



The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury provides funding grants to not-for-profit community groups and projects that make a positive contribution to our region which goes from the Rakaia River in the north to the Waitaki River in the south and to the Southern Alps to the west. The Community Trust Board met for their sixth meeting of the 2023-24 financial year on 4 December 2023.

Major projects grant requests over \$20,000 were considered. 18 applicants were successful and a total of **\$380,000** was granted.

In **Timaru**, a total of \$185,000 was granted including \$125,000 to Mōkihi Hauora towards the refurbishment of their new premises at Craigie Avenue. Juliette Stevenson, the General Manager of Mōkihi Hauora said "We are very grateful for the substantial donation we received from Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury. We have recently purchased a large building to be used to provide services to the people of South Canterbury who experience Mental illness or addiction issues. This funding will go towards renovating the property to maximise its potential and to ensure it is fit for purpose".



*Image: Mōkihi Hauora operations manager Tracey Reilly and general manager Juliette Stevenson outside the organisation's new building.*

The Trust also granted \$10,000 to the Gloriavale Leavers Trust for support staff wages, \$15,000 to South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce to subsidise training for local not-for-profit and community groups, \$15,000 to South Canterbury Mountain Bike Club's Pump Track project, \$10,000 to Timaru Community Menzshed for forklift replacement, and \$10,000 to the Connections Community Trust for the Grown Together Community Hub parenting support. Rebekah Chapman from Grown Together said "We truly believe that Grown Together, working with whanau will positively impact the lives of many and its fantastic to receive this commitment of support from the Community Trust."

In **Pleasant Point** the Trust granted \$15,000 to Pleasant Point Football Club towards their facility renovations.

Mike Thomas from the Football Club commented that "the Pleasant Point Football Club would like to thank The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury for their contribution towards our club's bathroom renovation. Our building is a well-used community asset with many different groups using it throughout the year. These renovations are going to make it even more accessible to more people from all around the Mid & South Canterbury District."

In the **Mackenzie District**, the Trust was pleased to support the Mackenzie College PTA's Community Turf project with a grant of \$30,000, and to grant \$15,000 to Fairlie Mackenzie Heritage Centre to help with planning for their Museum upgrade.

**District wide**, a total of \$15,000 was granted to Arts on Tour to support delivery of their travelling stage productions in schools and rural communities.

The Community Trust receives all manner of requests from throughout the region. Trust CEO, Liz Shea said "we had applications from a wide variety of different organisations; we are always impressed by the passion and commitment in our not-for-profit community and our Trust is here to support that. Our key message is always that we are here to help." If you are a not-for-profit group anywhere in Mid and South Canterbury, please call the Community Relations Manager on 03 68 77 598 or look at the website [www.comtrust.org.nz](http://www.comtrust.org.nz) to see if you are eligible to apply to the Community Trust for funding for an event, programme or capital project.