

Community Team

Year in Review 2022/2023





Volunteer Expo - Kaiapoi



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Introduction

Ma tini ma mano ka rapa te whai

Many hands make light work -
Unity is strength.

Our work is to:

- **Engage** with our community so that we can capture its views, imagination, skills, experience and ideas
- **Inform** people about significant relevant issues and opportunities that affect the lives of our residents
- **Connect** people, groups and organisations with others who can help to address those issues and opportunities
- **Encourage** people and organisations to come together and **empower** them with the skills, information and resources they need, collectively translating their ideas into action.

We can then acknowledge and celebrate, with our community, the great work they have done.



Tessa Sturley
Community Team Manager

While this report documents the work of the Waimakariri District Council Community Team, it also celebrates the incredible contribution of the various geographic and ‘of interest’ communities that make up the Waimakariri District. This is a great community in which it is easy to find a bunch of like-minded people together, to roll up their sleeves and get things done. A community where, for example, a contracting company, a mental health provider and a service club work together in an unlikely, but extremely successful context. Such collaboration results in an incredible array of community-led initiatives. This exemplifies the value of collective wisdom, ability and talent.

As a team of Council-based facilitators, our role is not so much to “do stuff”, but more to work with the people from these communities to “make stuff happen”. We are open eyes, listening ears and willing hands to support the community. We can then acknowledge and celebrate, with our community, the great work that they have done.

This report is part of that celebration. We hope that you enjoy seeing all that ‘you’ as a community have achieved, over the 12-month period ending 30 June 2023...with support from us.

Mayor and Chief Executive's Message



Message from the Mayor

The Waimakariri District Council has consistently demonstrated its commitment to community wellbeing through its vision, *“to pursue with the community a high quality physical and social environment, safe communities, and a healthy economy.”*

The Community Team focuses on Community Safety, Community Development, and Youth Development. In line with the Council's vision, they apply a collaborative approach to facilitating stronger, safer, vibrant communities across our District. This report documents the key achievements of the Community Team's work with a variety of partners in the community.

The Waimakariri District Council is proud of these achievements, and we are committed to continuing to make community wellbeing a priority in this District.



Dan Gordon
Mayor



Message from the Chief Executive

I am pleased to endorse this 'Year in Review' report. Its content details the results of the community-led, collaborative work of the Community Team in conjunction with a variety of local and national stakeholders in Community Safety, Community Development and Youth Development.

The documented results show the value of this approach and the outcomes that are possible when community workers, community volunteers, government and non-government agencies and the Council staff all work together on projects that enhance the quality of life for people living in the Waimakariri District.



Jeff Millward
Chief Executive

Overview: “The Waimakariri Way”

Creating and maintaining strong, connected vibrant communities

The Waimakariri District has been accredited to the World Health Organisation approved ‘International Safe Community’ model since 1999, when it was the second community in New Zealand to achieve such status.

The Community Team works under the umbrella of the Waimakariri District Council to facilitate an evidence-based, community-led approach to foster safe, resilient communities so that “Waimakariri is a District where people are thriving.”

Waimakariri District Council Community Development Strategy 2015-2025.

Through its various working parties, project coalitions and steering groups, the Community Team has established and maintains an in-depth working knowledge of the Waimakariri District and the physical, socio-economic and environmental factors that affect the quality of life of our residents. Collaborating with well over 300 community, business, education, government and non-government stakeholders, the Community Team facilitates a community-led approach in community development and community safety.

Benefits of a community-based, facilitated response

Local facilitation is essential. These things don't just happen; they need someone to pull the strings, make the connections and facilitate action. Such functions sit outside the capacity (and often capability) of already stretched service providers.

The facilitator role is:

- To scope the issues and opportunities
- To work with the experts and research proven models, and then apply local knowledge to ensure locally relevant and effective initiatives
- To identify and work with the right partners
- To ensure that the right connections and support mechanisms are in place for local people
- To ensure appropriate reach for resources, education and community supports
- To facilitate evaluation of initiatives, so that we are making a difference, rather than just being well intentioned.



Mental health awareness



Alignment with Council Community Outcomes

This work is an active mechanism for delivery of several aspects of each of Council's four Community Outcomes for the Waimakariri District Council Long Term Plan:

Social : (That the Waimakariri District is) a place where everyone can have a sense of belonging.

- Council commits to promoting health and wellbeing and minimizing the risk of social harm to its communities
- Our community groups are sustainable and able to get the support they need to succeed
- Our community has access to the knowledge and skills needed to participate fully in society and to exercise choice about how to live their lives
- People are able to enjoy meaningful relationships with others in their families, whanau, communities, iwi and workplaces
- Our community has equitable access to the essential infrastructure and services required to support community wellbeing.

Cultural: A place where our people are enabled to thrive and give creative expression to their identity and heritage.

- Public spaces express our cultural identities and help to foster an inclusive society
- The distinctive character of our takiwā / District, arts and heritage are preserved and enhanced
- All members of our community are able to engage in arts, culture and heritage events and activities as participants, consumers, creators or providers
- Waimakariri's diversity is freely expressed, respected and valued
- There is an environment that supports creativity and innovation for all
- Local arts, culture and heritage are able to make a growing contribution to the community and economy.

Accessibility training



Environmental: A place that values and restores our environment.

- Our District is resilient and able to quickly respond to and recover from natural disasters and the effects of climate change
- Our communities are able to access and enjoy natural areas and public spaces.

