



## You help families and communities

# Providing broken families with love and safety

***"How can I go to sleep in my own warm bed when I know that there is a family who are sleeping rough or on a cold floor somewhere?"***

An eight-year old arrives at a refuge. She is with her mother and six siblings. They have left their dad and uncle. She has watched her father from the window of the van as he stands on the front lawn of their home. At the time, she doesn't know that this will be the last time that she sees him.

She remembers seeing the silent figure of her father fade away as the van turns from her home - the place where she and her family have suffered beatings and sexual abuse.

Her mother has tried to keep the family safe, but she can't do it by herself any longer.

Latu\* arrives at the refuge where she and her family will be cared for and allowed to heal. The refuge will have such an impact on her life that she will finish her schooling, gain a social work qualification, and return to the refuge so she can continue to help others.

She will know what families are experiencing when they first arrive.

She will remember what it was like to have a dull heart and to trust no-one about what she was witnessing at home.

Susana Fiu-Fetalai is the 'mother' of the Mother of Divine Mercy Refuge. Everyone calls her 'Mum'.

In 2001, the refuge became independent. When she was asked to change the name of the refuge, she refused. When she was asked to drop her core Catholic values, she refused. And when she was asked

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# Your gift made this support possible in 2020

## Growing budgeting and financial literacy skills

### Helping families stay out of debt

- CAP Christians Against Poverty East Auckland Home and Budget
- Trust t/a Tamaki Budgeting Whangarei Budgeting Services

## Caring for our Children/Tamariki

- Boy's Brigade NZ Inc
- Dayspring Trust
- Pompallier College

## Caring for our Communities

### Supporting our families and people

- CDA – Catholic Social Services
- Friendship House Trust
- Kaitaia People's Centre
- Linking Hands
- Otamatea Community Services
- PHAB Assoc Auckland
- Te Pokapu Tiaki Taiao O Te Tai Tokerau Trust
- Whitianga Community Services

## Caring for our Elderly

- Age Concern Whangarei Incorporated
- Communicare CMA (Auckland) Inc
- Kaitaia & District Age Concern Northland Disabled Trust – Forget Me Not
- TOA Pacific Inc

## Caring for our Homeless

- De Paul Housing Trust
- Tai Tokerau Emergency Housing

## Caring for our Families

### Helping families thrive

- Family Success Matters
- Homebuilders Family Services – North Rodney
- Kaipara Abuse Prevention
- Pillars Inc
- RAW 2014 Ltd
- Rongopai House
- Tamaki Community Development Trust
- Te Waipuna Puawai Mercy Oasis
- Te Whakaora Tangata Trust

## Feeding our People

### Giving food to the hungry

- Bay of Islands Community Centre (Community Foodbank)
- Bay of Islands Districts Foodbank
- Far North Community Foodbank
- Love Soup
- Monte Cecilia Housing Trust
- Ranui Baptist Community Care
- South Auckland Christian Foodbank
- St Vincent de Paul – Auckland Central
- St Vincent de Paul – South Auckland
- St Vincent de Paul – Northland

## Caring for our New Settlers and Migrants

- Asylum Seekers Support Trust
- Migrant Action Trust
- Ss Joseph and Joachim Parish, Otahuhu

## Caring for our Mothers and Babies

- Family Life International
- Parent-Aid Central West
- Pregnancy Help Inc
- Windsor Park LifeCare

## Caring for Women and Children

- Mother of Divine Mercy Refuge
- Shakti Asian Women's Safe House
- South Auckland Women's Refuge – Peppertree
- Whare Timatatanga Hou Ora

## Caring for our Young People

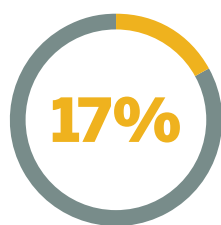
- CAPS Northland t/a Jigsaw North Family Services
- Coast Youth Community Trust
- De La Salle College
- Edmund Rice Camps, Auckland
- Logos project – Marist Youth Development
- Marcellin College
- Marist Alternative Ed Ltd
- Northland Catholic Youth
- Papatoetoe Adolescent Christian Trust
- Springboard Community Works
- Te Roopu O Wai Ora
- Teen-Esteem Workshops

## Caring for our Pastoral Needs

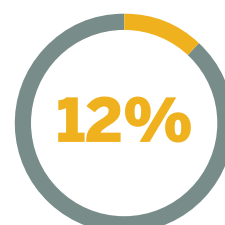
- Bishop's Emergency Grants
- Board Discretionary Grants
- CDA – Deaf Ministry
- CDA – Marriage and Family Life
- CDA – Prison Chaplaincy
- CDA – Seasons for Growth
- CDA – Youth and Young Adult Ministries



of grants will help support **families** (counselling, advocacy, parenting programmes).



of grants will support **our young** people (mentoring, online support, resilience development, youth leadership development).



of grants will support foodbanks. Over **\$100,000** has been given to help foodbanks keep up with the record demand for food.



of grants will support **community services** for our families and individuals in need, so mums and dads can help their families thrive.



of grants will support **women's refuges** so women and children fleeing domestic violence can find a place of safety (4 safe houses and their support services have been given grants in 2020).



of grants will help **mothers and their babies** (pregnancy support, counselling, practical home-help).



