





"I liked that it was a safe place for both expecting mothers and mums who already had their babies. I enjoyed the activities and completing the plans set out for me as well as meeting the awesome staff. They all made me feel really comfortable. I never felt judged and they were easy to talk to"

Marissa - former resident



MISSION

Our mission is to help create a stronger New Zealand by equipping and empowering pregnant teens to flourish and make a positive difference in their communities. We believe in the potential of every young woman and provide a place for them to live, learn, prepare for childbirth and plan for a bright future.



HIGHLIGHTS

- New Houseparents thriving in their roles
- New Area Supervisor for the Wellington region
- New front door and internal door in the Wellington home
- Successful working bees in both homes
- Residents engaging in secondary and tertiary education
- Residents flourishing, safe and supported with their babies
- Providing extra support to former residents and families in the community during lockdown and beyond
- Whole team adapted successfully to working under lockdown conditions and kept the homes operating



CONTENTS

1. Chairperson's review
2. About us
3. Organisational structure
4. Rachel's story
5. The first 1,000 days
6. Thank you
7. Our supporters
8. Income and expenses summary

1. CHAIRPERSON'S REVIEW

This year has been a year of ups and downs, highs and lows. One full of blessings and new things to navigate, things that have never been navigated by our team before.

I am so proud of our amazing houseparents, staff and volunteers who have stepped up during this unprecedented season. Both sets of houseparents have managed some significant challenges, and faced them with love, honour and integrity. I am so grateful for their hard work and dedication to the home. They have journeyed through household repairs, renovation projects and COVID-19 lockdown, just to name a few. They are standing strong and growing in their roles every day. Watching them serve the residents and impact many lives is a blessing to witness. You are all truly valued and appreciated for all you are doing.

During lockdown this year we applied to the Ministry of Social Development and were approved as an essential service. This meant we could remain open and functioning in our House of Grace bubbles, serving and helping the young mothers and babies that needed our support.

We were also able to spend time reaching out to former residents through lockdown to offer our support. This proved an incredible time of reconnection and of sharing life stories. Many young mums needed support, and we were able to offer food and other household items.

Without the dedication of our staff, houseparents, volunteers, funders and supporters we couldn't do this. We are truly grateful for all you do, big and small. It all counts. It all matters. It doesn't go unnoticed.

We have endured with passion through a tumultuous year. We are stronger for it and ready for all the future holds.

Natalie Joyce, Acting Chairperson



2. ABOUT US

The House of Grace Trust was established in December 2001 as a non-profit organisation. We are predominantly funded and supported by financial donations, grants, corporate sponsorship, fundraising activities and donated goods and services.

Our objectives are to:

1. Equip each resident with the information and skills they need to be a successful parent.
2. Empower every resident to set life goals and instil in them a confidence and motivation to achieve them.
3. Create a safe and nurturing family environment that residents can learn from and replicate in their home and local community.
4. Provide a high standard of care and service to residents, staff and volunteers.
5. Be recognised for making a tangible difference in the lives of disadvantaged pregnant young women in New Zealand.
6. Be vigilant and transparent in managing resources to ensure sustainable growth of our organisation.



3. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Board of Trustees

Provide direction and advice on major funding and policy decisions.

Chairperson: Natalie Joyce

Secretary: Craig Ell

Treasurer: Michael Bangma

Trustees: Wayne Collins

Founding Director

Focused on general management, growth and ongoing health of the organisation.

Responsible for staff recruitment, training and overseeing policy and strategic funding decisions.

Regional Manager

Responsible for overseeing each region. Manage nationwide programs and operational processes. Work alongside the Director for regional growth and process implementation.

Accounts Manager

Responsible for accounts receivable/payable, tactical fundraising activities and securing grants.

Facilities Manager

Management of office, properties, vehicles and assets. Other duties include project funding.