Economic: A place that is supported by a resilient and innovative economy.

- There is access to meaningful, rewarding, and safe employment within the District
- Our District recognizes the value of both paid and unpaid work
- There are sufficient skills and education opportunities available to support the economy.



Community trailer

Strategic Alignment

Strategic alignment with Regional and Central Government priorities

The alignment of the Waimakariri response with regional strategies and Central Government priorities ensures that wider research and proven resources and models are applied to planning for local responses. It also translates the 'What?', or Central Government Priorities, into action to address those priorities.

This translates into increased reach, as more stakeholders are brought into community-led, collaborative responses. The significant number of partner hours and/or dollars generated translates into a return on funder investment of at least double, in terms of capacity and reach.



Pegasus Networking forum



GLOW - Global Locals of Waimakariri



Dudley Park mural painting

Key Priority Projects 2022/2023

1. Response and Social Recovery from Covid-19 and Civil Defence flood emergencies:
 - Food Secure Project, reducing food poverty through education and accessibility to free, sustainable food sources
 - Kaiapoi Community Hub, creating a welcoming, inclusive vibrant space where people can be empowered through connection, learning and skill-sharing
 - Next Steps Website development, creating an easily accessible link to information about the supports and services available to local residents; particularly in times of crisis.
2. Continued development and delivery of 'On Track' capability and capacity building series for community and voluntary sector groups and agencies.
3. Community safety and wellbeing to support and empower at-risk demographics. This included:
 - Family and relationship violence
 - Suicide prevention, wellbeing and resilience
 - Alcohol and drug harm.
4. Cultural competency, and inclusion and empowerment for ethnic migrants.
5. Social connection and inclusion.
6. Youth Development, including facilitation of:
 - Waimakariri Youth Council
 - WaiYouth Action Groups
 - North Canterbury Youth Services Network
 - Youth Opportunity and Employment.
7. Accessible and age-friendly communities.



Volunteer Expo - Rangiora



English Language classes

2022/2023 Financial Year Results

The following report details a summary of results against Waimakariri Community Development Strategy Performance Measures, along with an overview of key outputs and achievements for the Team over the 2022/2023 financial year against the four strategic goals for the strategy.

Community development strategy 2015 – 2025

- **Mission:** Facilitating stronger, safer, vibrant communities
- **Vision:** Waimakariri is a District where people are thriving
- **Strategic Goals:**
 - to engage
 - to connect
 - to inform
 - to empower

the Waimakariri community.

Population indicator results

These are measures that the work of the Community Team can claim some part of achieving.

Population indicator results				
Goal	Indicator	Benchmark	Target 2025	Result 2022/23
Connect	Percentage of respondent households involved in recreation, arts and cultural, school, church, community, sports or service groups/organisations.	40% (WDC New Dwellings Survey, 2014)	65%	*Note: Change of indicator in the 2019 survey. (see below)
Inform	Percentage of respondent households satisfied with the information about what is going on in the District.	30% (Council Community Survey 2019)	55%	82% (Council Community Survey 2019)
Goal	Indicator (New)		Benchmark	2022/23
*Connect	*Percentage of respondent households that are satisfied with their level of Social Connectedness.		75% (WDC Community Survey, 2016)	80% (WDC Community Survey, 2019)

Performance indicator results 2022/23

These are specifically measurable as outcomes directly attributed to the work of the Community Team.

Performance indicator results 2022/23				
Goal	Indicator	Benchmark (WDC Performance measures 2014/15)	Target 2025	Result 2022/23
Engage	Total number of partners supporting Community Development, Youth Development and Community Safety initiatives.	300	≥ 300	> 300
Connect	Number of local groups that connect residents or organisations, supported by the Community Team.	12	≥ 12	21
	Evidence of Community Team Support for the development of new groups that facilitate community connection.	N/A	≥ 8	12
Inform	Community Team Facebook page following.	1,789	1,800	4,300
	Monthly hits on Community page of Waimakariri District Council website.	2,800	≥ 3000	3,188
	Number of community groups contributing to Chatter monthly community information newsletter each year.	150	≥ 150	137
Empower	Number of new Community-led initiatives developed with support from the Community Team.	N/A	≥ 10	22

Progress against these goals is detailed on the following pages.

Note: With both Population and Performance Indicator targets well and truly exceeded, new targets are being set as part of a reviewed strategy 2024 – 2029.



Festival for Future



Next Steps support website

Engage

Engaging with people, groups and organisations

What did we do?

Maintained relationships with well over 300 local, regional and national partners covering the government, non-government, community and business sectors.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<p>Maintained connections in the local government, iwi, health, education, social service, business and grassroots community sectors, including staff involvement and/or facilitation of the following networks:</p> <p>a) Local networks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Services Waimakariri • Waimakariri Health Advisory Group • Violence Free North Canterbury • Waimakariri Access Group • Waimakariri Bike Project Group • Waimakariri Drug and Alcohol Harm Steering Group • Waimakariri Migrants Steering Group • Waimakariri Suicide Prevention Steering Group • North Canterbury Youth Services Network • Age-friendly Waimakariri Advisory Group • Waimakariri Youth Council • WaiYouth Group • North Canterbury Youth Futures • Volunteer Coordinators' Network • North Canterbury Food and Budgeting Forum • Food Secure North Canterbury Steering Group • Civil Defence Response Local Welfare Committee • Next Steps Steering Group. 	<p>Broad local, regional and national engagement provides increased opportunity to enhance the safety, wellbeing and resilience of Waimakariri residents.</p> <p>There are more people to plan, to do the work and to fund the work, so that community aspirations are more easily achievable.</p>



Food Secure North Canterbury at Back to Basics event

b) Regional Networks

- Active Canterbury
- Waka Toa Ora (Healthy Greater Christchurch) Steering Group
- INFoRM network of Refugee and Migrant Service Providers
- Eldercare Canterbury
- Together Hurunui
- NZ Disability Advisory Trust
- Rerenga Awa – Canterbury Youth Workers Collective
- Youth Voice Canterbury.

c) National Networks

- Hauora Whenua - Rural Health Alliance of Aotearoa NZ
- Safer Aotearoa Network Transition Steering Group– as part of International Safe Community network.