# A message from Bishop Pat

Little did we know when we gave thanks for a new year at the beginning of 2020, that our world would be changed in ways we did not think possible. That New Zealand would close its borders, and everyone would be unable to move from their homes. We were living in uncertain and challenging times.

Throughout this unnerving time, social services around the diocese stepped up to help our families during the lock-down: Catholic Social Services, St Vincent de Paul, De Paul House, Monte Cecilia Housing Trust, Mother of Divine Mercy Refuge, and many more. As essential services, they found innovative ways of continuing to provide specialised care to families and individuals.

Many caring individuals also stepped forward and offered their support

both financially and in kind. Together, with my Foundation team, new ways were found to quickly get support out to families and communities in need, with annual grants made available in May instead of July.

The time spent in our bubbles gave us ample opportunity to reflect on the question: How can my life bear witness to my faith? For many, one of the ways you answered this was to consider how you could help our brothers and sisters in need.

Your generosity during personally uncertain times, touched me greatly. I know it has made a difference to the lives of many.

My Foundation is continuing their ministry of supporting the needs of mothers, fathers, sons, and



daughters. **Would you consider assisting them during their annual appeal in July so that support can continue in our post-COVID world?**

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

Matthew 25: 40

With every blessing,

+ *Patrick Duggan*

Bishop Pat

**Please join me for my Foundation's Caring Mass on July 22, 2020. It will be held at Christ the King parish, Owairaka at 11.30am with light refreshments to follow. If you are able to attend, please RSVP to [info@caringfoundation.org.nz](mailto:info@caringfoundation.org.nz) before the 17th of July. All are very welcome.**

## Recycling our surplus income – a donor's story

"Terry and I believe it is important to recycle surplus income, remembering the words of St Augustine: "He who possesses a surplus, possesses the goods of another." But it is not always easy to give money wisely. We know we can trust the Caring Foundation and a few other genuine causes.

I was the eldest of five children raised on my father's Invalid's pension. There was never enough to live on. Our house was furnished

from the rubbish dump. True. My sisters and I pushed an old couch home, and we had washed sacks on our beds. But local people were kind. I remember a farmer who gave us a billy of milk each day and we collected stale bread from the baker. Often our meals were bread and hot milk and I am still rather partial to that.

Two decades later I was on my own with four children, and that was before there was a benefit for

***"He who possesses a surplus, possesses the goods of another"***  
St. Augustine.

women in that situation. Poverty was real again.

So yes, I know the struggle. I am reminded of it by a quote from Henri Nouwen: "Once we ourselves have suffered, the suffering of others falls upon our softened hearts and we become more human members of the human race.""

**Terry and Joy**

**Please consider a gift to our annual appeal.**

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not to take in boys over the age of 11, she refused. She wanted families to stay together and heal.

Fast-track to 2020, and her faith-based model is still working well. Politicians and public servants often visit to see why the refuge is such a success.

Susana believes that the reason for their success is their core Catholic values. She says, "You know what to give them. You give them love and family. And you just give. It is rewarding. It is God's work."

"How can I go to sleep in my own warm bed when I know that there is a family who are sleeping rough or on a cold floor somewhere?" she asks. "I've been there. I've been homeless and had no food for my kids. You can be closer to them because you have been there too."

"But even if you are tired you get up and you go to them - 24/7. There is an inner strength in you that means that you can go and help. When you know that the family is safe, then you can sleep well. Only then.

She and her team have brought peace and support to families and a chance for healing. She has given Pasifika boys and men the opportunity to break the cycle of domestic violence so that when they too are fathers, they can model love

and support to their own children and partners.

"Families can call us and visit us and still be a part of what we do. They come to us for help but sometimes they help us with food and deliveries and our youth programmes," says Latu. "Our family always comes back and visit us."

There is no such thing as a closed file at the refuge. Susanna and her staff know that healing can take many years. They know that families will still need support and a trusted place where they can get help if they need it.

**This year, your donation is helping the families and children of the Mother of Divine Mercy Refuge find a safe place where they can heal and find the strengthen to rebuild their lives. On your behalf I visited the refuge and spoke to some of the team. They are dedicated, humble and provide care, love and support to vulnerable and broken families. They are grateful to you for this wonderful support.**

\*not her real name

## Bequests are precious

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I was notified of a bequest from one of our loyal donors. It was a precious moment in a time of enormous change and uncertainty. I reflected on how much of an impact this legacy would have on the world that we had found ourselves in, when families were without food and many were facing financial uncertainty.

Through the selfless act of making a bequest, our donor had ensured that the Foundation was able to help you and in the future.

If you would like to leave a message of care and support to the next generation, then please consider leaving a bequest to the Foundation. For a confidential chat, please call Ann-Marie Parker, Manager (09) 360 3012 for a confidential chat.

***Yes! I want to help families and communities in need.***

**Please donate by:**



**MAIL**

Private Bag 47904, Auckland 1144



**PHONE**

(09) 360 3045



**WEB  
EMAIL  
DIRECT**

[www.caringfoundation.org.nz](http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz)  
[info@caringfoundation.org.nz](mailto:info@caringfoundation.org.nz)

To our account 02-0100-0242648-00  
(please send us an email if you are paying directly to our account)

**Leave a message of care and support, to the next generation with a gift in your Will.**