

You help families and communities

Turning from crime to leadership

Breaking the cycle of under-achievement and failure

Tama had not been to school for two years. The second youngest of five children, homelife was tough with mum out of work, money tight and gang affiliations for the family. Tama had over 45 charges for breaking and entering and had been to court over three times in the last year.

Coming to Marist Alternative Education (Marist Alt Ed), gave Tama another chance to get back on track and break away from the cycle of under-achievement and failure.

Marist Alt Ed provides young people, just like Tama, an alternative learning environment. Smaller classes, one on one mentoring and tailor-made programmes are offered to bring the best out in students and equip them with the skills to further their education or to find employment. Each student is helped to develop their hidden potential.

For Tama, coming to Marist Alt Ed was just the right step for him. For a kid who hadn't attended

Thanks to donors like you, Marist Alternative Education gives at-risk young people another chance at getting back on track and breaking away from the cycle of under-achievement and failure.

school for two years, gaining an attendance rate of 95% was a major achievement. His learning improved and he discovered that he enjoyed new things, like learning to play chess, writing stories and reading novels.

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Finding strength through Te Waipuna Puawai Mercy Oasis

Karen's journey

"I whakapapa to Tainui and Ngāpuhi. Our whānau came to Glen Innes (GI) in 1960 when I was four. Living on Mad Ave and growing up in GI gave me a sense of tūrangawaewae (a place to stand). I raised my children in Panmure and

I'm now back in GI. I'm 56 and have six children and seven mokopuna.

As a kid, I never liked school. From my classroom, I could see my house and would pine for home. I was a daydreamer and a loner. School had been hard on my mum so she never encouraged us to stay. The focus was getting a job and making home your career.

I first connected to Te Waipuna Puawai through Sr Marie. I kept seeing this Pakeha lady driving a van around GI. She knocked on my mum's door one day, asking if she knew any women interested in doing courses. My mum told her about me. But I was in the middle of having children, raising a family, and trying to keep my relationship together.

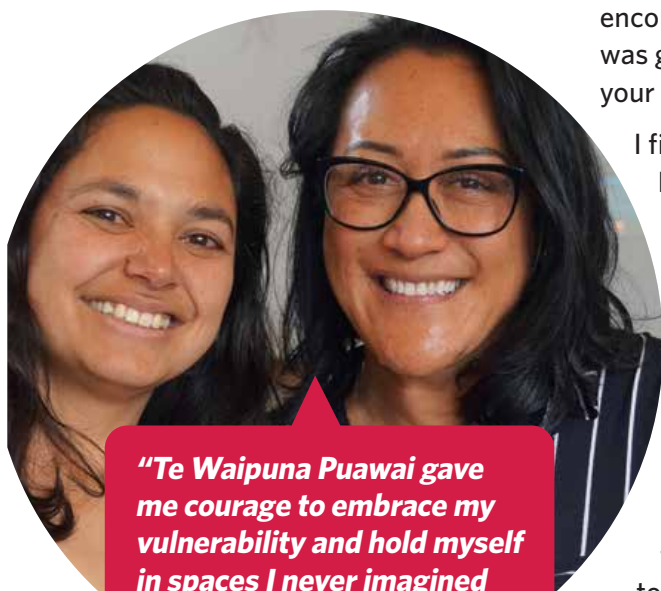
Sr Marie stayed in touch and six months later I signed up for a course. I was so fearful, that I didn't turn up. Back then, I was so full of anxiety that it took me 15 attempts to get my driver's license.

Sr Marie chased me down. "Come on," she said, "you will love it once you get there and meet the other women." And she was right.

Something in me was determined to succeed. Two years later I did a gardening course, then a cooking course, then a cooking course, and then other courses that were available.

I was a stay-at-home mum, working any jobs I could get: cleaning toilets, digging holes, cooking hamburgers, or picking fruit. I loved going to the courses. I needed the peace of that place and all its greenery. It was a tūrangawaewae for me – a place to be, to cry, to learn, to grow, to plant, to sing, to dance, and to weave. The Sisters encouraged us to be creative and think about things.

I went through tough times, but I never felt judged."



"Te Waipuna Puawai gave me courage to embrace my vulnerability and hold myself in spaces I never imagined I would occupy. My story is one of many stories of Tāmaki wāhine and whanau positively impacted by its mission."

Asheley, mother of four and nana.

Te Waipuna Puawai Mercy Oasis fosters well-being through education, self-development and family services for the Tamaki community. Set up over 20 years ago by the Sisters of Mercy, Te Waipuna Puawai is committed to meeting the unmet needs of women, children and the community.