Regional and national engagement ensures that Waimakariri initiatives are evidence based, well resourced and delivered in line with Best Practice.



In Common Collaboration team

What did we do?

Provided a welcoming, open door and link into community supports for some of our more vulnerable residents.

How well did we do it?

- People often contact Council when they have nowhere to go, or they pop in, to see the Community Team office when they're feeling isolated or distressed.
- Every week we receive emails phone calls or drop-ins related to our more vulnerable residents. We provide links with appropriate supports and services. We're also a listening ear and a word of encouragement, or celebration when they have achieved a milestone.
- Our local 'personalities', who might otherwise be lost and lonely, when services are closed, regularly pop in to show us their new shoes, Special Olympics medals, new bikes and photographs that they're proud of. While this is not our core business the outcomes for these people are significant.

Is anyone better off?

People have been linked into appropriate services for transitional and/or emergency housing when in crisis.

Three of our most regular visitors are encouraged and supported; and kept safe and linked into appropriate support services when the need arises.

Council front-counter and phone enquiry customers are linked with appropriate support services.

Following on from phone or email inquiries, from various Council departments and/or from residents, many people have been linked with Police, family harm, addiction and social support agency assistance.

We are better off too! It is such a blessing to be invited into people's lives in times of crisis and to see them blossom as they get the help they need.

Connect

Connecting people

What did we do?

Encouraged and supported collaboration between groups and services.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated and/or actively contributed to 18 local collaborative networks that address local priorities, to support social, physical, mental and emotional wellbeing, safety, and inclusion, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suicide and wellbeing Family Harm Drug and Alcohol Harm Food Security Social Inclusion Support and opportunity for Ethnic Migrants Digital Isolation Inclusion Poverty and unemployment Youth transition to employment Accessibility Housing District-wide Civil Defence welfare response and recovery. Facilitated nine community group and organisation networking fora, held in Rangiora, Kaiapoi, Oxford and Pegasus. 	<p>People working in the health, social education and community sectors can network, identify and review trends, share ideas and identify opportunities to work collaboratively.</p> <p>Collaboration of agencies through networks like Social Services Waimakariri and Waimakariri Health Advisory Group has resulted in better local social and health service provision.</p> <p>A broad range of community-led initiatives were developed to improve the social, physical and mental wellbeing of local residents.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Food Secure North Canterbury and its strategic processes and internal collaborations. 	<p>The Food Secure project has now redistributed well over 1 million equivalent meals to our District through collaborative networks and projects such as the Harvest Collaboration which was featured on the national news.</p>

What did we do?

Provided and promoted opportunities for people to get together.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dudley Park Activation Platform, Greenspace and the Waimakariri Youth Council collaborated to design and fund this project. Youth Council applied for funding and utilised its' networks to have materials donated. 	<p>The Activation Platform has created another opportunity for youth and other members of the community to interact and engage in the Dudley Park Space.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Community Fridays’ hosted by the Waimakariri Youth Council and in partnership with Youthtown, to activate the Dudley Park space for youth. 	<p>‘Community Friday’ events, were a great opportunity for intergenerational connection, with attendance of over 60 people, ranging in age from 5 to 80 + years.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WaiYouth planned and hosted a disco at Rangiora High School to raise money for Youthline. 	<p>The disco event engaged 45 local young people and raised \$127.50 for Youthline.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Trailer was utilised for 26 neighbourhood and community events. With increasing confidence to participate in larger community gatherings after Covid related restriction, this was a sharp increase from last year’s nine bookings. 	<p>Upwards of 400 people in a variety of communities and neighbourhoods had the opportunity to connect and get to know one-another over a community-led barbeque or event.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported the Global Locals of Waimakariri - GLOW Group to coordinate a 9-week Multicultural Cooking Class series showcasing a variety of international cuisines. • Supported the GLOW Group to maintain a monthly, multicultural catch-up at a local pub’s community meeting space. Regular attendance is 10 to 15 people from up to 10 different cultures. • A Celebration of Cultures Christmas Dinner was a family friendly event with a focus on bringing ethnically diverse people together over food. Attendees were encouraged to bring a plate of food from their ‘home country’ to share. With approximately 50 attendees, the event was an opportunity to celebrate the cultural diversity that exists in the District and enhance cultural inclusion. • Supported the collaboration of InCommon, Waimakariri Access Group and Global Locals of Waimakariri to come together to deliver an inclusive poster campaign, shining the light on our diverse communities in Waimakariri. 	<p>People had the opportunity to connect and increase their understanding of one another’s culture and common experience of being new to New Zealand and the District (interestingly, GLOW Social also attracts Pākehā New Zealanders who have either relocated or found themselves unexpectedly single and socially isolated).</p> <p>Our diverse communities were acknowledged, supported and celebrated.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported the Waimakariri Bike Project to maintain its volunteer force, be successful in funding grants and to continue providing bikes to people in our community. 	<p>The bike project has addressed hardship, by giving people free bikes, sometimes their only mode of transport. An unexpected benefit, too, has been that it has provided social connection and a sense of self-worth for some of our vulnerable residents, as they applied skills that they didn’t know they had, to repair bikes.</p>



Bike Project volunteers at the Waikuku Beach Repair Cafe

Connecting people

What did we do?

