

Welcome to the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Chair's Report for 2017 for The Fifeshire Foundation. Our aim has remained unchanged since the Trust was set up in 1993; to assist people in financial hardship and domestic crisis. As a Board, we are proud of the assistance that we can provide.

## ***Grants and Applications***

In 2016 - 2017 we received 317 applications to the Foundation, an average of 29 applications per Board meeting. Of these 282 were approved in full or in part. In aggregate the Foundation received requests for assistance in the order of \$234,339. We allocated \$138,750 in grants to applicants, which represents a claim approval rate of 59%. In 2016-2017, the average grant given was \$492. In addition to this, the Foundation distributed food vouchers, food and gifts to 280 families for Christmas 2016. In total, we reached out to over 1,700 individuals.

### **Application Summary for 2016-2017**

The table below shows the grant allocations for \$138,750 in the year to 31 March 2017 as well as a comparison to the two previous years. In 2017, grant allocations were up 14% on the previous year even though applications were down 16%. This reflects our reviewed grant allocation process over the two years, resulting in a higher percentage of our applications clearly meeting our criteria and the objects of the Trust.

	<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>
Total amount requested	\$234,339	\$277,335	\$258,985
Total number of applications approved	282	299	348
Total amount granted	\$138,750	\$121,801	\$125,918

The Trust continues to provide timely and practical support to individuals and families in hardship and/or domestic crisis. For example, in 2017 we paid for the following:

***\$15,750 for household items***

***\$15,300 for 51 loads of firewood***

***\$22,900 in food vouchers***

***\$27,650 for critical bills***

***\$25,640 for children's needs***

***\$17,115.75 in dental costs***

For the 2017 - 2018 financial year, we expect to be in a similar position to allocate grants of over \$130,000.

## ***Income***

We are very grateful to receive continuing support from the Johnstone Family Trust, Nelson Honey and Lone Star Farms. We are also fortunate to receive emergency grant support from both Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council. These funds allow us to meet emergency needs of residents throughout our region. In the 2017 year, our reach into the Tasman District doubled and \$40,000 was allocated to Tasman residents.



We sincerely thank Nelson Building Society, The New Zealand King Salmon and the Eastridge Trust for their support. This generous and targeted support allows us to fund our Foundation Manager for approximately 20 hours per week, and this means we can keep up with the growth in applications and their complexities, the queries, financial management, marketing and promotion, ongoing sponsorship work and the facilitation of fundraising events.

For the last two years we have been fortunate to work in partnership with Manuka Street Community Trust who have granted \$35,000 over this period to fund oral health needs of applicants who we know are in serious financial hardship or domestic crisis. We have focussed on addressing health and 'life function', and worked with local dentists and specialists to identify good criteria and principles to guide our dental grants. Our decisions are never easy to make, however, by funding 'first line' or reasonably simple dental issues, we are able to assist more people. By developing close relationships with local dental professionals, we have been able to secure some services at greatly reduced rates thus allowing us to help more people requiring dental work. We thank those dental professionals for their ongoing support. There is a high demand for dentures and the Trust would benefit from having a denture provider joining those who give their time to applicants.

With the success of our targeted dental funding, Manuka Street Community Trust have approached the Foundation to work in collaboration to facilitate charity surgery through the Health Pathways. They have granted \$15,000 to the Foundation for emergency day stay surgery. Applicants will need to meet our criteria with evidence of hardship and domestic crisis, but through this collaboration we will be able to facilitate health care that will be life changing to some applicants. Our thanks to Trustee Ruth Easter for her dedicated work on this initiative.

Individuals and families are choosing to make regular donations to the Trust and we appreciate this support. It is heartening to see growth in the monthly amount committed via APs and this has grown from approximately \$4,200 in 2013-14 to over \$8,861 in 2016-17.

A number of groups and organisations have supported us over the last year with donations to the Foundation. Here are some examples of the support we have received;

- Nelson Model Railway Exhibition \$150
- Funsie Onesie Run \$335
- Richmond Rotary \$4,000
- NCC – Marchfest \$404
- Simplicity Funerals \$205
- AICA \$500

## ***Fundraising***

Our two major fundraisers for this year were the Big Give and the Annual Golf Tournament.

### **1. The Big Give – December 2016**

'The Big Give' was again a success and Mediaworks were instrumental in driving this initiative where we collected new gifts, food and cash with the support of local businesses, schools and families. Nelson Building Society again provided drop-off points for gifts and Milestone Homes provided a giving tree in Richmond Mall as well as pick-ups from schools. The result was overwhelming, with enough food, \$50 Countdown vouchers and gift parcels to go to over 280 families that we had identified as high needs from throughout 2016.

