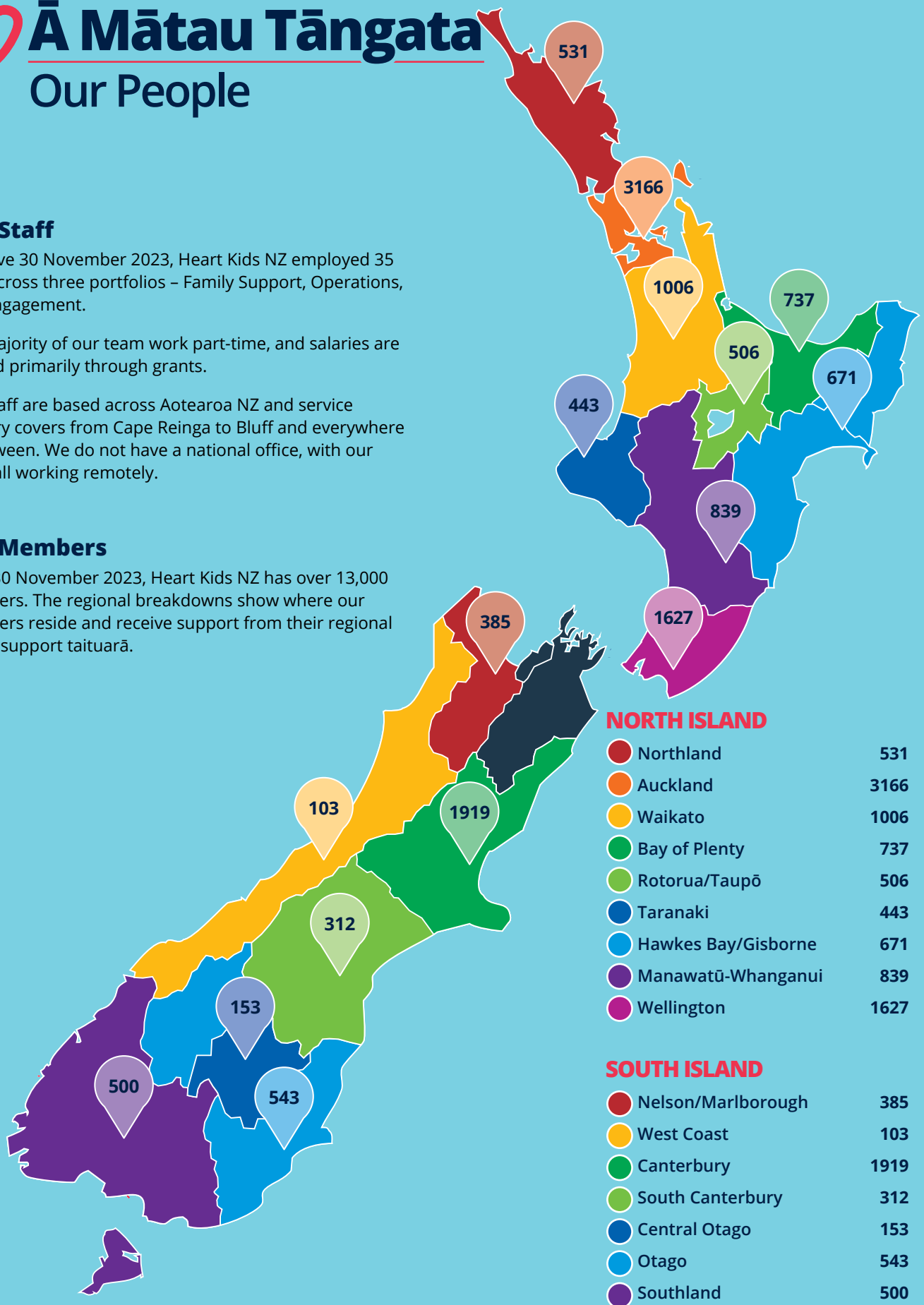
Effective 30 November 2023, Heart Kids NZ employed 35 staff across three portfolios – Family Support, Operations, and Engagement.

The majority of our team work part-time, and salaries are funded primarily through grants.

Our staff are based across Aotearoa NZ and service delivery covers from Cape Reinga to Bluff and everywhere in between. We do not have a national office, with our team all working remotely.

### Our Members

As of 30 November 2023, Heart Kids NZ has over 13,000 members. The regional breakdowns show where our members reside and receive support from their regional family support taituarā.





# Ngā Kōrero A Te Tiamana

## Chair's Report

Our journey as Heart Kids NZ began over 40 years ago, with our founding members Linda Davies and Michelle Mann in a windowless hospital room in Greenlane. Since then, we have grown into a national charity with an unwavering dedication to our vision that all people affected by congenital heart disease and heart disease acquired during childhood will feel fully supported, connected, informed, and hopeful for the future.