Supported developing subdivisions to create opportunities for connection.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Supported the Rangiora Lions Club and Pegasus Community Centre to ensure that new residents in new parts of Rangiora and Pegasus were welcomed and informed through receiving a welcome bag full of resources, and a friendly interaction with a local person from their community.	People in developing subdivisions were welcomed and informed about local services and opportunities.

What did we do?

Supported Residents Groups and Community Associations.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff continued to support residents' groups with preparation for events, providing the Community Trailer and by linking them into resources. These groups included Silverstream Residents Association and Pegasus Residents Group. 	Residents' groups are equipped and supported to achieve their aspirations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the Pegasus Residents Association to create and run a youth group which delivers youth events for local residents. 	Pegasus young people are more connected to their community.

What did we do?

Encouraged and supported volunteering as a means to connect residents into the life of the community.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised three Volunteer Expos, held in Kaiapoi, Pegasus and Kaiapoi. 33 volunteer reliant organisations participated, and approximately 100 residents attended these. 	Local volunteer involving organisations are generally better able to attract and retain volunteers. For example, as a result of the Expo, local organisations were able to recruit over 40 new volunteers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminated information about volunteering opportunities via a range of on-line, social and printed media. 	Volunteer Expo attendees were able to find volunteering opportunities roles at the Expos that suited their skills and interest. This will, in return, provide them with rewards of contribution to the community, social connection and general wellbeing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waimakariri Volunteer Directory which lists many local organisations seeking volunteers, is regularly updated and available online and in printed form. 	People have easier access to information about volunteering in the Waimakariri District.

Inform

Informing people about issues and opportunities that affect them

Education workshops and seminars

What did we do?

Facilitated opportunities for local people to gain a better understanding of tikanga Māori, Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the history of Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri as tangata whenua of our District.

How well did we do it?

Encouraged our community partner agencies to attend the monthly 'Healthy Day at the Pa' at Tuahiwi Marae.

Is anyone better off?

The programme underwent a hiatus due to COVID and the recent death of Kaumatua Dame Aroha Reriti Crofts but resumed in mid-2023.

What did we do?

Facilitated local delivery of family and relationship violence prevention and response education.

How well did we do it?

- **Elder Abuse Workshop**, facilitated on behalf of the Age-friendly Waimakariri Advisory Group and Violence Free North Canterbury; and delivered in partnership with Age Concern, Disability NZ, Police, Williams McKenzie Lawyers.
- **White Ribbon Day – School-based campaign**
Facilitated Violence Free North Canterbury to visit five local high schools across North Canterbury. The purpose was to engage Year 9 and 10 students in conversations about healthy relationships.

Is anyone better off?

84 local service providers and community support workers/volunteers have increased understanding of the signs of elder abuse and what can be done to support those impacted. – Attendees reflected on the value of:

- “Community ownership of the issue”
- Understanding “Referral pathways”
- “Maori cultural perspective of cultural Elder Abuse”.

Nearly 1000 North Canterbury young people were equipped with a range of tools and information about what constitutes a healthy relationship and how they can recognise and support relationship violence victims.

White Ribbon Day 2022



Family Violence Awareness

Informing - education workshops and seminars

What did we do?

Facilitated local delivery of family and relationship violence prevention and response education.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<p>Sexual Violence Awareness Workshop, facilitated on behalf of Violence Free North Canterbury in collaboration with the following community partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge Clinic • START (Start Healing, Stop Abuse) • Te Puna Oranga • Hope Trust • Person to Person Trust. 	<p>87 local service providers, educators and community support workers/volunteers have increased understanding of the signs of sexual violence and what can be done to support those impacted. Attendees reflected on the value of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Learning about agencies working with sexual violence and family violence” • “Whakawhanaugatanga, 5 principles of Trauma- Informed Care, Sexual Violence Services/Processes”. <p>Someone commented how valuable it was to have “a chance to all get together and learn together.” There are not always a lot of opportunities for professionals in these spaces to connect. Their caseloads are heavy, and schedules are often full. When they have an opportunity to connect, it’s always appreciated, and silos are broken down.</p> <p>A well-trained workforce is able to provide relevant and appropriate service to victims and abusers to help them to remove violence and fear from their lives.</p>

What did we do?

Facilitated a local response to alcohol and drug harm.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2022 – June 2023 was a planning/holding stage across the Alcohol & Drug Harm Prevention Portfolios. This included a review of the Alcohol and Drug Harm Prevention Steering Group and its priorities. • A core group was established, who identified a need to undertake some robust, local formative evaluation. To that end, an intern was engaged to undertake a research project. This informed a report ‘Current Condition’, which included the identification of key priorities for the Steering Group’s effective work, going forward. 	<p>A Best Practice approach has been applied to the development and delivery of initiatives that address alcohol and drug harm in the Waimakariri District.</p>

What did we do?

