

# 2022 Annual Report CANCER SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND Whanganui-Rangitikei-Waimarino Centre



# **Chairperson's Report**



As I reflect on the events over the last year and think of what has happened, I am able to say it's been another year of adventures.

There's been different variances of Covid-19; different lock down levels then the upheaval of traffic light systems; cancellations and changes on how events can be run or even started.

So, in my opinion Covid-19 has caused havoc

with our operational and fundraising efforts. But overall and despite the challenges, what a year this one has been with what has been achieved.

The continued increased use of the Cancer Society services has been exceptional for this time. We have seen the ever-increasing demand and use of the centre grow again; it has been a very busy centre of operations, whether opened to the public or not.

Despite these challenges all of the staff have again been outstanding; they achieve very highly in getting the Cancer Society recognised throughout our region. Our staff members are ably assisted by all of you, our cherished volunteers. Whom without you all, what is required would never be completed. I need to thank you all for the loyalty shown, as volunteers throughout our region and the rural areas. It is to be highly commended.

We have had some changes in the centre staff and I wish to convey thanks to those who have left our team for their time and efforts in their respective roles for our centre.

I must take this opportunity to welcome the new centre staff members being Cassie and Sophie. I hope your stay with the Cancer Society will be long, beneficial and enjoyable for us all. To our other staff members Kerri, Theresa, Rachel and Jane, you all are the leaders in what you do in your individual roles and I thank you for everything you achieve for the Cancer Society.

To all of the businesses and individuals who have maintained their partnerships with the Cancer Society, I offer my sincere gratitude for your continued support. I must acknowledge those new businesses and partners who have come on board. May we have a long and meaningful relationship. Your continued assistance has allowed us to achieve the majority of goals that were set in place for the year.

Last but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the executive for all of the work and support that they have contributed over the past 12 months.

As I mentioned last year, we have now had a huge number of meetings on the national structure of the Cancer Society, we wait to see how this will have an impact on the governance and structure of the Cancer Society throughout New Zealand.

Graeme Baker, QSM

150 new client referrals were received in the past financial year.

## **Centre Report**

The past financial year was again challenging thanks to the presence of Covid-19. Lock downs and the introduction of the traffic light system meant our staff and volunteers faced untold challenges in providing our services to cancer clients throughout the region. But despite this they continued to offer unwavering support, even if it did look slightly different to how we're used to.

Our fundraising efforts responded nimbly throughout the year to social distancing and gathering changes, our volunteers stepped up and selflessly gave of their time, putting their own safety ahead of others. We are so grateful and proud of all our volunteers who do an immense amount of work in the community on our behalf.

#### Supportive Care

We received 150 new referrals on top of the clients and whānau that were already being actively supported.

However with lockdowns and office closures, some services and programmes were halted for a time unless available by Zoom. Many Supportive Care services moved online with video conferencing and more phone calls taking the place of face to face support.

The increased relationships with the hospital and medical centre personnel are also beginning to mean more referrals proving the value of our work and support for clients. Our referrals are up to 50% self-referrals proving that our community reputation is gaining ground.

The increase in clients and catching up after the office closure and reduction of services has been such that we continue with two-days per week for massages in the Whanganui Centre. Two of the three rural centres don't have a current masseuse though negotiations are happening.

We managed to hold one of the three scheduled Look Good Feel Better sessions. We now offer four classes per year, and have held a training day (via Zoom) for the volunteers.



It was disappointing when Daffodil Day fell during level 4 lockdown in August 2021, but Kaysha, grandaughter of Theresa Webster, our Volunteer & Transport Coordinator recorded a message on Facebook encouraging people to continue to support Daffodil Day by creating Daffodil artwork and placing it in their windows



Volunteer Margaret, left with Supportive Care Coordinator Kerri Dewson-Pratt at a morning tea in Raetihi, celebrating the work of our volunteers.

Increased presence in the rural areas of our new Health Promotion and Fundraising and Event staff has resulted in the extension of support to clients by way of acknowledgement and inclusion in rural spaces. We continue to receive support from all the communities across the Whanganui-Rangitikei-Waimarino region, a big thank you to all our local volunteers and supporters for their contributions.

Monthly clinics resumed in Raetihi, Ohakune, Taihape and Marton after lockdown/centre closures, enabling residents of these areas to access the Cancer Society in their own locale. Regular attendance at the local networking groups increases relationship with local services and regional providers.