The demand for our services has never been more pronounced, with over 8000 members receiving support from our team in 2023. The cost-of-living crisis has significantly impacted numerous members of our heart whānau, posing a myriad of challenges for our team. Traditional channels for assistance, which we typically rely upon, continue to be under considerable strain, leading to numerous instances of support requests being declined. Nevertheless, in the face of these demanding circumstances, our team continues to perform admirably. We commend them for their ongoing dedication and resilience.

We continue to experience a consistent influx of new members, with 2023 seeing 213 new members joining our HKNZ whānau. The growth in our membership base, while desirable, poses some challenges. Expanding our membership base enables us to extend our support to a larger audience in need, which aligns with organisational goals. However, this growth also brings challenges, particularly when we are unable to simultaneously increase resources to cater to additional members.



We want to express our heartfelt thanks to our unwavering champions whose endless support and generosity brings immeasurable impact to our HKNZ whānau. Your contributions ensure that HKNZ is able to awahi whānau when it is most needed and create meaningful connections that often go on to become life-long bonds. With your support, we are able to provide practical and emotional support for our HKNZ whānau that is not provided anywhere else in our healthcare system.

A highlight for 2023 was starting the year with HKNZ camp being held simultaneously in two locations. 80 heart kids and teens attended Carey Park camp in Auckland, and a further 59 attended Woodend Camp in Canterbury.

It has been inspiring to have ongoing support from Supercheap Auto. Their biannual month-long campaigns not only raise valuable awareness of our organisation and vision, but also contribute critical funds that help ensure we remain operational. In the 2023 year, Supercheap Auto raised an amazing amount for HKNZ. Supercheap Auto, we could not do what we do, without your valued support, thank you!

Our campaigns in 2023 saw our annual Little Heart Day campaign grow to its largest yet. For the first time in a post-covid environment we held our Heroes for Heart Kids campaign, partnering with Bunnings for locations around Aotearoa. Although we have a way to go to achieve our fundraising objectives with the Heroes campaign, it provides HKNZ with valuable awareness in our local communities. We look forward to the growth of both campaigns in 2024.

This financial year HKNZ has performed well, and is in a strong financial position. Over 2023, HKNZ has controlled costs well and generated significantly more income than in the 2022 year.

HKNZ farewelled board members Katie McRae and Robyn Wickenden this year. Both Katie and Robyn were much valued members of our board, and we thank them for their generous time and commitment to supporting HKNZ from the governance level. We wish them all the best with future endeavors.

Finally, we would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the entire Heart Kids NZ team, staff, volunteers, committees and board members who have all played a vital role in ensuring that heart whānau receive the best possible support we can offer. We hope that you continue to walk our journey with us to ensure that all people affected by congenital and heart disease acquired through childhood will feel fully supported, connected, informed and hopeful for the future.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa – our sincerest gratitude to you all.

*Donna Jujnovich, Board Chair*



*Supporting Heart Kids through life*



# Tamariki Manawa Māia

## The Kōrero Behind Our Te Reo Name

The te reo name for Heart Kids New Zealand Tamariki Manawa Māia was gifted to us by heart parent Te Aturangi Stewart. He shares the deeper meaning behind the beautiful name.



Te Aturangi Stewart's first child, son Te Puna iti a Rehua, was born with tricuspid atresia in 2017. Rehua had open heart surgery when he was four days old. When he was bought back to NICU his chest was open and his parents could see his tiny heart beating. "That was quite a sight. That was amazing."

Te Aturangi (Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāi Tūhoe, Rongowhakaata) says quiet times in hospital, and they may only be short periods, provide parents and whānau time to reflect on what their tamariki have been through.

"I was quite amazed how Rehua came out on top from every surgery," Te Aturangi says. "Reflecting on what he went through for hours in that operation, made me think; 'If this kid can go through that at four days old, what am I crying for?'"

The name Tamariki Manawa Māia is as close to a direct translation of Heart Kids New Zealand as Te Aturangi could make it. Tamariki means children, Manawa means heart and Māia means brave in te reo Māori. But there is a lot more meaning behind these words.

One of the feelings Te Aturangi wanted to convey is his belief heart children are supported by their tipuna or ancestors. "It's a long journey. It's a hard journey, but whānau can sometimes find peace in knowing that our tamariki are brave. "Our children, our tamariki, that are unfortunate to go through these sorts of journeys, carry with them the strength of their families, their cultures and their ancestors wherever they come from. "I wanted to inject into these translations a sense of atuaanga (spirituality) – or the knowing that we are derived from higher beings, the ones that came before us and their strength is the strength of our children. We also believe that our children choose us to be their Māmā and Pāpā because they know we will advocate and support them."