Facilitated local provision of education and activities that enhance the safety and wellbeing of local children and families.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<p>Down the Back Paddock Rural Safety Education in Schools</p> <p>With COVID restrictions lifted, the programme was delivered to 400 children at two local primary schools, covering animal, poisons, fire, machinery, bike and home safety and security.</p> <p>Down the Back Paddock has now been operating successfully for over 15 years, with all primary schools in the District now offering it to their students.</p>	<p>400 local school children learnt what they can do to reduce the likelihood of injury on our farms and lifestyle blocks. We continue to hear of parents being ‘told off’ by their kids for unsafe practices because of what they’ve learnt at Down the Back Paddock.</p> <p>With over 15,000 local children (many now adults) learning safe practice and taking these messages home, we are creating a safer future on farms and lifestyle blocks across the Waimakariri District.</p>

What did we do?

Facilitated local delivery of wellbeing-centred suicide prevention initiatives.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<p>Staff continued to facilitate the Wailife Suicide Prevention Steering Group, with the following initiatives achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to enable the local delivery of the WAVES bereaved by suicide eight-week support programme • Distribution of local resources for seeking mental health support • Delivery of Mental Health Awareness Week ‘Five Winning Ways’ campaign through local social media and community notices • A local campaign for Matariki, promoting wellbeing through connection with whanau and personal aspirations for the coming year • Mental Resilience Training in partnership with the North Canterbury Sports and Recreation Trust to community, business, sports groups and Secondary School teachers in the District (Over 200 attendees) • Support for delivery of the national suicide prevention campaign, in partnership with local pharmacies. 	<p>Local residents, community workers and support service providers are equipped with skills and knowledge to support themselves and others toward good mental health wellbeing.</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for a Trade Sector Mental Health Breakfast (450 attendees) raising awareness of services available in our District. 	<p>Over 650 people attended Mental Health Awareness training offering tools for self-help, promoting help seeking and education on how to support others who are struggling with mental health concerns.</p>

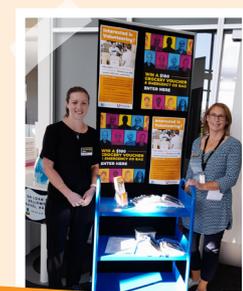
Informing - Printed media

What did we do?	
Billboards.	
How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Family Violence billboards are displayed in four key locations across the District.	People are confronted to consider unhealthy behaviours and those in crisis know where to go to get help.

What did we do?	
Chatter Community Information Newsletter.	
How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of over 1,400 per month. Continued increase in contributors and readership. <p>Staff continue to receive regular affirmations regarding the value of this resource.</p>	Groups and organisations have access to free, high audience promotion for their activities.



What did we do?	
General Community Information Resources.	
How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<p>Welcome Bags</p> <p>Around, 300 personalised 'Welcome to Waimakariri' information bags, or equivalent packs, were given to new residents in their respective communities. These are decorated and packed by school children, intellectually disabled groups and community volunteers.</p> <p>Over 6600 Welcome Bags have been distributed to new residents over recent years.</p>	Local residents and community support agencies have easy access to information about supports, opportunities, and events.
<p>Local Information Resources</p> <p>The Community Team has developed a range of resources detailing local information about services, supports and opportunities related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental health and wellbeing Volunteering Recreational sport and hobbies Activities for Under 5s Support for parents of pre-schoolers Family violence support Alcohol and drug harm help Social Local transport COVID recovery and social support Suicide prevention Global Locals of Waimakariri brochure English Language Classes flyers. <p>As well as online, these are distributed via Citizen's Advice Bureau, and at local libraries, information centres, community facilities, events and gatherings.</p>	Public facilities and services are well stocked with relevant, up to date information about local supports, services and opportunities for people to engage in the life of the District.



Volunteer Expo Kaiapoi

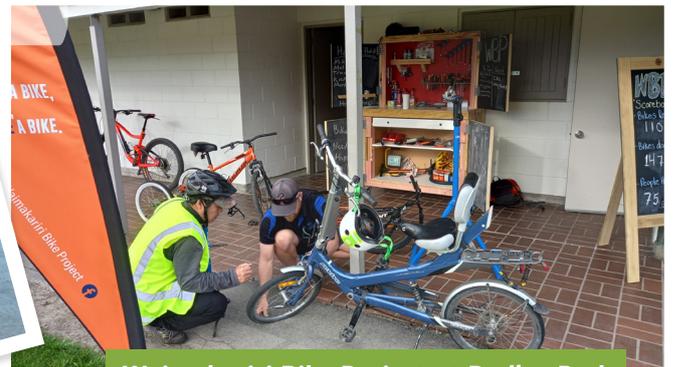
What did we do?

Utilised social an on-line media to engage and inform the community about issues and options that affect them.