The Living Well With And Beyond Cancer workshop became another victim of Covid-19 though we are aiming to reinstate this in the current financial year. The Mens' Group continue to meet monthly and have also extended their meeting to include an exercise group at a different time.

Sam Davis as a 4<sup>th</sup> year Social Work student

through Massey completed her final (4<sup>th</sup> year) placement with us. She was a wonderful asset and we all enjoyed her relaxed and easy manner. We wish her all the best for her social work career.

#### Cancer Prevention/Health Promotion

The past six months have had a focus on building strong networks and gaining a greater presence within our community.

Secondary and primary/intermediate school panuis (newsletters) have been a regular addition as a way to keep our schools up to date on what is happening locally and nationally within the Cancer Society and ensuing they are aware of the resources we provide to help support the wellbeing of our communities. This space is also used to support the kaupapa of other health organisations in the area and national campaigns.

SunSmart and UV harm reduction is always a priority. In the past six months there have been eight schools accredited or reaccredited as SunSmart schools. The community has also continued to utilize our sunscreen and gazebo loan.

In March, the Four Regions Trust approved a grant application towards new gazebos for sun protection. This generous donation of \$5000, is greatly appreciated and will be used to improve these resources with the aim to increase their use and make the service more easily available for our rural communities.

Tobacco and alcohol harm reduction are other top priorities for the Cancer Society, due to their use significantly increasing the risks for several forms of cancer. They are also at the forefront of many other organisations due to their multifaceted and inequitable impact across society.

In December the Ministry of Health released the groundbreaking Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 action plan with data showing that communities around Aotearoa are strongly supportive of the Smokefree 2025 goal.

The Cancer Society endorses all measures outlined in the plan and will be calling on our

communities for support when the government opens this up for submissions. Our Health Promoter has reached out to multiple organisations within our region such as the Whanganui District Health Board, Nga Tai o Te Awa, Healthy Families Whanganui, Whanganui District Council and local MPs, in order to build strong connections and work collaboratively to increase awareness and to work alongside our communities to gain understanding and ensure their voices are heard.

#### Volunteers

The Whanganui-Rangitikei-Waimarino centre has 258 registered volunteers. This includes both regular and casual volunteers across the region covering a variety of roles.

Last year our volunteer drivers transported 199 clients to 928 appointments, driving just over 130,728 kilometres in Whanganui, Palmerston North and Wellington.

Transport faced a few challenges once the Covid-19 levels changed and we are so grateful to all the drivers old and new who were able to step in and support us throughout that time and continue to do so.

Our Pop Up Shop was once again run by a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers with the help of donated goods from our community.

Although Covid-19 levels meant they could only be open for half the time they have previously they still managed to raise an amazing \$24,000!

We also have a fantastic group of reception volunteers who make sure the team at the centre have the support they need to deliver services to our community.

During our work from home period, some were able to diversify and support us in other ways such as working from home themselves and even providing photography skills for Relay Your Way!

Volunteers are the heart, soul and face of our organisation. The ones who represent us in the community, our dedicated supporters and we appreciate each and every one of them! We simply could not do what we do without them.

#### Fundraising

The Cancer Society relies on fundraising campaigns and community support to carry out the services it provides.

#### Daffodil Day;

This financial year the street appeal was cancelled and the delivery of the Daffodils were delayed as the country was in lockdown. The fresh flowers reached the streets later in September.

The community supported the centre by donating online. The stock sales made \$7,782. Whanganui's Pop Up shop is one of the favourites for the community, this year due to Covid-19 the shop was closed for few weeks, despite this it raised \$23,066.

The total raised from Daffodil Day was \$73,426.

#### Marathon In A Month;

The Marathon In A Month initiative was launched to encourage the community to keep



healthy and raise funds to help people on a journey with cancer. The call to action for participants was to walk, run, bike, swim or skip the distance of a marathon throughout the month of November. The event is for people of all ages and fitness levels, being able to undertake the challenge at a level that suits their abilities with the goal of reaching 42km - the distance of a marathon. The Whanganui community supported this event raising an impressive \$8,323.

#### Relay For Life;

Relay For Life transformed to Relay Your Way for 2022 following a change in Covid-19 traffic light protocol.

There were walks, runs, horse rides, coffee mornings, purple cakes (purple being the Relay colour), purple days at school - all with the aim of supporting Relay Your Way.

