

Supporting service freely given

In its latest funding round the Community Trust of Mid and South Canterbury approved grants totalling \$57,327 to 11 applicants from around the region.

Alongside the social service agencies, sports and cultural groups applying for funding in this round the Community Trust was pleased to receive the first application in recent times from the **South Canterbury Justices of the Peace Association**. The Association received a small grant (\$1,922) to purchase the technology needed to facilitate communication between members and to better protect the privacy of public information. These Justices of the Peace assist local people from Mt Cook right out to the coast between the Rangitata and the Waitaki rivers and we are very pleased to offer our support in turn to those who offer such selfless service to our communities.

Other grant recipients in South Canterbury included the **South Canterbury Amateur Athletics Club** (\$3,325 towards track hire for the current season), **Thistle AFC** (\$5,680 to install new heat pumps in the clubrooms), and the **Anglican Diocese of Christchurch Parish of Temuka St Peters Anglican Church**. Vicar's Warden Ann White writes, "On behalf of the Vestry of St Peter's Church I wish to thank the Trust most sincerely for the generous grant of \$2500 to our Church towards the purchase of a portable mobility ramp. This will enable our parishioners and other members of the community to gain easier access to our church and make our facilities more inclusive. We are continuing to fund raise the remaining amount required to complete the purchase of the ramp". The **Geraldine Arts and Plants Festival Inc** has also been granted a \$2,000 GAL (Guarantee Against Loss) towards 2018 festival costs while a further grant of \$10,000 has again been approved to support the foodbank service provided by **Presbyterian Support South Canterbury** in the lead up to the Christmas season.

Mid Canterbury grants included a further \$10,000 for the team at **Hospice Mid Canterbury**. Hospice Mid Canterbury Chair Jane Wright commented "We are extremely grateful for the \$10,000 grant from the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury towards our operating costs. These funds will help to ensure that we can continue to support individuals and families in our community who are dealing with a life-limiting illness, and to provide education that will help our community to develop resilience around end-of-life matters. Thank you for recognising the worth of this service to our community". The Community Trust has also committed \$7,500 to the **New Zealand Council of Victim Support Groups** tagged to Mid Canterbury volunteer programme costs.

In the wake of the wonderful Ashburton Show held last weekend we are also happy to confirm support for the **Mid Canterbury Vintage Machinery Club**. The Community Trust has previously assisted the Club with construction costs for the workshop and clubrooms at their new location at the Show Grounds and has now provided an additional \$5,000 towards fit out costs. Chairman John Hall thanked the Community Trust for the grant noting that with the support received the club is now in the final stages of completion anticipating an opening in early March.

In every grant round we receive a number of applications from groups providing programmes or services that cover the wider region. This round was no exception with a \$6,000 grant awarded to the **Canterbury Men's Centre** who are looking to establish local support groups for male survivors of sexual abuse and who continue to provide counselling and social work support for local men. A grant of \$3,400 was also made to the **Waterwatch Education Trust** in support of their water quality outdoor education programme offered through local high schools.

The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury uses the returns from investments to fund its philanthropy. The Community Trust supports not-for-profit organisations and projects which contribute towards achieving a region of healthy, vibrant and caring communities. To learn more please visit www.comtrust.org.nz

Ends

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