How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 38,000 interactions with Community-Team related pages on the Council website. Waimakariri Community Team Facebook page has a 'liked' following of 4300 - up 3% from last year. Waimakariri Community Team Facebook social media reach 23,853. WaiYouth and Youth Council has a following of 2,678 and a reach of 12,000 from Facebook and Instagram . GLOW – Global Locals of Waimakariri) has a liked following of 428 – up 15% from last year. GLOW – Global Locals of Waimakariri Facebook social media reach 6,900. <p>The most popular posts related to events, volunteering opportunities, youth services and opportunities and mental health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>The community has easy access to information about supports, opportunities, and events.</p> <p>Sustained increase in social media following over the past eight years shows a growing audience for our information.</p> <p>Local groups and organisations have access to free, large audience promotion for their activities.</p>



GLOW End of year celebration



Waimakariri Bike Project at Dudley Park



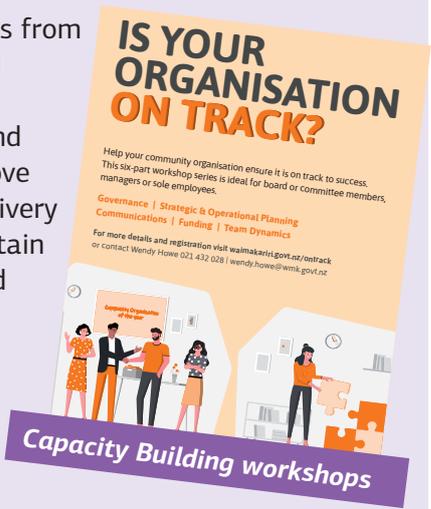
International Cooking Classes



Inaugural Youth Service Awards 2022

Empower

Supporting and empowering people and organisations

Priority	What did we do?	
	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Assist community groups and organisations to increase their capacity and capability	Facilitated a series of capability building workshops for the volunteer sector.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2022 'On Track' workshop series was completed. Topics covered included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated Societies Act 'Running Better Meetings' The Treasurer role Communications Understanding Financial Reports. The 2023 workshop series began with workshops focussed on governance and strategic planning. 	<p>Over 70 participants from 55 local groups and organisations have gained new skills and knowledge to improve governance and delivery of their services, retain staff/volunteers and attract funding.</p> 
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported North Canterbury Youth Services Network to grow their network and provided a range of speakers and topics for the group to discuss. Regular e-newsletters were sent to the network. 	<p>15 service providers attend each meeting, an increase from 2021/22. On average there were 52 service providers opening the newsletter, indicating that it is valued.</p>
	What did we do?	
	Directly support key organisations to increase their membership and sustainability.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided direct advice and assistance with funding, strategic planning, governance, employment processes and promotion to some of our key community organisations and groups that connect local residents. 	<p>North Canterbury Neighbourhood Support have significantly increased their Getz Ready membership base, restructured their governance, strategic direction and delivery model, resulting in increased success with the acquisition of funding.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruited seven new Youth Council Members and four new WaiYouth members. 	<p>Youth Council has broad 'whole District' representation.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported partners within Food Secure North Canterbury with governance, people management and planning support. 	<p>Food Secure North Canterbury is in a strong position and has recently done some strategic re-positioning within the governance group to ensure its work continues to have maximum effect on our communities.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Language Classes were delivered covering a range of abilities such as Beginners, Intermediate, International English Language Testing Standard (IELTS) preparation and Conversation Classes. The classes are free and all adults with English as a second language are welcome to attend, starting at any time throughout the year. 	<p>45 students from 15 nationalities attended the classes, with most attending the intermediate level class. Enrolment was consistent throughout the year. One student obtained residency after passing her IELTS exam and was able to fulfil her dream of starting her own restaurant. Students continually improve and gain confidence through the classes and enables them to converse more easily in day-to-day life.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitation of the Waimakariri Migrants Agency Group that met quarterly to network and discuss issues, trends and opportunities concerning migrants. The group consists of organisations and individuals that work with migrants. 	<p>Migrants Agency meetings provide a platform for information sharing so those working with migrants can be aware of what other services and stakeholders are seeing and experiencing in the sector. Support and advice from relevant agencies and stakeholders can easily be accessed from within the group.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported local Chinese speaking residents (Chinese Group) to promote and showcase their language and culture during NZ Chinese Language Week. Events were celebrated in partnership with Waimakariri Libraries. 	<p>The Chinese Group has been established through the project and have provided them with more connection to others in the District they identify with. It also provided opportunities for New Zealanders to learn more about Chinese language and culture.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated a community-led approach to the development of an arts strategy for the District. 	<p>A broad range of community stakeholders have contributed to identifying, needs, priorities and opportunities to increase the profile, reach and sustainability of the local arts sector. This will contribute to a stronger local economy and positive social outcomes for Waimakariri residents.</p>



Sharing kai



Age-friendly Advisory Group

Empowering People and Organisations

What did we do?		
Priority	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Support and/or facilitate the acquisition of funding for community initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported community groups and organisations with the preparation of funding plans for their sustainable operation. Facilitated links with funding advisors from key funding organisations. Provided letters of endorsement and advice on applications to support the acquisition of funding for a range of community groups and organisations. 	<p>Facilitated or endorsed successful funding applications resulting in over \$1,000,000 in funding to support the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Secure North Canterbury Youth related initiatives Social Services Waimakariri Hope Trust Satisfy Food Rescue North Canterbury Neighbourhood Support Waimakariri Bike Project Local arts sector Oxford Community Trust Next Steps project Citizen's Advice Bureau Mobile Community Hub. <p>Funding acquired by our community partners has meant that Waimakariri Residents have access to a wide range of education, entertainment, health, social support and recreational opportunities.</p>



