

Media Statement: Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury November 2020

Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury

In its latest funding round the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury approved grants totalling \$120,255 to 19 organisations from around the region supporting a range of outcomes for health, community, and recreational groups. The Community Trust is pleased to be able to use returns from investments to fund its philanthropy where it is identified as being needed.

In the **Ashburton district** grants were provided to the Mid Canterbury Emergency Relief Charitable Trust to assist with their **Rural Driver Licensing Scheme** (\$5,000) which aims to address the issue of rural isolation, enabling better community integration and social interaction, resulting in more settled newcomers and less staff turnover in rural Mid Canterbury, by assisting rural women and men to attain their drivers licence. The Ashburton branch of Christian's Against Poverty (**CAP Debt Centre**) is run through the Ashburton Baptist Church. They received \$10,000 to assist local people to work with CAP Debt Centre to achieve their journey to becoming debt free. The goal of CAP is to enable families who opt into the programme to repay their debts, become debt free and learn to manage finances successful. **Birthright Canterbury Trust** received \$9,855 contribution towards operational costs in providing wraparound support to Families led by one person. This support ranges from immediate assistance such as accommodation and housing; social work support, helping families work through the barriers they face; connecting with others in the community; learning new skills; children's programmes and activities; and the provision of basic clothing and household goods. Other Ashburton area based groups to receive funding were: **Ashburton Cadet Corps** - \$2,500 for outdoor safety equipment; **Mid Canterbury Choir** \$1,500 grant towards the Messiah concert near Easter 2021; **Mid Canterbury Riding for the Disabled** \$2,500 for a storage container and **Methven Football Club** \$2,000 for operational costs.

In the **MacKenzie district**, **Mackenzie Community Enhancement Board operating as Heartlands Fairlie Resource and Information Centre** received \$3,000 towards community stadium safety mats in Fairlie. The **High Country Medical Trust** received \$20,000 towards the implementation of a mental health & wellbeing programme for this district. (an earlier media release on this is available if requested)

In **Temuka**, the **Temuka Golf Club** received \$2,000 for course maintenance costs.

In **Waimate**, **Waimate Community Radio**, Waimate Golden Sounds 88FM, received \$3,900 to pay rental costs for the premises of this 24/7 station.

The **Timaru District** is the home of the **Timaru Municipal Band** a.k.a. Alpine Energy Timaru Brass. They were granted \$3,000 to help purchase a new tenor horn. **Caroline House Inc.** provides strengths focused recovery programmes from addiction. It has commenced an external education programme that will be offered to rural areas, such as: Waimate, Kurow, Mackenzie district and Geraldine areas. \$5,000 has been granted for operational costs. **Addiction Mental Health Peer Support Services 101** (AMPSS101) is based in Church Street, Timaru and provide a free community drop in centre which offers a safe, non-judgmental environment where clients are supported by qualified Peer workers who implement the Strengths model and follow Tikanga Maori values. \$10,000 has been granted towards operational costs. **The Tongan Society South Canterbury**

provides cultural support and services to Tongan people as well as cross cultural guidance and training to local non-Pasifika based organisations. They receive \$5,000 towards operational costs.

Children of the region will benefit from a grant to **Cholmondeley Childrens' Centre** in Governor's Bay which provides short-term planned and emergency respite care for children aged 3 to 12 years from families who are affected by stress and crisis. They were granted \$10,000 for respite care nights for children from our area. Loved by multiple generations, Harold and the Life Education classroom managed by the **Life Education Trust Mid & South Canterbury** received \$10,000 towards operating costs to help keep school visits going into the future.

To learn more about the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury, please visit www.comtrust.org.nz

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