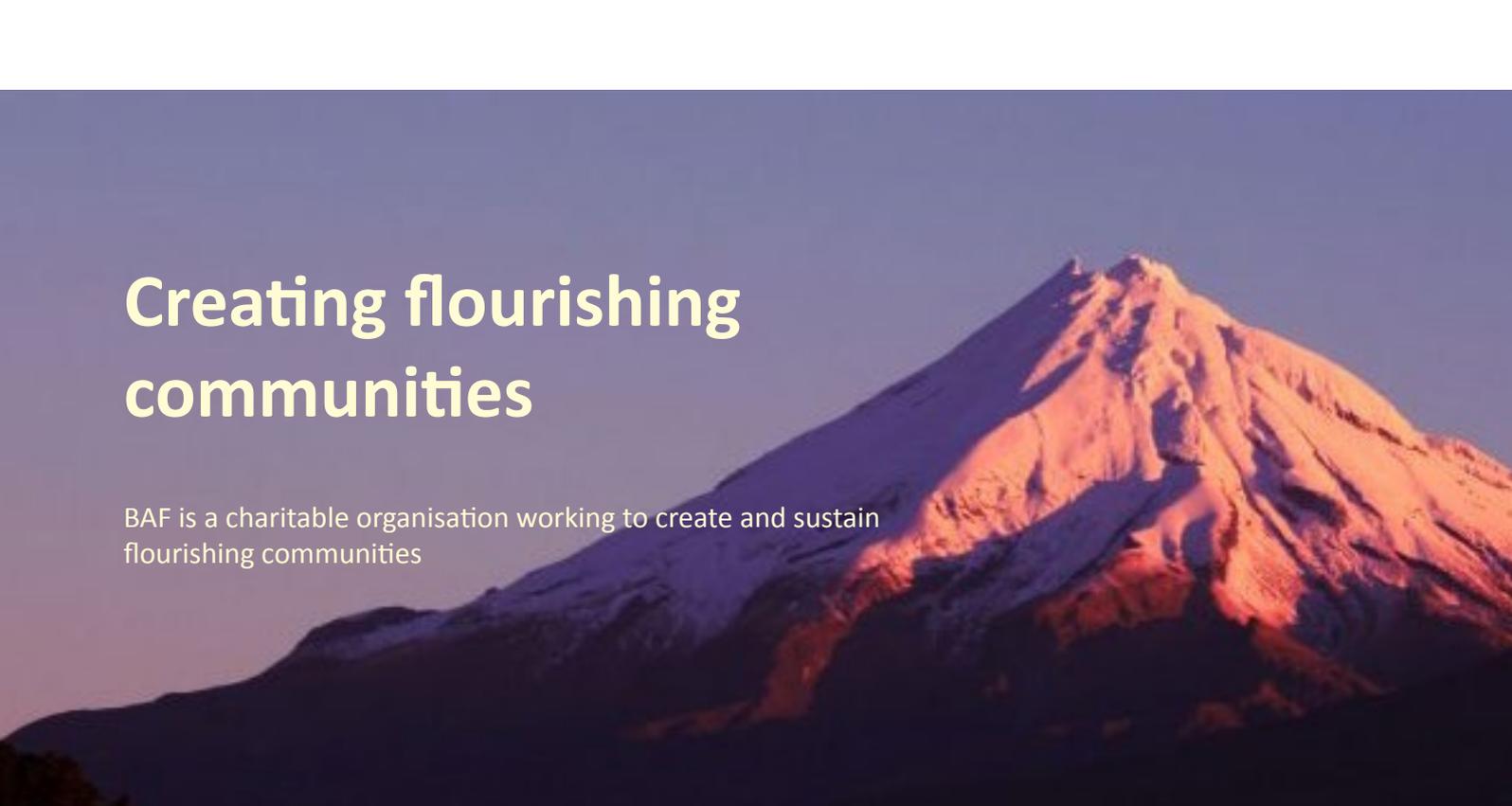




**BAF** BISHOP'S  
ACTION  
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



# Creating flourishing communities

BAF is a charitable organisation working to create and sustain flourishing communities

## Our Vision

Simply, we want to create communities that flourish. To achieve this we identify the root cause of community and social issues and develop partnerships that can create lasting solutions. We have three core action areas of Research, Collaboration and Service. We like to see ourselves as a catalyst for change, developing collaborations and solutions that can thrive beyond our involvement so that we can continue to look for more good to be done.