On Track funding workshop

Priority	What did we do? Held community stakeholder forums to inform planning for key community issues.	
	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Facilitate groups and individuals to have their voice heard in local consultation	Facilitated an Arts Forum, involving a broad range of stakeholders from the local arts sector to inform development of a Waimakariri Arts Strategy. Attendance was around 50.	The views, needs and ideas of those working in and/or supporting the local arts sector were incorporated into Arts Strategy development.
	What did we do? Promoted and encouraged involvement in community consultations.	
	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Waimakariri Youth Council and the Age-friendly Waimakariri Advisory Group to submit their views on the Greater Christchurch Partnership Spatial Plan consultation. Supported the Waimakariri Access Group to have input in to the Parliamentary Select Committee process on the Accessibility for New Zealanders Bill. Supported Age Friendly Waimakariri to have input into the Economic Development Strategy, Integrated Transport Strategy and the Housing Strategy. Supported Age Friendly Waimakariri to gather feedback from older persons groups in Waimakariri, to inform their work planning. Staff facilitated broad stakeholder advocacy to Smoke Free 2025, requesting action to address concern over vaping – especially in young people. 	<p>A youth lens and an older persons’ lens have been applied to the Greater Christchurch Partnership Spatial Plan.</p> <p>The views, needs and ideas of local residents are incorporated into planning.</p> <p>People have equitable means to have their voice heard in local consultations.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Census Information sessions were held at the libraries as a way of assisting migrants and other local residents to understand what Census is and why it’s important that everyone has their say. 	People were better informed and able to access assistance with filling in their Census information.	



Arts Strategy Forum

Empowering People and Organisations

What did we do?		
Supported initiatives that facilitate a more accessible and inclusive District.		
Priority	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Facilitate an inclusive District, where people are empowered to achieve their aspirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported a young member of the Waimakariri Access Group and Waimakariri Youth Council to organise and deliver an 'Inclusive Sports Festival', funded and supported by the Halberg Foundation and North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust. Six sport providers volunteered their time for the event. 	40 participants plus 20 carers and parents attended this inaugural event for North Canterbury. The event provided the opportunity for people with disabilities to try multiple sports at one time.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the implementation of 'period products' into the Waimakariri Libraries and Aquatic departments for residents to access. 	The 'period products' initiative facilitates increased participation in local activity, by removing barriers that are often related to what is known as 'period poverty.'
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to promote and/or support locally led initiatives that address the digital divide, impacting on older residents and those affected by limiting impairment. 	People have more equitable access to information.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the Baha'i Community with a community-led Race Unity Art Competition in schools, where children were invited to create a poster depicting the theme 'Celebrating Different Cultures.' The competition involved tamariki aged 5-16 years. 161 entries were received, and eight schools participated. A prizegiving ceremony was held to acknowledge the participants and their artwork, enabling whanau to be involved and as a means to generate interest in local media. 	<p>The intent behind the project was to start a conversation about the growing ethnic diversity in the Waimakariri District. The remarkable number of entries highlighted the level of interest in the subject matter.</p> <p>Some artwork was subsequently displayed in local libraries to promote greater awareness to the wider public.</p>
	What did we do?	
Empowered local ethnic migrants with skills and knowledge to help them gain employment and access local services and supports.		
	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 'Prepare to Work' workshop was held to support migrants with preparing for employment. This was a multi-agency project with presentations from Citizen's Advice Bureau North Canterbury, Immigration NZ and Ministry of Social Development. 	Eight 'global locals' came to the workshop and learnt how to write a CV, prepare for an interview, and were advised of their rights as an employee.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly English Language classes continued in Rangiora, with 10-15 students attending from Iran, Singapore, Vietnam, Germany, Japan, Russia, India, the Philippines, France, Thailand, Serbia, China and the Ukraine. 	Ethnic Migrants can gain the IELTS qualification necessary to access mainstream education and employment opportunity in New Zealand.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classes cater for the needs of beginners, intermediate and advanced students, along with supporting students sitting their IELTS test. (English Language for Immigration and Employment Test). 	<p>People can connect and practice their English in a relaxed setting where social connections and friendships develop.</p>
	<p>What did we do? Supported initiatives that create employment and work-readiness opportunity for local youth.</p>	
Priority	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Facilitate an inclusive District, where people are empowered to achieve their aspirations	<p>Youth Futures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported and promoted the North Canterbury Youth Futures online career support campaign and careers expo. This was led by Waimakariri District Council staff, with support from Ministry of Education, Comcol, Ministry of Social Development, Rangiora High School, and Kaiapoi High School, Hurunui District Council. Regional Skills Leadership Partnership, and representative for Youth Voice Canterbury. Youth Futures showcases opportunities for youth in employment, education and training, as well as promoting local stories of young people and community members and their pathway to their current career. Staff have been proactively encouraging the North Canterbury Youth Futures Steering Group to consider how this project aligns with the guiding strategic document. This has ensured that while the group is working towards the current campaign, 'Youth Futures is About More Than Expos.' A priority is to work behind the scenes to create connections between local education and employment providers to ensure that local young people can have access to as broad a range of opportunities as possible. 	<p>To date the Youth Futures campaign has reached so far 51,138 people on Facebook and 36,022 on Instagram. Through paid advertising the campaign reached an additional 143,908 people from across the North Canterbury region and wider Canterbury.</p> <p>1200 young people and their families attended the 2023 Careers Expo at Rangiora High School.</p> <p>Local young people have a better understanding of career paths and local options.</p>
	<p>Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We were pleased to join MTFJ in 2023. This programme is externally funded through partnership with Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ). Its vision is to have all 16 to 24-year-olds engaged in employment or education within their local communities. Our programme got underway in mid-March with the appointment of a facilitator. In three short months it has delivered training and support in work readiness, driving licences, pastoral care and financial support to local young people and the employers who have given them opportunities. We aim to provide a holistic service, tailored to the needs of each job seeker who engages with us. 	<p>Between March and June 2023, four people were placed in full time employment and 14 people progressed their driving licences.</p> <p>The programme started the July 2023 year with 50 young people engaged, so with a full year of delivery ahead we look to supporting many more young people in our community into full time employment.</p>