Te Aturangi went into "wānanga mode", or deep contemplation, to come up with the te reo name. It's an ingoa (name) that takes inspiration from the Māori atua (god) Tāne Mahuta. Tāne is the atua of the forest. "Tāne Mahuta was the first thing that came to mind. "In our origin stories he brought a lot of light into the darkness in the initial creation stages of our world. Tāne on his adventures and his tasks had to adopt a great sense of bravery to complete the tasks.

"In some stories Tāne climbed multiple heavens to retrieve the three baskets of knowledge to bring to earth, he also had to fight his own family which as many will know is not a nice place to be. "Tāne Mahuta had to go through some really tough places to bring us back light. There are different variations of Tāne in every culture."

Tāne also has a lot of different names such as; Tāne te waiora – the giver of life, Tāne te Wānanga – source of knowledge and understanding. "That was the inspiration for my translation of Tamariki Manawa Māia."





Te Aturangi wanted to include Tāne's name in the translation of Heart Kids NZ, but it didn't sit right. However, he hopes that those who read the translation will get some māramatanga (insight/enlightenment) from the word māia.

Te Aturangi says Rehua's koro (grandfather) chose to quit smoking after a lifetime of smoking after Rehua's first surgery. He thought if his mokopuna could go through an operation like that at four-days-old he had better be a role model. "These journeys can change people in so many ways whether they are directly affected as parents or grandparents, or wider whānau even. That's the bravery and the strength these tamariki carry and the great influence they have on their families."

Te Aturangi was happy to gift the translation to Heart Kids NZ as a way of giving back to an organisation that supported his whānau, and other whānau, in their time of need. He has also kindly translated Heart Kids NZ pamphlets into te reo.

"Heart Kids NZ were quite consistent with their support, and I love that. I got to know the ladies that would come and see if we were OK. ... I loved that they showed face. "When we were at Starship, we loved the support there on all levels. We loved the fact Starship has injected Māori culture into their spaces. It made us feel a lot more comfortable. And in our quiet times it would take away some of the stress... just having that culture around us as best they could."



*Supporting Heart Kids through life*

# Tā Tātou Pānga

## Our Impact

Heart Kids NZ provides all our services to its members for free. To ensure equitable service provision, we do not charge a membership fee.



**6553**

### Heart Clients

were supported by a community family support taituarā in their region.



**106**

### Care Packages

were delivered to whānau.



**225**

### Maia Bears

were given to heart kids in hospital provide comfort.



**152**

### Murmurs

Coffee groups were held around the motu.



**468**

### Heart Children

were supported by our hospital taituarā at Starship Children's Hospital.



**288**

### Tickets

were provided to heart members to attend events.



**10,166**

### Contacts

were made with our members.



**3359**

### In-person Contacts

were conducted at home, in hospital or other venues.



**114**

### Heart kids & teens

attended camp.

# Hiranga Whakatairanga

## Campaign Highlights

### Little Heart Day

Following the success of our award winning Little Heart Day (LHD) in 2022, the 2023 LHD fundraising campaign in March was a great success, uniting ECEs, schools, workplaces, and individuals to support Heart Kids NZ and the members we serve. LHD features fun events to raise funds and awareness by holding bake sales, wear red days, discos and more. Iconic buildings and landmarks across Aotearoa joined in by lighting up in red in a show of support for our heart community.

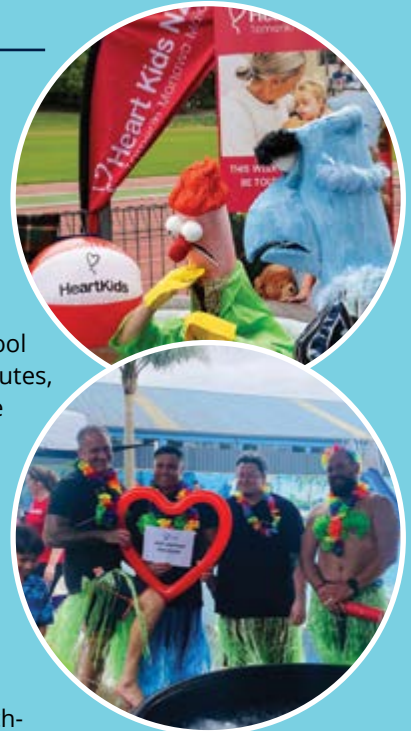
This year, participants were provided with unique text codes for easy donations, encouraging more contributions which was embraced by many participants and helped us raise over \$90,000 – our highest amount raised to date! The campaign's overwhelming response showcases the generosity of people from all walks of life and highlights our collective commitment to making a difference in the lives of those impacted by childhood heart conditions.



