

Tui Trust COVID-19 Community Response Project

FOOD PACKS & ESSENTIAL ITEMS

Reaching vulnerable whānau - a United Response

April 2, 2020



Mā tātau
katoa e
ārai atu te
COVID-19

Picture credit: Hamilton Gardens by Arahua Te Rāki

Tui Trust is a Registered Charity CC10123 and governed by the Board of Trustees and supported an administrator. Tui Trust supports ECE Moko Club Ngāruawāhia, ECE Moko Club Huntly and Kōwhai Family Start with up to 109 mostly Māori whānau who live in rural north Waikato, Huntly, Ngāruawāhia and North Hamilton. Tui Trust is supported by Kōwhai a social enterprise company which Oranga Tamariki has identified as an *Essential Service*.

During lockdown Level 3 and 4 our Tui Trust Team, Moko Club Teachers, Family Start Social Workers and Kōwhai Managers are all working remotely from home and communicate with these 109 vulnerable families (anywhere from 1-6 children aged 0-5, parents and grandparents) to assess well-being.

Our Whānau Profile

- Large families living in substandard housing
- High level Intergenerational disadvantage and social welfare
- Lack of transport and reliant on public transportation
- Rural isolation with no access to reliable or public transport
- High level of unemployment and populations in the high-risk health group
- Many are living in poverty prior to this COVID-19 outbreak.

OUR PROPOSAL

Identifying who needs help

Staff in communication with the 109 families on our list and are reporting barriers for whānau to access daily essentials. We have the contact details including phone numbers and address of all whānau identified as vulnerable and need help and for a myriad of reasons unable to connect with other agencies. We had an instance on the first day of lock-down where one of our Kōwhai staff members was called to help and delivered food safely to a desperate family living remotely. The desperation of whānau is increasing and we want to help. We are ready to help.

Working together

A co-ordinated response with Supervalu Parkwood, Countdown, Community House Ngāruawāhia, Nga Miro Health Centre, Waahi Whaanui and Ruakura Hauora we will help with food packs. We will pay for our food packs and organise delivery. On April 7 Countdown announced its 'Basic Box' food pack delivery initiative valued at \$100.00 each, which we can also access. Tui Trust has been granted Priority Assistance Status with both Supervalu Parkwood and Countdown. Our help will extend to essential items outside food.

Distribution

If possible food packs will be picked up by the nominated shopping person from the whānau bubble. If this is not possible we have capacity to pick-up and deliver to utilising a nominated driver and Moko Club Mini Van. Our team are observing the distance protocol and will deliver at the gate/door. The distribution of food parcels also allows the opportunity for COVID-related printed materials to be shared for those without or limited internet access. The Countdown 'Basic Box' packs can be delivered.

Food pack and essential items

Depending on whānau circumstances and stock availability our food parcels will contain but not limited: Baby, infant and child needs (i.e. nappies, formula), flour, sugar, eggs, weetbix, porridge, long-life/powdered milk, bread, spaghetti, baked beans, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo and household hygiene products.

Essential items like blankets, heating (electric/fire), communications, clothing, unexpected items related to the well-being of whānau (i.e. breast-pump) are considered on a case-by-case basis and will be sourced and delivered. The average price of a food pack at Countdown Huntly is \$122.86 each. The *Countdown Basic Box* and *Supervalu Parkwood Basic Box* are \$100 each. We will extend sourcing the food items to other providers if the need arises.

Project Costs

For Tui Trust to operate a Covid-19 Response during this time we will be applying for grants for: 1. Food and essential items and; 2. IT Hardware for our Tui Trust Executive Administrator, Lee Major.

1. We have contact details for 109 whānau that need help, we have staffing, distribution capacity and good connections with our community. For one parcel per whānau, 109 families, based on Countdown Huntly quote we would need \$13,391 incl; or \$10,900 incl for the Countdown Basic Box; or \$10,900 incl for the Supervalu Parkwood Basic Box. Costs may vary subject to availability of products. Other essential items will be quoted as the need arises.
2. To ensure a high standard of productivity Tui Trust will need to update the laptop that Lee was generously gifted just before Lockdown Level 4 to use to work from home. Tui Trust does not have any IT hardware outside the Kōwhai offices. Unit details: Dell 15.6" G2 Intel i7 16GB RAM 512GB SSD laptop \$2,399.00.

How you can help and our responsibilities and commitment

We ask for the opportunity for consideration of any Covid-19 Community Grants you may have available. Alternatively if you would like to make a donation please email lee.major@kowhai.biz for the Tui Trust account details. We are ready to go on this community project, the need is there, and would greatly appreciate consideration. As a group we understand, can and will operate within the COVID-19 Alert Level 4 Restrictions, including the restrictions operating alongside Kōwhai as an Essential Service. We will prepare a report at the conclusion of the Project outlining what we did, we will evidence impact and acknowledge sponsors in our Tui Trust news releases.

Tui Trust Statement 2020

The function of Tui Trust is to *Support the Wellbeing of Children* using a holistic approach, which includes the uplifting of their cultural identity, the alleviation of poverty and a reconnection with the environment. Our function is to interrupt the inter-generational cycle of disadvantage ensuring all children have access to quality education and opportunities. We acknowledge that the Treaty of Waitangi is the founding document of Aotearoa/New Zealand and we are consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We wish everyone all the very best who are working hard during this time to keep our communities safe.

Craig Barrett (Tui Trust Board Chair) Piki Knap and
Fonteyn Moses Te Kani (Board Members) and Lee Major