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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CAREY EWING

Hello and welcome back spring!

After a long, wet and flu-loaded winter which has badly affected our Horizons OSCAR and affordable counselling service, the team at Te Whare Awhero (Hope House) is ready to enjoy the growing warmth of spring.

Building on our first report into the value of a long-term support model for isolated struggling whānau, we are now well under way with a second report, looking at what enables whānau in the Hei Hei/Broomfield communities to be able to thrive. This report is made up of interviews with residents living in these communities, drawing from their firsthand experiences of living there. We are seeking to understand what is working well and what are the challenges they are facing. This report, due to be released at the end of October will feed into our proposed longitudinal whānau support project, ensuring that our response is grounded in the collective knowledge of the community.

A happy by-product of this process is that I have been able to meet many wonderful people, living and caring for their local community. They share a deep commitment and passion for each other which has been inspiring to witness. We look forward to partnering with many of them in advancing our shared mission of Bringing Hope to those in need.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT IN HORNBY

Nicky Ewing is the newest addition to the Te Whare Awhero (Hope House) team, stepping into the shoes of the Community Support worker role after Ingrid Daff (who is now in the Whānau Worker role). Nicky has spent the early years of her career as a primary school teacher, followed by being a mum to three daughters, and then as a Pastoral Care Coordinator for Riccarton Community Church.

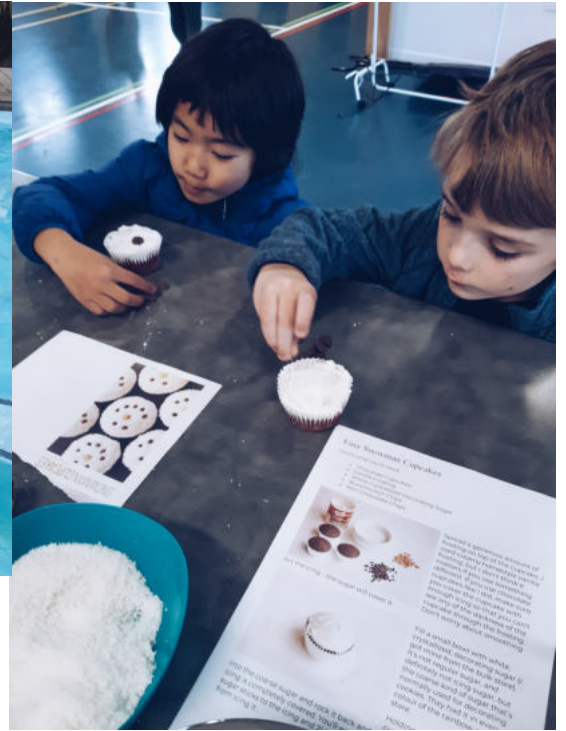
Since her start with community support work, Nicky has been experiencing the sense of community that we have here in Hornby, discovering how the various groups and organisations here all work together for the common purpose of supporting our local people and community.

Nicky commented, *“we’ve all got these skills, how can we come alongside [our community]? How can we work together?”*

She finds it so encouraging to see the desire and passion of the Hornby community to support others.

Following her start with the role, Nicky has connected with a struggling parent through Horizons OSCAR. They were feeling isolated and hadn’t had an easy journey but through her role, Nicky was able to offer a listening ear so the parent can share their troubles without feeling judgement. She was also able to provide practical support and information to guide them in their way ahead.

When asked why she does her work, Nicky responds with her love for people, walking alongside someone to listen, to help and to offer support. *“It’s hard to put it into words when it’s something that feels natural for me to do.”*



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN WITH OUR CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FUND

During the July school holidays, children enrolled in the Horizons OSCAR Holiday programmes enjoyed a variety of fun activities. They bounced around on the trampolines and went gliding on the ice skating rink at MoveX. They also had a dip at the He Puna Taimoana hot pools in New Brighton, and spent a day building lego into awesome creations with House of Bricks.

At Horizons OSCAR, we believe all children deserve to play and have fun with their peers to build positive memories as they grow up. For many families struggling financially, it can be very difficult to give their children the opportunities that others take for granted.

Through our Horizons OSCAR Creating Opportunities Fund, we have been able to support families so their children can participate in our programme. We love to find ways to help everyone to be a part of the fun as our mission is to bring hope in our local community.

Gilberthorpe School's Penny Osborne nominated two children for the July school holiday programme. With the help of our Creating Opportunities Fund, they were able to spend their school holidays having new experiences and trying out lots of fun activities.

"[T]hey are lovely children, always wanting to help when and how they can. [These two children] don't have a privileged home life, as some students do and I know mum struggles but she absolutely does her best (...) Through school outings we have had or events within the school, they are always so excited to be a part of them. I also liked the idea of [the children] mixing with other students and having the chance to establish friendships [which] would be invaluable for them as well."

- Penny Osborne, Executive Officer, Gilberthorpe School

On attending the Holiday programme, one of the children expressed, "I liked that they had lots of different activities for us to do. My favourite was making icicles." Horizons OSCAR is very glad they were able to come and be a part of the fun!

For the October school holidays, there are some great adventures planned. These include a day at the Botanical Gardens, ten-pin bowling and heading to the Willowbank Wildlife Reserve for some animal spotting. To learn more and to enrol your child, head to: horizonsoscar.net.nz

SUPPORT US



Purchase goods or a service through Upstream, nominate us as your Good Cause and support us in our work of strengthening the wellbeing of young people!
Learn more at upstream.co.nz

Use our services

If you or a loved one needs a counsellor and can pay at the standard price of \$120 per session, this will allow us to provide sessions to others in need at discounted prices. Alternatively, consider making use of Horizons OSCAR's Before School, After School and Holiday childcare programmes.

tewhareawhero.org

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I'm proud to be a
Hornby Champion

TE WHARE AWHERO



Become a Hornby Champion

Support our work in the community, including the development of a long-term family support model for struggling families. Your monthly sponsorship will support us to bring Hope to the Greater Hornby communities.
Learn more at hopechampion.nz

Volunteer

We need a volunteer Van driver for Horizons OSCAR, either on the morning or afternoon runs. We also need volunteers at Gilberthorpe School to support children with reading recovery and other similar activities.



TE WHARE AWHERO
Hope House