

What's Been Happening at The Mission? A lot!

2019 - 2021

ANNUAL REVIEW

Photo: Murray Edridge, Wellington City Missioner and Kura Wanikau-Tahana-Tūroa (Uenuku, Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Porou and Ngāpuhi) outside Te Pā Pori, our supported transitional housing facility in central Wellington.

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FROM OUR CITY MISSIONER & BOARD CHAIR

As we reflect back on the three years of 2019 – 2021, we might rightfully conclude that there have been few periods in our history that have been as tumultuous and life-changing as this one.

Throughout the world, the arrival of Covid-19 has defined a new way of being and introduced new challenges for individuals, whānau, businesses, communities, and countries that are almost unprecedented.

The Wellington City Mission has been serving the people of the Wellington region for 118 years, following its establishment in 1904. We have only been able to remain relevant for that time because of our willingness to change, adapt, and to meet the presenting needs of the community as those needs evolve.

The arrival of Covid-19 in New Zealand coincided with the City Mission's own review of what the community most needed from us and how we could operate in a way that treated all people with dignity, with respect, and without judgement.

We committed to three strategic priorities for the future: Housing, Food, and Volunteering.

This required a larger focus on our Residential services including our Kemp Home and Hospital and our Transitional Housing facilities. We transferred our Alternative Education services to a skilled and specialised provider, and we changed the way we did a number of the things that we were committed to. This included opening our new community lounge (Tā te Manawa) and our new Social Supermarket. These services are all profiled in this document.

We have also become a voice for those that are invisible in our community – advocating for them at both an individual and systemic level, and challenging publicly for those of us that don't need the support of the Mission to think more and care more about those that do.

A significant future focus for the Wellington City Mission is the construction of Whakamaru, a purpose-built new building in Oxford Terrace, Mount Cook. This development is focused on "building community where there is no us and them". In addition to 35 residential apartments, Whakamaru will offer innovative and unique ways for the Mission to connect with the people of the Wellington region and help achieve the objective of facilitating the community to care for itself. A significant portion of the funds needed for Whakamaru have already been raised and we are deeply appreciative of the support of those for whom the vision for this facility is a compelling one!

Likewise, we could only do what we do throughout the Mission with the generous support of our many donors and supporters. Thank you so much for standing with us to make a difference in the community for those who are doing life tough.

We would also offer our grateful thanks to all those that give their time and energies so selflessly in support of the Wellington City Mission. For our Board of Trustees, our Volunteers, our Staff and all those that work alongside us – thanks and blessings to you.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12



Murray Edridge
Wellington City Missioner



Rev. Darryl Gardiner
Board Chair

A CHANCE TO DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY – DIGNITY OF CHOICE

SOCIAL SUPERMARKET

The Covid-19 pandemic provided an opportunity for us to change how we support those experiencing food insecurity and isolation in our community. We committed to asking the tough questions of ourselves.

"Are we supporting people in the most mana-enhancing way? How could we do better?"

We made some changes. For food support, instead of giving people and families food parcels, we wanted to give those we support the dignity of choice. In March 2021, The Wellington City Mission opened the Social Supermarket. Complete with aisles, trolleys, and a check-out, people were given the opportunity to choose for themselves the grocery items they needed. Through donations from the public, financial support and procurement guidance from New World and Gilmours, we have been able to keep the shelves regularly stocked. Every day, 20 people shop in the Social Supermarket. We also provide food to 61 social agencies across the region for them to distribute in their communities.



TĀ TE MANAWA

The lockdowns of 2020 revealed how vital connection is. This prompted us to make significant changes to our drop-in centre. Instead of offering a soup-kitchen style model, we changed the focus of our drop-in centre from just providing food to providing a sense of community. Renamed Tā te Manawa, our refreshed community lounge provided a cafe style environment with barista coffee and table service. Manuhiri are encouraged to stay and chat with staff and volunteers, enabling meaningful connections. These changes enabled us to find out how we could support those feeling isolated even more.