## **2. Annual Charity Golf Tournament and Auction March 2017**

The Golf event was again a successful day and a substantial fundraiser, and we are extremely grateful to the many individuals and businesses who contributed. We raised just on \$30,000 from the event through our auction and team entries. Our main sponsors were once again Nelson Packaging Supplies, while the Nelson Golf Club sponsored the cost of the course, and Insite Windows and Doors covered the costs of the food in the clubhouse. This event was only possible because of the many businesses and organisations that sponsored their team's participation or donated items for golf prizes and the auction. As with the Big Give fundraiser, it was clear to all of us at the Fifeshire Foundation that everyone involved in this event is happy to help and enjoys the knowledge that they can make a difference in their community through their participation.

### ***Strategic Plan***

The Trustees and Foundation Manager continue to review the strategic direction of the Trust and ensure the sustainability of a much-needed organisation that is now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year. With this in mind, we have introduced the concept of establishing endowment funds and will look to how this functions in the coming year.

### ***Reviewed accounts***

Our annual Financial Statements for the 2016-17 financial year have been prepared by Darren Quirk and have been reviewed by Graeme Scarlett. We thank both Darren and Graeme for completing these tasks and a copy of the reviewed accounts are appended to this report.

### ***Our Supporters***

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the team at MediaWorks. MediaWorks have again provided invaluable support and "air time" for the Foundation. In particular, the exposure and promotion in relation to the Big Give campaign significantly increased the profile of the Foundation within the community as well as raising significant funds and donations. We truly appreciate the generosity of your organisation.

The assistance provided by MediaWorks does not end there and once again we thank you for providing regular support for the Foundation Manager, including the assistance provided by their frontline team on reception who field many calls and personal queries on behalf of the Foundation.

Donations in kind were also received and during the year these included;

- Darren Quirk has prepared our annual financial statements
- NZ Community Post for free postage
- Printhouse for printing, in particular our Foundation brochures and golf auction catalogues
- Hothouse for design assistance, the development of an Enews platform and a strategic review of our marketing collateral
- netMaestro for our website
- RWCA for ongoing support to our Foundation Manager in the use of Xero for our accounts, as well as covering the monthly fees

These services and facilities generously provided by these sponsors ensure that every sum donated to the Foundation, is directly paid to applicants and is not consumed in the administration of the



organisation. Without this support we would not be able to achieve this success. We acknowledge and thank you all for your continued and steadfast support.

### ***Trustees***

My thanks to our Trustees for their hard work throughout the year through the monthly application process and meetings, the numerous fundraising activities and ongoing improvements to the Trusts organisation and processes and the development of a strategic plan. As a team, we all bring a variety of skills, strengths and areas of interest. All of our Trustees work hard to improve the outcomes for our applicants, utilising those skills and personal networks. I am honoured to sit alongside such a great team and thank you all for your dedication and the hard work that you undertake on behalf of the Foundation.

We were sorry to lose Kim Proctor-Western this year as she retired due to career commitments and we will miss Kim's input particularly from a legal perspective but we wish her well in her growing career. We were pleased to welcome Jody Maru as a new Trustee representing Motueka and the wider Tasman region. Jody brings a strong skillset and a passion for her region.

At this 2017 AGM we very sadly farewell Mary Lafrentz. Mary has been a Trustee of the Fifeshire Foundation Trust since its inception in 1993 and over 24 years she has worked tirelessly to represent applicants, to work in closely with various agencies and to champion the needs of those less fortunate. We will miss her reminders to walk in the shoes of others, to continue to provide the "hand up", and to strive to help all those that we can in our community.

### ***Fifeshire Foundation Manager***

We wish again to express our gratitude and thanks to Nelson Building Society, The New Zealand King Salmon and Eastridge Trust who pay for our Foundation Manager, Rachel Swarbrick. This arrangement ensures that no donations are spent on costs.

Rachel's contractual performance is the key to allow the Trust to achieve the outcomes that we do. We thank Rachel for her ongoing hard work and dedication to the Foundation and the community that we serve. We are extremely grateful to have her on our team.

### ***Closing***

In closing, I wish to acknowledge again the hard work of all our trustees and our Foundation Manager. With each year the increasing workload of the applications received and the breadth of the issues faced by our applicants has meant there are more demands being placed on individual trustees as well as the Foundation Manager, I thank you for your un-wavering commitment to the objectives of The Fifeshire Foundation. The Foundation can look back with pride over 2016-2017 and what has been achieved for the benefit of the Foundation and the individuals and families we have been able to assist.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Julie Baxendine'.

Julie Baxendine  
Chair, The Fifeshire Foundation