### Heart Stopper Challenge

We are thrilled to report that our Heart Stopper Challenge (HSC) was a huge success this year, with competitors raising an impressive \$68,127 for Heart Kids NZ. The HSC is a unique fundraising event where participants sit in a pool of icy water for six chilly minutes, with the ice representing the icy slush surgeons pack around children's hearts during surgery.

This year, we saw many participants donning fun and creative costumes, adding to the festive atmosphere of the event. The HSC not only raises much-needed funds for Heart Kids NZ, but it also raises awareness about the critical work our organisation does to support families affected by childhood heart conditions. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the participants, sponsors, and volunteers who made this year's HSC a success.



### Heroes For Heart Kids

Our annual street appeal 'Heroes for Heart Kids' was held at the end of September on World Heart Day. Thanks to the support of Bunnings Stores nationwide, the event received a lot of attention and had wonderful volunteers out collecting money and helping raise awareness for heart kids and their whānau. It was heart-warming to see people from all walks of life come together to support our heart community. The \$33,111 raised will go a long way in helping Heart Kids NZ to deliver vital support and services to heart families.



# Te Kohi Moni

## Community Fundraising

### Pete's Natural

It's always heart-warming to see companies giving back to the community, and Pete's Natural has done just that with their Pink Lemonade. The beverage, produced to raise funds for Heart Kids NZ, has been a huge success – with 12,000 limited edition bottles produced and stocked in cafes and supermarkets across Aotearoa.

Pete's Natural pledged to donate \$1 from every bottle sold to Heart Kids NZ, and thanks to the incredible response from the community, all bottles were sold, raising funds which will go towards supporting the invaluable work of Heart Kids NZ.

The limited-edition Pink Lemonade not only helped raise funds but also raised awareness for Heart Kids NZ with each bottle featuring our logo. We applaud Pete's Natural for their efforts and encourage other companies to follow their lead in giving back to the community.



### Speedway

The heart-warming support shown by the New Zealand speedway community during 2023 towards Heart Kids NZ has been remarkable. Three prominent speedways, namely Nelson, Ruapuna, and Huntly, have opened their doors to hosting heart families at their events and raising funds and awareness for Heart Kids NZ.

The support and generosity of these speedways have gone a long way in helping Heart Kids NZ to fulfil its mission of our heart community. We are grateful for the support of the Nelson, Ruapuna, and Huntly Speedways, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with them to make a positive difference in the lives of heart families.





## Midwinter Ball

**The Midwinter Ball, held in June at the Marlborough Events Centre, was a highly successful event organised by heart parents, Chloe and Tim. The ball raised almost \$30,000 for Heart Kids NZ. The event was attended by members of the Marlborough community who came together to support the heart community.**

Chloe and Tim expressed their gratitude towards everyone who contributed to the success of the ball, especially the sponsors who generously donated their time, resources, and services to support the event. The Midwinter Ball serves as an excellent illustration of how communities can collaborate to support a significant cause. The funds raised will aid Heart Kids NZ in providing vital support to heart families.

We are so grateful to Chloe and Tim for the huge amount of time and effort they put into making this event such a success and a night to remember for the 260 attendees.

## Let's Go Golf!

**Golf enthusiasts came together during 2023 to raise funds for Heart Kids NZ in two separate events. One event was in Canterbury, organised by Samir Govind, and the other was in Wellington, organised by Colin Chapman/ 360 Logistics.**

Both events saw a great turnout with golfers of all skill levels taking part in the tournament. Participants showed their support for the cause by making generous donations which helped raise a significant amount of funds for Heart Kids NZ, going a long way towards helping to provide essential support and services to those who need it the most.

We are so appreciative of the volunteers who put so much time and effort into making these events such a success.



# Pūrākau Ā-Manawa

## Heart Story

### Aiden

If it wasn't for the support of Heart Kids NZ, and the backing of his wife Tash, John O'Leary isn't sure how he would have coped looking after his son Aiden. Heart Kids NZ were instrumental in keeping me going to keep him going John says. Aiden is now 1 year and 5 months old. He was critically ill when he was born. Heart and lung issues mean the little trouper, who has a smile that melts hearts, has spent more of his short life in hospital than at home. He's always bubbly, John says. He's cheeky and he blows lots and lots of raspberries.

Aiden was born on May 18, 2022, via emergency caesarean. He had swallowed a lot of meconium and was very sick. Doctors told John and Tash to prepare for the worst – Aiden might not live. "He was swollen... his eyes were swollen shut. He was a very critically ill baby," John says.

