

Tui Trust responds to soaring demand for food by Lee Major

Welcome to our April 2020 Newsletter and hope that everyone is faring well. We have all seen the heartbreaking sights where hundreds of people are waiting for food parcels, we've seen the demand for food soaring around New Zealand and prediction as the weeks unfold the number of people requiring assistance will likely

To help address this unprecedented need Tui Trust launched the Covid-19 Whānau Support Project on April 2, 2020, during Lockdown Level 4, with the goal to help as many families possible from Hamilton, Ngāruawāhia, Huntly and Taupiri by providing food and essential items.

Covid-19 Whānau Support Project

Working from home our focus remains the same, to ensure the children in our scope have food in their bellies, are safe and know that we care.

In response to our project we received private donations and grants from the Waikato Community Funders Group, D.V. Bryant Trust and The Ministry of Social Development. We are delighted to report that we have distributed food parcels, baby products, firewood, warm clothing, pyjamas, blankets, duvets and health products to over 120 families. Our team are in phone, email and/or FB contact with the families we support to check on their well-being. This means we can provide personalised assistance for miscellaneous essential products whānau are unable to source via the larger community help groups.

The food parcels were made possible with a co-ordinated effort from Tui Trust, Kōwhai staff, Moko Club Kaiako, Family Start social workers and a massive effort from owner the of the Supervalue Parkwood, Manish Takkar and his store manager Ravvish, who worked together under



Pictured above: Kallua and Donna from the Family Start team delivering firewood to whānau in Huntly.

challenging circumstances to ensure food packages were delivered to our whānau as quickly as possible. A special thank you to Asaleo Care for donating Treasures nappies which were distributed along with the food parcels. We really are grateful for everyone's efforts, thank you.

Over the coming weeks and months we are committed to ensure whanau have the support they need—that no one is left behind and as the levels go down we will have the capacity to do more.

We are thankful to D.V. Bryant Trust and Tania Simpson director of Kōwhai for their operational and admin support and all the people and organisations whose contributions allow us to do our mahi.

If you would like to support our operations or projects or know of whanau that need assistance please email lee.major@kowhai.biz. We wish everyone our very best over the coming months.

> Kia Kaha Craig Barrett, Board Chair On behalf of the Tui Trust Board

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