Pauls Story, The Power of Relationship

"I didn't have a good upbringing; it was horrible actually. I ended up living in my car for 30 years. I developed ongoing bronchitis and had stomach problems that required surgery. I had very little money and mostly kept to myself. I honestly thought there was nothing I could do to change my situation. Then I found The Mission." When Paul started coming to Tā te Manawa, one of our social workers began building a trusting relationship with him. We advocated for his sickness benefit and appropriate housing. Paul loves his home, is part of a community and his health has improved dramatically after receiving the surgery he had needed for so long. Paul is still a regular at Tā te Manawa, mentoring and encouraging other manuhiri."

OPENING DIFFERENT DOORS FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

In 2019, The Wellington City Mission, with funding support from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, began providing Transitional Housing at Kemp Home and Hospital in Titahi Bay Porirua, dedicating the Grace Wing to provide seven units. There were initial concerns around blending the two communities, but what has transpired is a very special multigenerational community, where people of all backgrounds are lifting each other up.

In the same year, The Wellington City Mission took over operation of the historic Britannia House in Petone, providing supported Transitional Housing with funding support from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development. A strategic Community Engagement plan (Murray and Maria knocking on every door in the community!) meant that we received a warm and hopeful welcome. The facility was given the name Te Pā Manawa and using a Tikanga Maori framework, began achieving success very early, as manuhiri re-integrated into the wider community with permanent housing and enriched lives. Te Pā Manawa offers 19 units and continues to be a place of belonging and growth for those experiencing homelessness.

In March 2020, during the Covid-19 Level 4 Lockdown, The Wellington City Mission responded to those experiencing homelessness by operating supported Transitional Housing consisting of 38 self-contained units in the Setup in Manners Street. This was a collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development and Wellington City Council and was named Te Pā Pori. Te Pā Pori, using the same Tikanga Maori framework as Te Pā Manawa, provided a safe and healthy environment for those with no home to go to during lockdown. Staffed 24/7, it provided regular meals, personal support, and security.

In July 2020, The Mission was gifted the building that housed the Wellington Night Shelter in Taranaki Street. Renamed Te Pā Maru, the Mission embedded the Tikanga Maori approach and revolutionised the experience for those who were accessing the service. Te Pā Maru is undergoing extensive renovations and will be complete in mid-2022.

In July 2021, The Wellington City Mission opened another Transitional Housing Facility in the iconic zebra building in Tory Street, central Wellington. Working with the building's owner Alex Cassels, the building became a high spec, fit-for-purpose Transitional Housing facility, consisting of 77 fully refurbished self contained units, four communal areas and six apartments. Manuhiri from the Set Up were the first to move in. This was to be Te Pā Pori new's home. Manuhiri from Te Pā Maru were then welcomed as renovations had began on the ex Wellington Night Shelter.

Te Pā Pori, Te Pā Manawa and the soon to be opened Te Pā Maru form Te Pūnaha Pā. Te Pūnaha Pā is a collective of pā drawing on the principles of Tikanga Maori.



Tanoa, Te Pā Pori manuhiri.

130

130 Manuhiri have found permanent homes since 2019



Matt's Story, A Family Reunited

"As a sole-dad to my two kids, I was struggling financially and I felt isolated. I didn't have people or family around to support me when I needed it. I've had problems with drugs and alcohol since I was young, and that started creeping in more and more. I was devastated when my kids were taken away from me. I went into a downward spiral, and I became homeless." Matt arrived at Te Pā Manawa at the lowest point in his life. One year on, and Matt has a job, is reunited with his children, and they have a home where they are thriving together. "The respect, support and community that I received at Te Pā Manawa helped me build a life worthy of living."

MORE THAN A ROOF

In 2020, manuhiri from Te Pūnaha Pā were invited to participate in a poetry course, held at Te Pā Manawa. The experience was enriching and empowering, with some of our manuhiri having their poems published in *More Than a Roof* – a collection of poems about what home, housing and homelessness means to a wide range of New Zealanders.

Paki Maneana was invited to share his writing experience with the Dominion Post.



