



The Kapiti Community Foodbank Inc

Supporting The Community We Live In

Newsletter June 2024

Increased demand for Foodbank Services.

We have been very busy again for the start of the year with an even greater increase in demand for parcels. The number of clients is up, family sizes are greater and we've seen an increase in new clients and those returning to us after more than a year of not needing assistance. Our daily average to the end of April was 13 families being given food.

We are very fortunate that we live in a community here in Kapiti where people genuinely care and donate either financially or of their excess.

The Fishy Tale



We were the recipients of the fish caught during the National Spearfishing Competition held in February. The competition was affected by weather, preventing part of the spearfishing from taking place and the auction at the end also being cancelled. This has led to the forming of a relationship with the organisers. They have become our champions in terms of providing us with regular deliveries of fish. This is a great option for us to pass on to our clients. We are hoping that this will be ongoing as we have been purchasing meat at retail prices which is something that isn't sustainable. So free fish or at a greatly reduced cost is preferable.

Rotary Young Leadership Awards

On the 25th January our Operations Manager Jill was invited to Kapiti College to speak to a group of young people attending the RYLA (Rotary Young Leadership Award) course. Part of this was judging a baking competition. Jill also spoke to them about the Foodbank mission. They were a very engaged group, and had many questions. It was great to see a group of young people so interested in their communities. The Foodbank was the recipient of the baked goods which we distributed to our clients the following day.

New World Family to Family Promotion

At the beginning of May, New World ran their annual promotion, Family 2 Family. The Foodbank were the lucky recipients of over 281 bags of food, toiletries and essential household items from Kapiti New World. This was almost double on last year's total and a great boost to our stores in a time when our containers were bare.



Christmas 2023

This was a very busy time for us. We had higher client numbers, but also greater donations to help with this. In addition to this we received donations of food from many schools and businesses in the area. Some notable ones: Raumati Beach School; Finman Consulting; Paraparaumu College; Waikanae Funeral Home; Our Lady of Kapiti school, Cutriss Consultants. Voyle & Co who organised a Christmas Gift drive to enable us to provide gifts to our clients. We managed to distribute most of them, with only one box left for 2024.

Voyle & Co who have been prolific supporters also donated 300 Easter Eggs for us to give to clients.

Members of the Nikau Foundation Board came and spent a morning with us as volunteers. Nikau Foundation is a regular contributor of grants to us, so it was a great way for them to see our operations at work.

Christmas Gift Wrapping -Coastlands

We were also given the opportunity to man the gift wrapping station at Coastlands. After a bit of a rocky start we achieved \$8600 from this. We have been offered this again for 2024. We will make sure that we have everything in place and working from the start. There's no reason we can't raise at least \$10000 this year. We will be looking for Volunteers again leading up to the Christmas season so, if you can set time aside to do a shift or two in this cheery environment, please let us know ASAP and we will put you on the list.

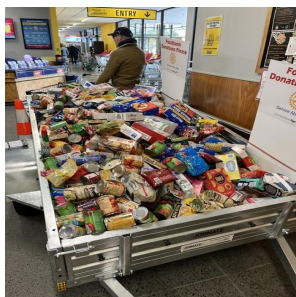
Volunteers



We have said goodbye to some volunteers – Kevin, Adele, Lesley, Helen B and Linda, and hello to others – Joy, Helen K, Annette, Dani and Jai. Our thanks go to those who have moved on.

The dedication, compassion and work done by all volunteers is amazing. **We would not be able to survive without you.**

Rotary Food Drive



This was held on Saturday 25th May. We had lots of volunteers again for this, which is great to see. Once everything was collected from the trailer at Pak n Save, the result was around 354 banana boxes of stock put into the containers. While slightly down on previous years, this was still a great result for us. We also received around \$1400 in cash donations on the day. Thank you to everyone who helped out in the preparation and sorting and packing.

Our Grateful thanks to all who Volunteered!!!



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The Kapiti Community Foodbank Inc**





Board Matters

(A snapshot of the current work of the Board)



The Rotary Club of Kapiti Foodbank Collection

- This being the fourteenth year of this collection, and despite a very cold day with seemingly fewer people out and about, the Kapiti Community responded with 354 boxes of Food and apparently masses of toilet paper. We must not forget also that whenever one of these collections is held, the publicity alerts the public to who the Foodbank is and the work we do. The end result is great benefit to enable us to feed those in need in our community. A huge thanks to all those who Volunteered on the day. Without them, we would not be able to do this work.

Second Workspace

Development of the second workspace to take some of the pressure of the office particularly in times when the Foodbank is extremely busy is under development. A space has been created in the storeroom beside the office and a door through connecting to the office to create egress will be installed. IT equipment was purchased earlier this year to enable the system to work in both spaces.

Profile

Social Media: Our Operations Manager Jill has been consistently using a great Social Media campaign in requesting the most needed items we are short of. This is highly successful not just in gaining needed items but in heightening our profile in the community and letting people know where we are situated in Kapiti.

Pull-up Banners: Earlier this year we purchased two pull-up banners, these too have the QR code in prominent place to enable people to make donations easier. They are a great stand out tool to use at functions to let people know who we are and how to make contact and of course donations.



Re-constructed Website

Our website which is a major tool in communication and fund-raising for the Kapiti Foodbank has been updated. Our Web Master Jean has worked very hard and we now have a QR code which allows people to scan using their smartphone to make donations therefore making the whole process easier.

AFRA - Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance



In recent months we have become members of AFRA. Although they are not essentially a funding source nor, a specific Foodbank supplier, they are a strong group with connections to Government. AFRA have some excellent organisational information and structure that our Foodbank can tap into and excellent peer group support for our staff.

On the 9th and 10th of May our Operations Manager Jill attended an AFRA Regional Hui in Whanganui. The purpose was for members to contribute to the AFRA strategy going forward. AFRA Our Foodbank was the only purely foodbank attending the Hui, but it was a great opportunity as Jill found it to meet people from organisations that could benefit our Foodbank. Through this, Jill was able to re-established a connection with KCA, who have committed to passing on to us their excess of anything that hasn't been donated by supermarkets in the Porirua area. This arrangement has already begun to happen.

The **2024 National Countdown Summit & AFRA National Hui** - which will take place 10th & 11th of September in Auckland will be attended by Jill our Operations Manager and Board Member Kim Lancaster. This Networking event is funded by AFRA and a great opportunity for our Foodbank.

Maintenance

The large sink bench in the kitchen which was situated in an awkward place and much too high for most people to use has been lowered and relocated to make it a more useful workspace which, will improve workspace in the kitchen.

Builder Bill Goodin carried out the relocation and plumbing assisted by Richard Moulton. Bill did not charge us other than he was reimbursed for materials. Matt (Thompson Flooring Ltd) fixed up the floor with no charge. Dave Edwards did the painting.

This generosity demonstrates the willingness amongst tradesmen in the community to show their support for the Foodbank and the work we do.

Eyes on Security

The surveillance company who carry out after hours security inspections for Coastlands have begun service for the Foodbank. This gives us the assurance that the Foodbank is being watched over after hours. There is no cost for the listing but a \$75 call out fee is payable for events.

The Fishy Tale Continued.....



As per page one, The Board are currently investigating the rental of off-site chiller space to be able to receive cost effective and larger supplies of fish for distribution to our clients. If we can purchased fish at a far lesser cost than meat which is a really good source of protein it is worth investigating.

The site we are looking at is secure and has CCTV cover. There is a cost to this however and we are currently looking to secure funding to cover this. This is a work in progress which has come to hand very recently so, we will report on progress.



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