Aiden was diagnosed with Down Syndrome the day after he was born, and doctors discovered he had heart issues when he was two days old. He had two holes in his heart – a 6mm VSD, a small ASD and a leaky PDA valve. Both sides of his heart were leaking into each other.

Aiden also had serious lung problems due to the meconium he had ingested. Aiden spent three months in NICU at Christchurch Hospital before he was flown to Starship Hospital for heart surgery. Before going to Auckland doctors also fixed a blood clot to his liver. John, who has been the primary carer for Aiden in hospital, says the wait for Aiden's surgery at Starship was difficult as it kept being cancelled.

It took about a week for the surgery to go ahead. His operation on his heart finally happened on the morning Tash had to return to Christchurch to care for her other sons. This was stressful for John who had to face the long wait to hear if Aiden was okay alone.

Aiden's recovery initially went well. But when John left the hospital for the first time in weeks, he received a call saying Aiden had been rushed into surgery as his right before the



two of them could return to Christchurch Hospital high care ward. Aiden's lung had collapsed. This meant more time in Auckland, went home when he was four months old. But he has been in and out of hospital with respiratory issues since then. John says the family have had a few terrifying trips to Christchurch Hospital via ambulance after Aiden had breathing difficulties at home. John said several times at home he would go grey and blue to the point where it's... "we need the hospital."

In December Aiden got a nasty bout of the RSV virus which knocked him so badly the doctors said they nearly lost him five times. He was so ill he needed to be intubated and sent back to Starship Hospital, and Aiden and John were there for another 45 days. The doctors both here at Starship were telling both Tash and I prepare for the worst, we don't think he's going to make one-year- old.

But Aiden has proven he is a fighter and has a lot of spirit. Despite that it has been a tough road for the family, who have often had to be separated. Aiden has had five surgeries and is due for two more procedures in the short term – getting a GJ Mic-Key button put in and possibly his tonsils out which would be his seventh surgery.

John has been diagnosed with PTSD as he has watched his son undergo so many tough medical procedures. During their tough journey Heart Kids NZ have been beside them providing them much needed help. “Heart Kids has been absolutely amazing. Through all the surgeries through all the disruptions health wise and costs and things like that they have really stepped up for us.”

At Starship Hospital, Heart Kids NZ provided much needed financial and moral support. They gave Aiden a Heart Kids NZ package that included a bear and came in regularly to check in with Aiden and to see how John was going. Surviving on a benefit and keeping the family going back in Oxford near Christchurch was tough, and he said the Countdown vouchers Heart Kids supplied so he could buy food were a great help. “The ladies from Heart Kids NZ were actually amazing and they understood the situation ... every so often they would pop in with coffee vouchers as well.”

Back in Oxford their Heart Kids community taituarā, Claire, has also been a lifeline. “We were getting so many ambulances from Oxford. It was costing around \$95 a visit. The bill was horrendous.” John says Heart Kids set them up with St John with a plan for ambulance rides and also helping ensure Aiden has the emergency care he needs when they call an ambulance. Having that for him has actually made a huge difference.

John says Claire often pops by with cakes and has a cuppa with them to check in and see how they are going. “Even without even asking, Heart Kids NZ just showed up and said we’re here. What do you need?” It’s also given him great piece of mind knowing Claire will visit Tash when he is taking care of Aiden in hospital. “She checks in with Tash every so often just to make sure she’s okay as well. She’s been really connected with the family.”

Having the help from Heart Kids NZ has meant the family can stay together and he hasn’t had to shift to Christchurch so he and Aiden can be closer to the hospital. “Heart Kids have kept us together,” John says. “Heart Kids to us is family. Without Heart Kids I don’t think we would be where we are now.”



# Hopuni Camp

In 2023, Heart Kids NZ held its annual Heart Kids NZ Camp simultaneously in two locations for the first time, Woodend Christian Camp in Canterbury and Carey Park in Auckland. After two years of no camp due to the pandemic, the camps were eagerly anticipated by heart kids and teens aged 8-18, who were eager to connect with other kids who share similar experiences and push themselves to try new things.

The special camps provide a safe environment for heart kids to come together and enjoy a range of activities, including sports, arts and crafts, and outdoor adventures. The camps are designed to help kids build confidence, develop new skills, and make lasting connections with others who understand what it's like to live with a heart condition.

This year's camps were a huge success, with 114 heart kids and teens attending camp. Campers were supported by a team of dedicated volunteers, including doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals, who were on hand to provide any necessary medical support.

