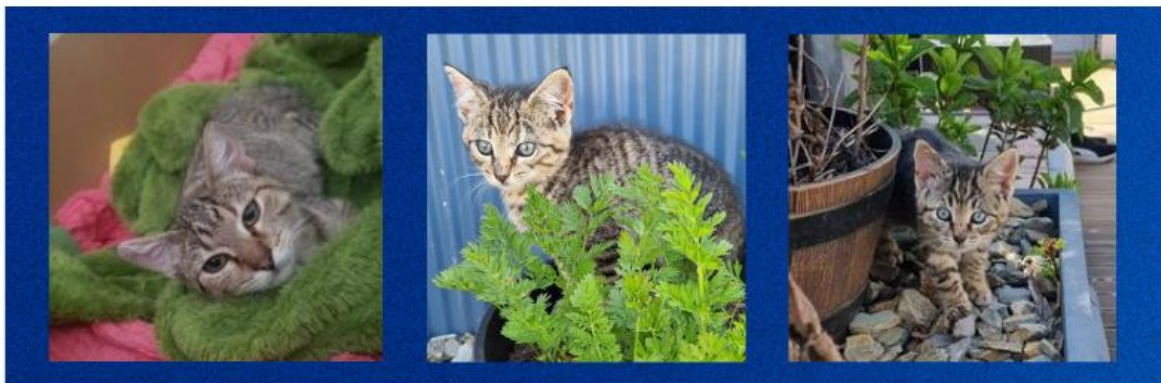




The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury provides funding grants to not-for-profit charities and community groups that make a positive contribution to our region which goes from the Rakaia River in the north to the Waitaki River in the south and to the Southern Alps to the west. The Community Trust Board met for their first meeting of the 2024-25 financial year on 6th May 2024.

Operational cost grant requests up to \$15,000 were considered. 27 applicants were successful and a total of **\$150,944** was granted.

In the **Timaru District**, Target Shooting South Canterbury were granted \$4,000 for operating expenses, the Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts received \$5,000 to assist with rent costs, Street Cats South Canterbury \$5,000 for ongoing costs, and both South Canterbury Neighbourhood Support and the South Canterbury Stroke Club were granted \$5,000 for operating costs.



Street Cats South Canterbury

The Committee of the Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts told us "This is good news and is a very welcome boost from the Trust and a signal of wider community recognition of our role in arts, music, dance and community activity in Geraldine. It helps to keep the doors open and our costs affordable to participants, of all ages."



In the **Mackenzie District**, the Trust was pleased to support the Albury Ice Hockey Association with a grant of \$4,500 towards subsidised ice time. Claire Dann from the Association said “The Mackenzie Ice Hockey Club is extremely grateful to the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury for their support. Their grant will go towards ice time for our growing Club of young ice hockey players and help them reach their full potential.”



Mackenzie Ice Hockey Club

The **Waimate** Croquet Club were granted \$3,500 for lawn coring and Positive Waimate Incorporated received \$1,944 towards insurance costs for their community activities.

In **Ashburton**, a total of \$40,000 was granted including \$10,000 to Ashburton Youth Health Trust for the HYPE Youth Centre, \$10,000 to Hakatere Multicultural Council for operational costs, \$5,000 to Kai for Kids for their school lunch programme, \$5,000 to Riverbridge Native Species Trust for the wetland development project, \$5,000 to Dementia Canterbury for their free support services in Ashburton, \$3,000 to Ashburton District Neighbourhood Support for operational costs, and \$2,000 to Ashburton Speedway Association for operating costs.



Kai for Kids

Darral Campbell, CEO of Dementia Canterbury said “We are delighted to receive this funding for the Ashburton region where we have a significant (and growing) number of clients and whanau. In addition to our support, navigation and education services, we run 6 groups per month in the region catering for the needs of those living with dementia and those who care for them.”

District wide, an additional \$77,000 was granted for services that operate across Mid and South Canterbury, including \$10,000 Ronald McDonald House to subsidise accommodation for families from the Mid and South Canterbury region, \$10,000 to Cystic Fibrosis Association for wraparound services for CF sufferers, \$9,000 to Taki Rua Productions for their touring Te Reo Māori Season Te Aka Tawhito, \$7,500 to the New Zealand Spinal Trust for Community Peer and Whānau support, \$5,000 for CanInspire for their CanBead programme and \$7,500 for Youthline Central South Island for their crisis line.

Youthline Central South Island told us: "We're incredibly grateful to the Community Trust of Mid and South Canterbury for backing our mission to empower and support local youth. This enables us to maintain vital services like our 24/7 free helpline, online mentoring, and wellbeing resources for any school or individual who requests it."

The Community Trust receives all manner of requests from throughout the region. Trust CEO, Liz Shea said "the Trust is very aware of the increasing cost pressures on charities and not-for-profit groups who provide essential services across our region, and the Community Trust is here to support them. 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 to see if you are eligible to apply to the Community Trust for funding for an event, programme or capital project.