Area Supervisor

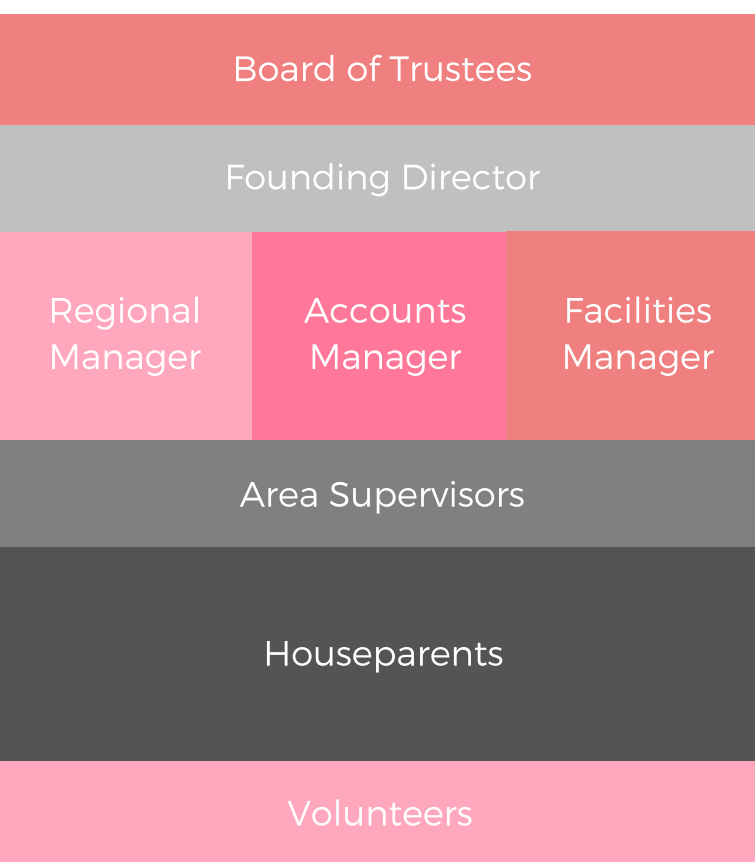
Resident intake, volunteer recruitment, houseparent support and property management, together with developing relationships with key community stakeholders.

Houseparents

Co-ordinate the day-to-day running of the home including the volunteer schedule. Their goal is to build each residents confidence and up-skill them in parenting techniques and household management.

Volunteers

Provide relief and support to houseparents on a regular basis. Includes weekend relief, resident support, donations management and property maintenance.



4. RACHEL'S STORY

Rachel was looking for a safe place to live and to learn how to care for her baby. She had a history of unsafe relationships, drug use and little-to-no social support. She was lacking self-esteem and independence.

After living at The House of Grace for 7 months, Rachel is now drug-free and has grown in confidence. She is enjoying being a mum, has healthy support networks and is looking forward to her future with a whole new set of life skills.

Rachel has now moved into her own home and keeps in regular contact with The House of Grace for ongoing support and encouragement. We are excited to see what the future holds for Rachel and her son.

Here are some thoughts Rachel has shared about her journey with The House of Grace.

*Please note, our resident's name has been changed to protect her privacy.

"I'm loving Mum-life. I'm even using cloth nappies on my baby and he's thriving. I've been able to explore life in a new town and I'm looking forward to eventually finding work and perhaps some study options. It's crazy to think what my life was like a year ago.

I'm also learning to love myself again. I don't want to go back to the way I was. The House of Grace has been a home, a place of security, a safe house. The houseparents are amazing.

I even know how to cook on my own now, which is amazing! With a baby, I really need to be making regular meals and I know I can do that now."



5. THE FIRST 1,000 DAYS

We have a saying at The House of Grace that “no two days are the same!”. The past year has definitely highlighted this truth. With the nation in 'lockdown', The House of Grace was classified an essential service and continued to operate through all alert levels – albeit in slightly different ways at times.

We also had the opportunity to provide support to many aftercare residents through phone calls, food parcels and clothing where needed. With new houseparents in each home, it has been a privilege to see them settle into their roles with confidence and grace. The skill-set of a houseparent is wide-ranging and requires wisdom, strength and gentleness. Our houseparents get up every day to love and support the young women and babies in their care. They are true heroes and an inspiration.

I also have the privilege to work with a dedicated team of staff and volunteers who are passionate about our vision to see young mums loved and supported. And this can only result in stronger family units and communities.

There is growing evidence and understanding that the first 1,000 days of a child's life (including in utero) has a significant impact on their long term development. We know that nutrition, social and environmental factors in the first 1,000 days will shape a person's lifelong health and intellectual development.