THE WELLINGTON CITY MISSION — A POEM BY PAKI

There's a place with care and comfort
Clothes, food and shelter
God bless the generous giver
Business, public, stranger

There's a place for the homeless and poor
Deprived, abandoned, oppressed
They can open many doors
They are our voice in our distress

There's a place with frontline workers
So humble your tortured soul
They will meet you where you're at
They will guide you where you can go

Thank you for the good intentions
For the care of our well-being
To know we had met as strangers
To feel we can leave as friends.

VOLUNTEERS

2019 and 2020 was a period of exceptional growth within our volunteering program. In April 2019 we had 36 volunteers in our foodbank and drop-in centre with more enquiries than we had roles.

In preparation for the predicted growth, in February 2020 we dis-established the "Foodbank Volunteer Coordinator" role and implemented a new role - General Manager of Volunteer Services. This reflected not only the growth of volunteers across our services but also the increased need for and importance of a volunteer services team within our organisation.

The changes made to the drop-in centre in 2020 created numerous new volunteer roles both within the kitchen and with volunteers providing meaningful activities. And the opening of the Social Supermarket created 20 new volunteer roles. By the end of 2021, we had 120 volunteers.

Barry and Gillian, our volunteers in the Social Supermarket.



LOOKING AHEAD

In preparation for Whakamaru, we endeavour to have volunteers across all seven of our sites by the end of 2022; including the recruitment and induction of a large casual volunteer base. Key to achieving this, will be continuing to nurture our relationships with corporate supporters and developing partnerships with local businesses and schools. The next 18 months will be spent focusing on the development of an organisational structure designed to recruit and support the volunteer numbers that will be required at Whakamaru.



Volunteer Adrian Brings Joy to Tā te Manawa

"I work in the kitchen preparing different foods that people like. I love learning recipes and cooking for other people, and it feels good when manuhiri say that they've enjoyed the food. It's fun for me getting to listen to music and chat while I work. I love meeting new people at The Mission. It feels good to be part of my team. It's nice helping to cheer people up who come in too. You see a whole lot of people walk out feeling better than when they came in."

EMPOWERING SUPPORT

A snapshot week shows that the Wellington City Mission supports:

153

153 shoppers in our Social Supermarket

39

39 families with face to face visits from our team of social workers

126

126 people with financial mentoring

86

86 Manuhiri in our supported Transitional Housing facilities across Wellington City, the Hutt Valley and Porirua.

WHAKAMARU – BUILDING A COMMUNITY WHERE THERE IS NO 'US AND THEM'.

"Whakamaru will be a lifechanging intervention; for the people who need the services, but more so for the people who come to help."

In November 2018, The Wellington City Mission purchased 4-7 Oxford Terrace in Mount Cook. The vision was to create a facility that would change the way the community cared for itself. The building was to be the new home of the Wellington City Mission, but it would also be a community hub, with residential apartments for supported living, a community café, a conference centre, and a medical centre. Here the community would be invited to come together and participate in the new ways of caring for each other. The building was given the name "Whakamaru" by mana whenua, which means "to shelter, to safeguard, and to protect" and fundraising for the project began.

The vision hasn't changed, but the building has. In August 2021, the chosen building contractors Naylor Love advised that a full demolition and rebuild would save significant time and costs. That was agreed upon and demolition began in October 2021. Construction on the new building has begun. Whakamaru, which seeks to diminish social barriers and create an inclusive community where there is no 'us and them', will open its doors in 2023.

FUNDING FOR WHAKAMARU

We are raising up to \$40 million to build Whakamaru. We have received the following funding:

Government "Shovel Ready" funding:
\$15 million

Sale of City Mission buildings in Newtown:
\$3 million

Wellington City Council:
\$500,000

Anglican Diocese of Wellington:
\$500,000

Individuals, companies and trusts:
\$11,058,591



OUR MISSION

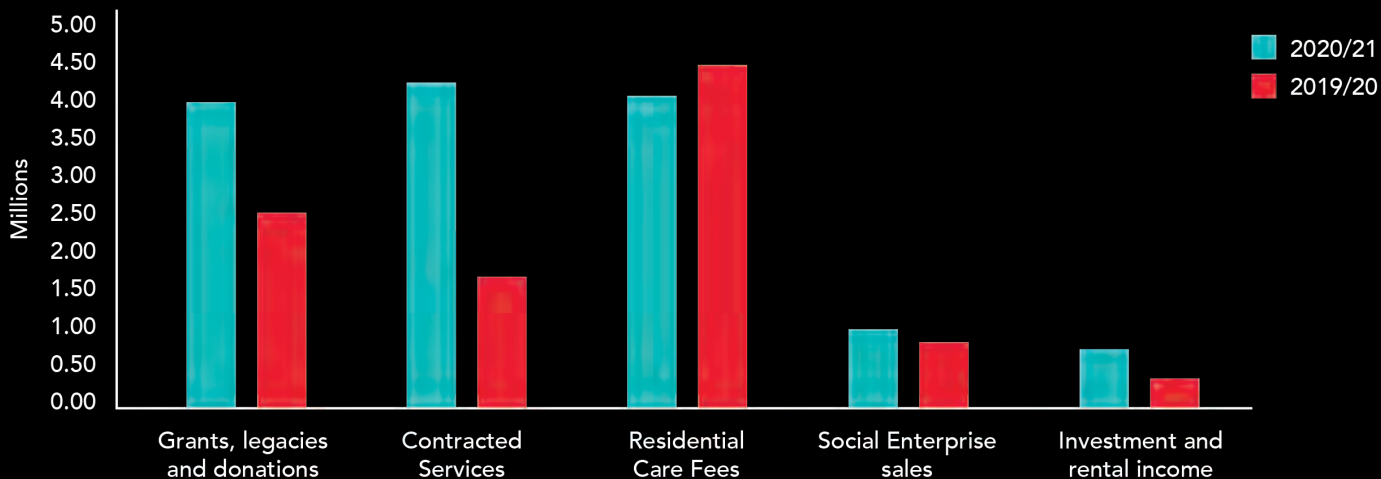
VISION

People and communities empowered, transformed, experiencing fullness of life.

PURPOSE

Centred on Christ's compassion, we seek to achieve fullness of life for those who are at risk or struggling in the Greater Wellington Region.

OPERATIONAL INCOME



Full financial reports from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2021 can be obtained from the Wellington City Mission

WITH THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING CHARITABLE TRUSTS

- Abbvie Ltd
- Aileen Drewitt Charitable Trust
- Air Rescue Services Ltd
- Anglican Care Network
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- EM Pharazyn Trust
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- Four Winds Foundation
- Hilda Curtis Charitable Trust
- Hope Centre Trust
- Hutt Mana Charitable Trust
- Jack Jeffs Charitable Trust
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- John Tristram Memorial Trust
- Kaha Trust
- Maurice Hughes Downer Trust

- McSyth Charitable Foundation
- Mokoia Masonic Perpetual Trust
- Morris & Mary Evans Charitable Trust
- Myrtle Charitable Trust
- Newman's Own Foundation
- New Zealand Community Trust
- New Zealand Lottery Grants Board
- Nikau Foundation
- Nuku Ora (Sport Wellington)
- One Foundation
- Pelorus Trust
- Royal Society Te Aparangi
- Safar Trust
- Siete Manos Charitable Trust
- Simplicity Charitable Trust
- St Joans Charitable Trust
- St Johns in the City Presbyterian Church
- Strathmore Park Community Centre Trust
- Sustainability Trust
- Tai Shan Foundation
- Tax Management NZ Ltd
- Tennent Family Charitable Trust
- The Caremongering Funds
- The Gift Trust
- The Lion Foundation
- The Margaret Ann Tibbles Charitable Trust

- The NZ railways Staff Welfare Trust
- The Norman Francis Paton Charitable Trust
- The Paddy Brow Charitable Trust
- The Roy & Jan Mace Charitable Trust
- The Tindall Foundation
- The Wilks Charitable Trust
- Thomas George Macarthy Trust
- Trust House Foundation
- Vavasour Charitable Trust
- Walter and Rana Norwood Charitable Trust
- Wellington Community Trust
- Wilberforce Trust
- Winton and Margaret Bear Charitable Trust

LOCAL & CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

- Crown Forestry Rental Trust
- Hutt City Council
- Ministry of Social Development
- Wellington City Council