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Asked to tell his story, Tama addressed his fellow students and staff about how embarrassed and sorry he was for all his past actions. His offending had affected many people. He asked for a chance to make things right.

The profound change in his behaviour was also noticed by the Police. His whanau and mother and brothers also noticed the change and are now wanting a chance to turn their lives around, too.

With this new-found direction, Tama has stepped up to be a leader. Staff say that now he is always looking to see who and how he can help others.

Update on Kiwibank Cheques

If you are a Kiwibank customer, cheques written after 28 February 2020 may not be honoured by Kiwibank. However, there are still many other ways that you can continue your support of the Catholic Caring Foundation. You can donate anytime via our website (www.caringfoundation.org.nz) or by calling our office on 09 360 3045.

Or if you prefer, you can make a direct payment to our bank account Caring Foundation 02-0100-0242648-00 using your surname as reference. Alternatively, please phone us to discuss how simple it is to set up a monthly payment.

Simplify your life. Start a monthly gift. Contact us for more details (09) 360 3045 or info@caringfoundation.org.nz

A message from Bishop Pat

As we welcome the start of a new year, can I offer you my heartfelt gratitude for your support of my Foundation.

For many families, beset by tragedy, poverty, addictions or financial insecurity, the new year can often be a time of despair and great worry. The Caring Foundation works with many organisations who day-in and day-out help to alleviate some of these struggles and complex issues, with which many of our families battle.

As I reflect on the work that is ahead of us, and the call from Pope Francis to 'open our hearts to the poor', it is timely to also reflect and give thanks to those loyal supporters who have gone before us, but whose legacy

means that their values of caring for the poor and marginalised will still live on. They have given a gift of hope, faith and charity so that families and communities today who suffer from poverty and hardship will receive help, care and the skills to transform their lives tomorrow.

It is because of their bequests and the support from you, my dear brothers and sisters, that the Foundation can show forth our faith in action within our community.

In this new year and new decade, I do ask for your prayers for my Foundation, and the community groups whom we fund, who treat the most vulnerable and distressed with such care and dignity.



"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

(Matthew 25:40)

With every blessing,

+ *Patrick Dunn*

Bishop Pat

My bequest is a gift of help, hope and care

"I am grateful to be able to make a bequest to the Catholic Caring Foundation in my Will. I know that our bishop's heart goes out to the poor and vulnerable who will always be with us. So does mine, but I do not always know how best or wisely I can help those in greatest need. I have decided that by leaving my "widow's mite", small though it is, to the Catholic Caring Foundation, it can be added to the gifts that others make.

Together, we will be able to ensure that help, hope and care may continue to be given to those most in need in years to come."

Let your faith and values live on with a bequest to the Caring Foundation.



Len Holzer Family Trust

We are delighted to be working with the Trustees of the Len Holzer Family Trust to distribute funds on the Trust's behalf.

The late Leonard (Len) Holzer was very committed to meeting the needs in the Catholic community in Auckland, providing sewing machines for the young women attending the reformatory of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Waikowhai and supporting the teaching orders of religious nuns in Auckland.

His legacy of supporting his Catholic community continues to this day, thanks to the generosity of his family trust.

If you have a family trust and would like to work with the Foundation to support the poor and marginalised, please call Ann Marie Parker, Manager, on (09) 360 3012.

Make a difference in someone's life with a bequest to the Caring Foundation.

<<Unique Code>>
<<Name>>
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<<City>> <<Postcode>>



Yes! I would like to support and strengthen families and communities.

1. Please accept my gift of

☐ \$35 ☐ \$65 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$125 ☐ \$_____ gift of my own choice

All donations over \$5 are tax deductible. Up to 33% of your gift may be claimed back as a tax rebate.

2. I would like to donate by:

1. Cheque ☐ Cheque (made payable to Catholic Caring Foundation) **OR**

2. Online Banking

Please make your online gift to our bank account: **02-0100-0242648-000**, using your surname and initials as particulars and your supporter number <supporter number> as the reference.

Please let us know by email to **info@caringfoundation.org.nz** so we can send you a receipt. **OR**

3. Credit Card

Please debit this card:

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex

Card Number:

Name on Card: Expiry: /

Signature: Date:

Email:

OR

4. Please visit our website: www.caringfoundation.org.nz/waystogive

Help us keep your details up to date

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Please update your email address so you can receive your donation receipt quickly by email.

Thank you so much for your support.

We value your privacy and do not share your information with anyone else.

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