I'm encouraged to know that by living at The House of Grace, a new generation has the opportunity for a great start to life. Being in an environment where mums are safe and warm, provided with nutritious meals, supported to engage in health services and encouraged to bond with their babies all have a positive effect on a baby's development.

I look forward to seeing what the future holds for the babies born to young mums living at The House of Grace.

Fiona Collins, Regional Manager



6. THANK YOU

Like many charitable trusts in New Zealand, The House of Grace has had a year that can only be described as challenging.

Financially we have made decisions to delay projects and cut costs to ensure we are able to continue to provide our core service. With support from local groups, government, and generous individuals, we have been able to stay open and operating throughout the lockdown and will continue to be.

We make prudent decisions to ensure we are around to assist young mums and their babies for future years to come. We are incredibly grateful for the people who partner with us and donate throughout the year. Whether that's through a regular automatic payment, donations through givealittle, leaving a bequest, payroll giving, or another way. This long-term, consistent support makes a huge difference and allows us to do so much in communities across the nation. Thank you!



There are a number of key businesses, Trusts and Foundations that generously give grants to The House of Grace throughout the year. We simply couldn't do what we do without these contributions, so special thanks goes to these groups. Please see the 'Thanks to our Supporters' page for a list of our key supporters from this year.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you, our whanau of supporters, for your commitment to those who are in need, and for your grace throughout this period of change. We look forward to continuing to partner with you as we strive to make a real and lasting difference in communities throughout New Zealand.

Nga mihi

Michael Bangma, Treasurer

7. THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

A huge thank you to every individual and organisation that has supported The House of Grace this year, including those who may have been inadvertently left off this list. We appreciate you all so much.

Trusts

Archdiocese of Wellington - BA Lewis trust
- D V Bryant Trust - COGS - Common Good
- Community Waikato - Eastern & Central
Community Trust - EM Parazyn Trust -
FH Muter Charitable Trust - Gallagher Trust
- Grassroots Trust - Hutt Mana Charitable
Trust - Infinity Foundation - John Illot
Charitable Trust - Johnsonville Charitable
Trust - Len Renyolds Trust - Lions Club East
Hamilton - Lions Foundation -
Marlborough Christian Aid Trust - Nikau
Foundation - Norah Howell Charitable
Trust - NZ Lotteries Grants Board - Page
Trust - Pub Charity - Sky City Hamilton -
The Amazing Grace Trust - The Catholic
Foundation - The Roy & Jan Mace Trust -
The Trusts Community Foundation -
Trillian Trust - Trust House - Trust Waikato
- Upper Hutt City Council - Vavasour Trust -
Wel Energy Trust - Wellington Children's
Foundation Inc - Wellington Community
Trust - Wellington Methodist Trust -
Winton & Margaret Bear Trust

Organisations

Altrusa Ohariu - Infoodle - Inner Wheel
Wellington - Integrated Property Services
Ltd - Voice for Life Waikato - Johnsonville
Op Shop - Johnsonville Rotary Club -
Jumble Tree - MARDAG Holdings -
Marlborough Christian Aid Trust -
Max Architecture - Plumb 2 Please - Rotary
Club of Port Nicholson - Shares for Good -
St Johns

Churches

ARISE Church - Kings Church - Methodist
Church of NZ - Newlands Baptist Church -
Northern Suburbs Church - Onslow
Community Church - Plimmerton
Presbyterian Church - Plimmerton
Beachside Church - Reverence for Life
Group - Te Awamutu Baptist Church -
The Order of St Luke - Western Suburbs
Christian Fellowship Church

Donated goods or services

All Paints Ltd - Disbin - Good Bitches
Baking - Hamilton City Council - Kiwi
Community Assistance - Little Sprouts -
Mane Build - MediTrain First Aid - MMM NZ
- North City Motors - Waikato Regional
Council - Wellington City Council -
Hamilton City Council

Thank you!