The closing ceremony was organised to be held at the Whanaganui Opera House, with the participation of 20 schools who took the opportunity to beautifully decorate candle bags.

The ceremony was live-streamed with the bags lit up making quite the spectacle and perfect time to unite as a community, albeit virtually. \$55,801 was successfully raised.

#### Local/fundraising events;

There has been an increase in the local fundrasing income, this financial year the community supported and raised \$17,458 for the Whanangui Centre, we apprecite every amount gifted.

#### Ngā mihi nui

Our thanks are extended to our dedicated and wonderful volunteers and staff who make the Cancer Society what it is, delivering our services to those in need regardless of circumstances - we couldn't do what we do without them.

We also really apprecaite the continued and loyal backing of ANZ Bank for their unwavering support of the work we do. Our team enjoys

working with branch staff and the relationships they have with them.



Karen Boyce who recevied care and support from the Whanganui Cancer Society is now living well beyond cancer.



Above: Relay Your Way candlebags beautifully adorned the lit up stairs of the Whanganui Opera House. Below; The minimised and streamed candlelight ceremony was recorded from the Whanganui Opera House. The Opera house was lit up with purple lighting, and the haunting tunes of the bagpipes played.



# **Finance Report**

The 2021/2022 year has seen an overall decrease in revenue of approximately \$108,000.

We have seen most income areas reduced due to the impact of Covid-19 throughout this financial year. Bequest income was 40% up on the previous year with donations slightly ahead of last years with special events/local fundraising nearly doubling previous year's results. All other areas were unfortunately down when compared to previous year. Total income was \$375,622.

Expenses this year has seen an increase in costs of about \$24,000. A slight decrease was in the areas of administration, fundraising and volunteers. The main increases were Supportive Care with client travel reimbursements up by \$20,000. Health Promotion costs some \$10,000 ahead of last year now that the vacant position has been filled.

Overall, the Centre's operation targets were achieved and they were able to produce a profit of \$7,000. The centre has some

\$348,000 in the bank and total assets around \$726,000 and will continue on with the services we provide for the betterment of the people who we help with cancer.

Graeme Baker, QSM

Whanganui Treasurer

# **Grants Received**

1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

- Whanganui Community Foundation Volunteering
- Support For Volunteering Fund Volunteering projects
- COGS operating costs
- St Laurence Social Services Trust operational costs
- JBS Dudding Supportive Care costs
- TG Macarthy therapeutic massage

Grant Total: \$39,146



Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Cancer Society. During National Volunteer Week the Whanganui Centre team showed their appreciation for all the work the volunteers undertake. From left, Theresa Webster, Jude O'Dea, Jane Burgess, Sam Davis, Cassie Pui, Rachel Pedley and Kerri Dewson-Pratt.

### Income

Bequests	\$64,875
Investments	\$418
Grants	\$39,146
Donations	\$41,995
Donor Appeals	\$31,003
Special Events	\$33,565
Sundry Income	\$35,391
Relay For Life	\$55,801
Daffodil Day	\$73,426
Total Income	\$375,622

### Expenses

Administration	\$33,195
Health Promotion	\$78,772
Support Services	\$133,534
Volunteers	\$53,845
Fundraising	\$69,197
Total Expenses	\$368,543

Net Surplus \$7,079



### **Bequests**

We are sincerely grateful to those who left bequests. We thank these individuals & families for their generosity.

We acknowledge the estates of: C+V Thrush SL Knox BC Woodhead

Total Bequests: \$64,875

Last year volunteer drivers transported 199 clients to 928 appointments driving more than 130,728km.

# Executive

*Chair:* Graeme Baker

Stuart Hylton Judy Williams Jenny Vickers Marie Baker Kath Pinker

# Staff

Centre Liaison: Jane Burgess

Health Promotion: Cassie Pui Corrine Te Au-Watson (to Nov 2021)

> Fundraising & Events Jude O'Dea (to Nov 2021) Sophie Westacott

Volunteer & Transport Coord: Theresa Webster

Supportive Care Coordinator: Kerri Dewson-Pratt Sam Davis (until July 2021)

> Administration: Rachel Pedley

Rural Coordinators: Katherine Berry Dianne Mickleson Shirley Murray



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Office Hours: Monday- Friday: 8.30-3.30pm Saturday- Sunday: Closed