One of the highlights of this year's camps was the opportunity for kids to try new

activities, such as archery, rock climbing, kayaking, ziplining and go-karting. For many of the kids, these activities were a chance to push themselves outside of their comfort zones and experience the thrill of trying something new. Our Ambassador Matt Johnson visited both camps and was highly inspirational in his messaging to campers.

Camps are an important part of Heart Kids NZ's mission to support heart kids and their families across Aotearoa. By providing a safe and supportive environment for heart kids to come together, the camps help to build a sense of community and reduce the isolation that many heart kids and their families feel.



*Supporting Heart Kids through life*





# Heart Kids NZ Vision, Mission, Purpose, Values

## Vision

All people affected by congenital heart disease and heart disease acquired during childhood (CHD) will feel fully supported, connected, informed and hopeful for the future.

## Values

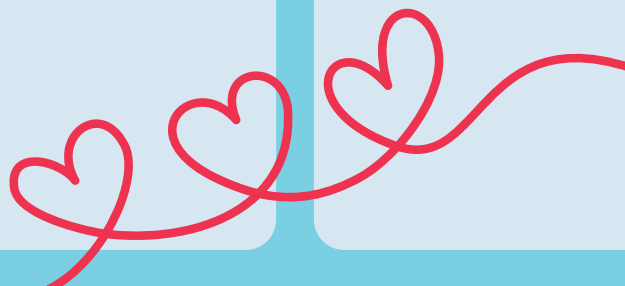
- Heart children and their families first
- Respect with compassion
- Education and empowerment
- Integrity at all times
- Passionate and professional
- Commitment to success

## Mission

Our mission is to provide lifelong support for all affected by the world's most common birth difference or heart disease acquired during childhood.

## Purpose

Heart Kids NZ is the compass to help our members and their families and whānau navigate their heart journey throughout life.



# Pūrākau Ā-Manawa

## Heart Story

### Ariana

Ariana Hoko is a fighter, says her mum, Fran. “She’s got this attitude like, no matter how hard I get knocked down, I’m going to come back swinging.” The 8-year-old from Te Awamutu is a strong-willed and sociable child who knows what she wants, Fran says. “She loves being amongst the action, and being the centre of attention.” That means taking an active part in kapa haka, rugby tournaments, and community events like the colour run.

It was at Fran’s 20 week scan that doctors told her something wasn’t quite right. Tests at Auckland Hospital showed Ariana’s heart wasn’t developing as it should, but the full extent of the problems weren’t clear, Fran says. It was a stressful time for the family. Having had miscarriages in the past, and recently lost her sister, the pregnancy felt particularly significant. Ariana was like a blessing, Fran says.

At 28 weeks pregnant, Fran left her Northland home for Starship Hospital. Ariana was born at 36 weeks due to complications, weighing just over 5 pounds. Fran had a few moments of skin-to-skin contact before her tiny baby was whisked away to intensive care.

Ariana’s heart lacked a pulmonary valve, which meant blood wasn’t flowing to her lungs properly. At 7 days old, she had heart surgery to create a new connection in her heart. It was very scary, Fran says. “I’d never gone through anything like that before. It was a worrying time, especially with Ariana being so little.”

The surgery was the first of four Ariana would endure over the next seven years. Having seen other families go through similar or worse, Fran is philosophical about their journey. “You meet so many families, going through their own battles, it becomes normal.”

Ariana will need more medical interventions in the future – a stent replacement, a repair on her “large and leaky” aorta – but for now, she’s thriving. After her last surgery in 2021, she finally began to put on weight, Fran says. That’s a really good thing for her, a big strong body will help her cope.



Fran hopes Ariana’s improved health will help her ward off the winter bugs that have hospitalised her each year. After picking up a superbug following one of her early surgeries, the young girl has been dogged by respiratory problems.

It’s been a long, difficult journey but the family has made it work, Fran says. And things are getting easier for her strong, determined little girl, who’s now well enough to stay with her cousins and lead an active life. She’s starting to be able to enjoy life, she’s living to the fullest.

Heart Kids has been there for Ariana and her family since the early days, Fran says. They’ve been really helpful and supportive. They let you know about things you didn’t know about. You just think, she’s sick, we’ll go to hospital, you don’t think about all the extra stuff on top.

Having people willing to help, and to lighten the load with supplies, cooked meals and moral support has been invaluable, Fran says. And as Ariana becomes more aware of her unique experiences, she’s finding her own support through the Heart Kids network. The network has been really cool. Connecting the children allows them to talk with other kids and see what they have got going on with their hearts; it’s just normal. They don’t have to feel like they’re different.