Empowering People and Organisations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MTFJ funded five INZONE career kiosks in our four local secondary schools, along with the Rangiora and Kaiapoi Libraries. We also sponsored a day's visit to Oxford Area School by the INZONE Career Coach (bus) This has multiple kiosks on board and allowed the entire school to visit in the day. These kiosks allow young people to explore career pathways by watching short videos which profile a wide range of industries and jobs within them. They can then choose to receive links to training pathways relevant to that role. 	
	<p>What did we do? Supported initiatives that foster growth and development for young people.</p>	
<p>Priority</p>	<p>How well did we do it?</p>	<p>Is anyone better off?</p>
<p>Facilitate an inclusive District, where people are empowered to achieve their aspirations</p>	<p>Youth Opportunity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Youth Council to assist Mayor Dan with the development of the Youth Service Award, then with the promotion of the award. Supported two members of Youth Council to attend the Festival for the Future in Wellington.. 	<p>There were a number of nominations, and two residents were selected.</p> <p>The two members who attended presented their learnings to Youth Council, allowing the event to impact more than those two attendees.</p>
	<p>Youth in the Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Youth Council to increase their involvement in environmentally focussed volunteering, including leading a post-flood Ashley River Clean-up, with 65 Community Members and 10 organisations involved. Supported Youth Council with volunteering their time at the Silverstream Reserve. 	<p>The river clean-up was planned and delivered in partnership with the Ashley-Rakahuri River Care Group, Environment Canterbury, Keep Rangiora Beautiful, local 4WD Club, and Rangiora Tramping Club, making it a great example of youth-led, intergenerational collaboration. Just under a tonne of rubbish was removed from a significant section of riverbed as a result.</p> <p>Local young people have been linked into opportunities to show leadership in caring for local environments.</p>
	<p>Youth and Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Youth Council to develop their 2022/23 work plan. Priorities included continuing the Dudley Skate Park Project and mural, sourcing funding, establishing relationships with local agencies and organisations that align with their kaupapa. Supported WaiYouth to think differently about their events and how they operate. WaiYouth has had to develop a new way of event delivery. 	<p>Young leaders are empowered to apply an informed, planned approach to their initiatives.</p> <p>Local young people have been given more sense on ownership over their projects.</p>

What did we do? Civil Defence 'Welfare' response and recovery planning for local and national events.		
Priority	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
Empower people to recover and develop resilience to disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Filled the various functions of Civil Defence Emergency Operations Centre Welfare, addressing welfare-related issues for those affected by local flooding and/or wind events. 	Local residents impacted by emergency events are well supported and, given the Community Team's breadth of contacts, linked with appropriate supports and services.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four Community Team staff were deployed to Auckland, Napier, Hastings and Central Hawkes Bay Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) and Auckland and Hastings Emergency Coordination Centres (ECCs), to support the Cyclone Gabrielle response, both as Welfare Managers and Welfare staff. 	Increased, experienced capacity was added to the Cyclone Gabrielle and Auckland flood emergency response.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated a workshop discussion between the Waimakariri Access Group and Civil Defence, highlighting particular issues. 	Our residents with disabilities have better knowledge of disaster preparation and what to do in an emergency.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to facilitate and/or support COVID-19 recovery projects, identified as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Security and Kaiapoi Community Hub 'Next Steps' website designed to take information out and empower our community to be able to access the assistance they may need themselves. Eg. Doctors' surgeries and community groups, as well as the general public Mobile Community Hub: Funding was secured for a community outreach and support vehicle. This is another resource that will really enable our community to respond to situations that arise by taking people, and information to the area of need. 	<p>Local residents will be able to access free, sustainable food sources and learn and share skills to support themselves and their families.</p> <p>Those experiencing hardship have easy access to succinct information about local support services.</p> <p>People can be directly supported 'in place' in times of crisis.</p>



Emergency Welfare Support

Emerging priorities and new projects under development

A number of key priorities have emerged this year:

1. Arts Strategy Development.
2. Review of the current Community Development Strategy.
3. Support for increased local provision of social, emergency, transitional and emergency housing.
4. Completion and launch of the 'Next Steps' website, providing a confidential means for people and service providers to access information and support in times of crisis.
5. Local roll out of Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) and broader development of the North Canterbury Youth Futures project.
6. Planning and fit-out for a mobile community information and support hub.
7. Increased stakeholder engagement toward the establishment of the Kaiapoi Community Hub.

The need to progress an opportunity to acquire funding for a Welcoming Communities role for the District.

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We would particularly like to acknowledge our principle funders, who not only provided financial resourcing for our work, but also lent their advice and expertise as needed:

- Rata Foundation
- Department of Internal Affairs, Community, Office of Ethnic Communities and COGS

- Ministry of Social Development, including Office for Seniors
- Creative New Zealand
- Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment
- Youthtown
- Aotearoa Gaming Trust

...and, of course, the many business partners detailed in this report, who provided financial and in-kind support to help make so many community-conceived initiatives happen.



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