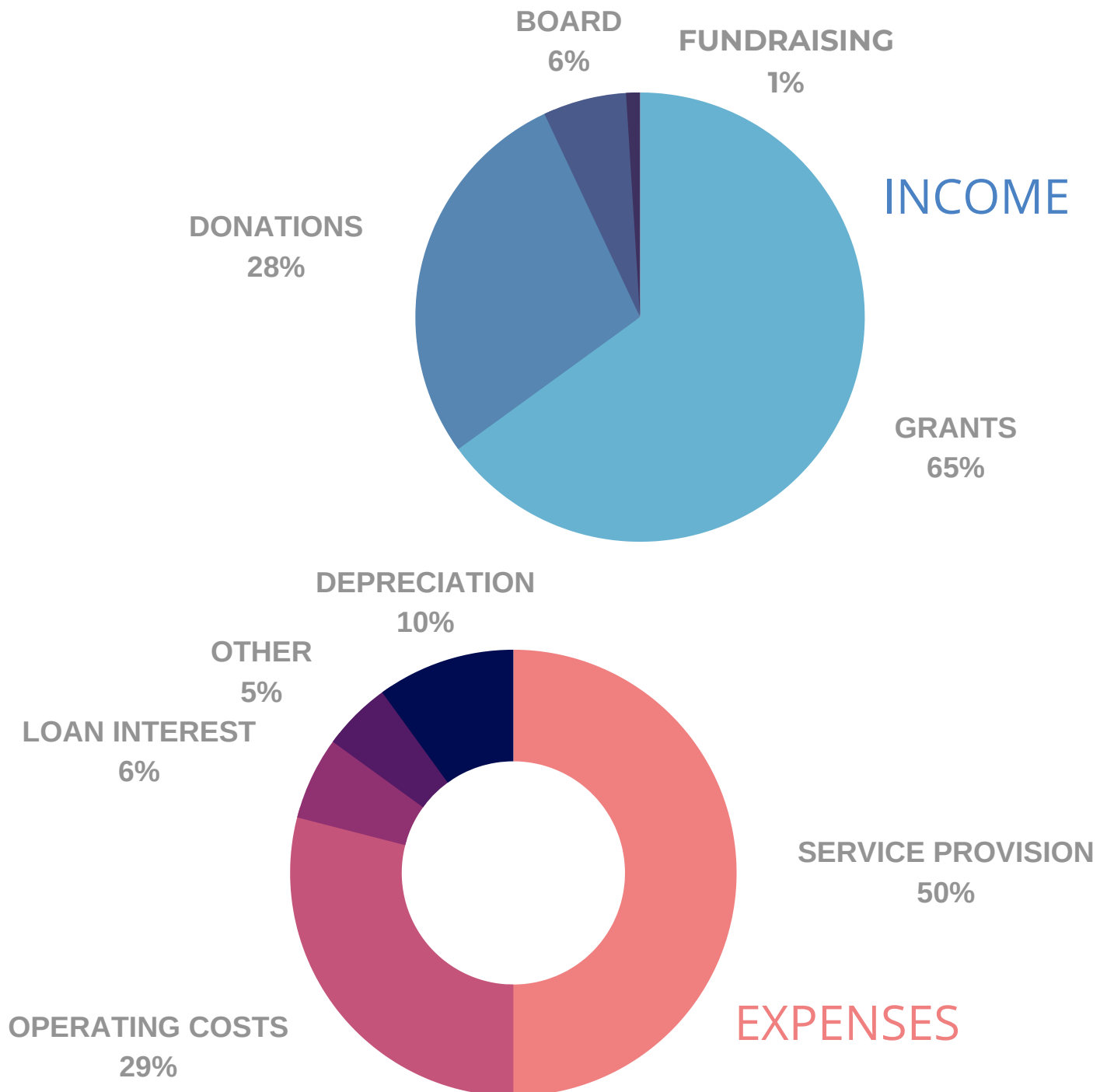
The House of Grace is so grateful to all the individuals, organisations and funders that made additional financial contributions during this COVID-19 season. We appreciate the support in these unprecedented times and value your ongoing commitment to the young mums and babies in our care.



8. INCOME AND EXPENSES SUMMARY

Our key income sources include grants, donations, accommodation board from residents and fundraising. With the exception of the initial COVID-19 Wage Subsidy, The House of Grace does not receive any government funding.

Here's a snapshot of our income and expenses performance for the year ending 31 March 2020. For full details, please refer to our financial statements which are available on request.



Legal Name of Entity

The House of Grace Trust Incorporated

Charities Registration Number

CC10642

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