# Ō Mātou Kaitautoko

## Our Supporters



### Community Heart Heroes

Alan & Hazel Kerr  
 Ans Traders Limited t/a St Heliers  
 Autism NZ  
 Beca  
 Catalytic Foundation  
 Circus Quirkus  
 EBOS Healthcare  
 Fit Collective Gym, Wanaka  
 Good Bitches Baking  
 Hornby Chipmunks  
 Kensway Consultants  
 Kiwi Property  
 Lynmall  
 Mitre 10 Papanui  
 Punky Brewster  
 Raeward Fresh Café  
 Rapid Relief Team  
 Remuera Bakers  
 Robert Harris Café Rolleston and Ashburton  
 Rockwell  
 Templeton Golf Course  
 The Plains Railway and Historical Museum  
 Urban Corner Café  
 Willowbank  
 Z Energy

### Celebrity Ambassadors

Tom Abercrombie  
 Ben Barrington  
 Roger Farrely  
 Matt Johnson  
 Hayden Paddon

### Child Ambassadors

Ryan Howden  
 Leighton Leeward  
 Malaika Rossoman



### Community Fundraisers

AGC Parnell Collage  
 Andrew Mouat  
 Andrew Neru:  
 Driven by Dirt  
 Ben Hunt  
 Chloe and Tim Bryce  
 Eli Conroy NFTEES  
 Fanga Dan  
 Huntly  
 International Speedway  
 Jacob Smith  
 Kokpit Media  
 Little Thoughts  
 Nelson Speedway  
 New Zealand Rotary Racing Enthusiasts  
 Paddon Racing Group  
 Pete's Natural  
 Ruapuna Speedway  
 Sam Wallace  
 Sarah Walker  
 Simon Evans  
 Skylar and Lexi Clayton  
 Stephen McIvor  
 Vaughan Smith  
 William Waiirua  
 Zierra Gorinski





## Key Supporters

Banqer  
 Boulcotts Farm Golf Course  
 Bunnings  
 Coalface Consulting  
 Coca-Cola Europacific  
 Consult Recruitment  
 Colin and Lisa Chapman  
 Corporate Challenge  
 Daniel Higgins, Hirock  
 Denton's  
 Food and Grocery Council  
 Globox  
 MediaWorks  
 Nielson  
 NZ Breakers  
 NZ Lottery Grants Board  
 NZ Toy Distributors Association  
 Pathfinder  
 Paul and Liz Blackwell  
 Supercheap Auto  
 The Costume Studio  
 Wynn Williams  
 360 Logistics

## Trusts & Foundations

Bay Trust  
 Bendigo Valley Sports and Charity Foundation  
 Blue Sky Community Trust  
 CAF America  
 Catalytic Foundation  
 Christchurch Casinos Charitable Community Trust  
 David Ellison Charitable Trust  
 Dunedin Casino Charitable Trust  
 Dunedin City Council  
 DV Bryant Trust  
 Foundation North  
 Four Winds Foundation  
 Grassroots Trust  
 Grassroots Trust Central  
 John Illot Charitable Trust  
 Kapiti Coast District Council  
 Kiwi Gaming Foundation  
 Lindsay Foundation  
 Maurice Paykel Charitable Trust  
 Newman's Own Foundation  
 Nikau Foundation  
 North and South Trust  
 Oxford Sports Trust  
 Pro Care Foundation  
 Rātā Foundation  
 Royston Health Trust  
 Sargood Bequest  
 TECT  
 The Lion Foundation  
 T G Macarthy Trust  
 TOI Foundation  
 Top of the South Community Foundation  
 Waikato WDFK Karamu Trust  
 WEL Energy Trust  
 Wellington Children's Foundation





# Kupu Mai I Ā Mātou Mema

## Words From Our Members

Heart Kids NZ were instrumental in keeping me going to keep him going."  
*John, Oxford*

"Just seeing them moving around the ward and giving vouchers out for different things and just being alongside and checking on the well-being of the parents and being an encouragement was amazing."  
*Petra, Christchurch*

"When Heart Kids NZ entered our life, it was exactly what our family needed. From the first phone call, to having our local family support worker come into our home and offer the essence of what we feel Heart Kids is - care, empathy, and compassion."  
*Rebecca, Dunedin*

"Ever since our daughter had her first open heart surgery when she was three months old, Heart Kids has been there for us, providing support whenever we have needed it. For Aaleeya, being able to spend time with other kids who understand what it's like to have a heart condition is invaluable. Through Heart Kids we have all made life-long friendships and connections that have become an integral part of our lives and essential to our family's well-being."  
*Carlee, Otago*

"Heart Kids provided regular contact, support and connection during a time in our life when we were really struggling to cope with the numerous surgeries our beautiful son was having to go through. Knowing there were people whose job was solely to give us support and provide us with small but perfectly timed acts of kindness and care was invaluable. We are so grateful for the support Heart Kids provides."  
*Bronwen, Otago*

