



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 fifth meeting of the 2023-24 financial year on 30 October 2023.

Operational grant requests up to \$15,000 were considered. 31 applicants were successful and a total of **\$183,325** was granted.

In **Ashburton**, a total of \$59,700 was granted including \$10,000 to Ashburton Senior Citizens towards payroll costs, \$10,000 to Citizens Advice Bureau Mid Canterbury for operational funding, \$8,000 to Connecting Mid Canterbury Charitable for the Keep Learning programme, and \$8,000 to Mid Canterbury Emergency Relief for the Mid Canterbury Rural Driver Licensing Scheme.

Wendy Hewitt, the Rural Licensing Co-ordinator said "The programme has had huge benefits to our participants and has been life changing for them. They have made new friends, learnt new skills, taken up employment, become volunteers for other services, as well as our own, and generally integrated well into the community."



Cholmondeley Children's Centre

District wide, a total of \$56,500 was granted, including \$10,000 to Cholmondeley Children's Centre for respite care for Mid & South Canterbury families, \$10,000 to Parents Centre Aotearoa \$10,000 for Childbirth and Parenting Education, \$10,000 to Plunket for Community Services and \$5,000 to WanderSearch Canterbury Charitable Trust for Operational costs.

The Community Trust receives all manner of requests from throughout the region. Trust CEO, Liz Shea said "we understand cost of living increases affect everyone, including the not-for-profit sector and our Trust is here to support the local agencies that work in our communities. The key message we wish to share with our community groups in this very challenging time is that we remain open to funding requests and 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 to see if you are eligible to apply to the Community Trust for funding for an event, programme or capital project.