"Heart Kids NZ were just amazing we had support from basically day one with Blakely. They contacted me as soon as I found out about Blakely. They were so supportive. I had millions of conversations with them about what to do, and just lots of support and so much support once she passed away as well."  
*Emma, Canterbury*



# **Pārongo Paearu, Tahua 2022-2023** **Performance And Financial Statements**





# Summary Financial Statements

Heart Kids New Zealand Incorporated for the year ended  
30 November 2023

## Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year ended 30 November 2023

	2023	2022
Revenue from Operations and other Income	3,341,899	2,685,667
Total Expenses	3,286,922	3,089,451
Operating surplus/(deficit)	54,977	(403,784)
Finance Income	25,839	10,361
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense</b>	<b>80,816</b>	<b>(393,423)</b>

## Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 November 2023

### Statement of changes in Equity 2021 /2022

	<i>Special Purpose Reserve</i>	<i>Accumulated Revenue and Expense</i>	<i>Total Equity</i>
Balance as at 1 December 2021	38,862	2,071,211	2,110,073
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	-	(393,423)	(393,423)
Net funds received (spent) for Special Purpose Reserve	(2,697)	-	(2,697)
<b>Balance as at 30 November 2022</b>	<b>36,165</b>	<b>1,677,788</b>	<b>1,713,953</b>

### Statement of changes in Equity 2022 /2023

Balance as at 1 December 2022	36,165	1,677,788	1,713,953
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	-	80,816	80,816
Net funds received (spent) for Special Purpose Reserve	239,145	(239,145)	-
<b>Balance as at 30 November 2023</b>	<b>275,310</b>	<b>1,519,459</b>	<b>1,794,769</b>

## Statement of Financial Position as at 30 November 2023

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Current Assets	2,028,530	1,985,468
Non-Current Assets	128,713	125,403
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,157,243</b>	<b>2,110,871</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Current Liabilities	362,474	396,919
Total Liabilities	362,474	396,919
<b>Net Assets/Equity</b>	<b>1,794,769</b>	<b>1,713,953</b>





**Statement of Cash Flows  
for the year ended 30 November 2023**

	2023	2022
Net Cash inflows/(outflows) from Operating Activities	(46,521)	(440,398)
Net Cash outflows from Investing Activities	(109,030)	(111,006)
Net increase/(decrease) in Cash Equivalents	(155,551)	(551,404)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,384,784	1,936,188
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>1,229,233</b>	<b>1,384,784</b>

These summary financial statements have been extracted from the full financial statements. They comply with Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (PBE Standards RDR) as they relate to summary financial statements. All figures are in NZ\$.

The full financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 15 April 2024

The full financial statements have been prepared in accordance with PBE Standards RDR and they comply in full with those Standards.

The summary financial statements do not include all the disclosures provided in the full financial statements and cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full financial statements. The full financial statements have been audited and an unmodified opinion was expressed over all periods presented in these summary financial statements.

A full set of the audited financial statements is available on our website: [www.heartkids.org.nz](http://www.heartkids.org.nz) (ph. 0800 543 943).





# Report of the Independent Auditor on the summary financial statements

To the Members of Heart Kids New Zealand Incorporated

## Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 November 2023, the summary statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, summary statement of changes in equity and summary statement of cash flows for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of Heart Kids New Zealand Incorporated ("the Society") for the year ended 30 November 2023.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements, in accordance with PBE FRS-43: *Summary Financial Statements* issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

## Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime ("PBE Standards RDR"). Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

## The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated 15 April 2024

## Officers' Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The Officers are responsible on behalf of the Society for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with PBE FRS-43: *Summary Financial Statements*.

## Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISA (NZ)) 810 (Revised), *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Society.

*BDO Hawke's Bay*

BDO Hawke's Bay  
Napier New Zealand  
14 May 2024



# Thank You

## To All Our Donors and Volunteers

**We couldn't have done it without your generous support .**

### JOIN US

If you are interested in joining our valued team of community or corporate heart heroes, then we would love to hear from you!  
Contact: [fundraising@heartkids.org.nz](mailto:fundraising@heartkids.org.nz)

### DONATE

You can become a regular giver or make a one-off donation into our ASB bank account.  
Account name: **Heart Kids NZ**  
Account number: **12-3209-0368133-00**  
Or online: **[heartkids.org.nz/donate](https://heartkids.org.nz/donate)**



*Supporting Heart Kids through life*



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 [www.heartkids.org.nz](http://www.heartkids.org.nz)

 **PO Box 108 034 Newmarket, Auckland 1149**

 **0800 543 943**