### Think Tank

#### Research

We bring community members together to start conversation, think creatively and research ways to create fundamental social change.

02

### Innovation

#### Collaboration

BAF works collaboratively with a number of partners across Taranaki and wider New Zealand to lead, support, and sustain programmes that create social change.

06

### Projects

#### Programme and Service Hub

We support and implement a number of projects that develop long-term solutions to social issues, helping our community to flourish from the ground up.

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## THINK TANK/RESEARCH

### Affordable Housing – Rental as a Viable Housing Option

BAF's charitable company, Catalyst Housing Ltd, continues to focus on developing more effective approaches to affordable housing into the future building from our 2016 research. Within that research one of the recommendations was:

- There is a need to increase the availability of affordable, healthy long term rental options for low income households.

We have begun to frame up a focused research project that will respond to this recommendation using Taranaki as a case study. Our research will use both national and international examples to inform its recommendations. At present the rental system in New Zealand is immature

and inconsistent often leaving tenants without long-term security of tenure, undermining the existence of genuinely affordable rental options and exposing landlords to excessive risk. Most supposedly affordable rental options simply base their rent on a percentage of market rates, not a genuinely affordable rental that looks at the costs families can afford alongside what it actually takes to run and maintain rental properties. We will explore how the rental system can be advanced so that we can develop rental options for the future that are as attractive as ownership and can contribute to the available pathways for affordable homes for those that need them.



## Working Poor – Preventing Vulnerability Becoming Crisis

In mid-2018 a partnership comprising the Human Rights Commission (HRC), the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) began to scope research that would explore the extent of 'working poor', the risks they face and strategies that could provide a response to the issues identified. The working poor are households that cannot escape hardship despite containing individual(s) who are employed. They are a separate group from those who are low-paid workers (although there is some overlap between the two groups).

BAF is keen to understand the scope of working poor families within Taranaki and we are framing a research project to deliver better understanding for our region. The objective of the research is to 1) define 'in-work poverty' (or 'the working poor') in the Taranaki context, 2) measure its prevalence, 3) profile those who are affected based on demographics and available employment-related characteristics and assess risk of in-work poverty, 4) develop suggested strategies that could respond to the findings. The research findings will therefore serve as a platform for informing future action.



## Potential of Church to support Rural Sustainability

BAF commissioned and sponsored this research through a Master's thesis delivered as part of an AUT programme of study.

The Anglican Church is present in most communities around the region of Taranaki, New Zealand. Where churches were once hubs of community life, in rural and small-town settings they are now often on the periphery. Frequently attended by ageing and diminishing congregations, the capacity to reach out and serve the wider community is dwindling. Buildings become used less frequently, some are closed. Although these churches are well placed to continue to contribute to their rural communities as they have previously done, the opportunity is seemingly ebbing away.

Adding to knowledge in the field of sociology of religion, this study of Anglican parishes in rural Taranaki examines what is being done and what could be done by churches in their communities. The research is based on the positive premise that the potential to contribute is there and still to be found, although what it may look like could be radically different from now. Nine parishes were surveyed initially, and three of these were chosen as case studies. The research is available at the following link <http://hdl.handle.net/10292/11882>

# INNOVATION/COLLABORATION

## Social Enterprise

In 2018 we rebranded our social enterprise incubator from SE@Manifold to Get Social.

Get Social is a partnership between The Bishop's Action Foundation and the Manifold Co-Working space. We aim to position Taranaki as one of the destinations for social enterprise in New Zealand through education, support and partnerships. We will create a more resilient & agile economy by creating employment and social vibrancy.

Our research and understanding of the current social enterprise landscape suggests that Taranaki is at the very beginning of a journey towards a thriving social enterprise ecosystem requiring us to take action.

In 2018-19 our core activities are:

- Social Enterprise clinic – held during the afternoon of the first Thursday of the month. This regular SE clinic provides an accessible space where social entrepreneurs can find answers to important questions and access to helpful advice;
- Social Enterprise meet-ups – held during the evening of the first Thursday of the month. Connecting people through a regular schedule of meetups provides a helpful rhythm to fast track our ability to share what works. Meetups are also a great way to bring in people with the knowledge that our developing ecosystem needs;
- SE in Schools pilot – working with Devon Intermediate (with support from the regional Young Enterprise Scheme) we are delivering a pilot 20 week programme targeted at intermediate age students;
- National SE Hubs project – we are one of 9 participants in this national collaboration and learning journey facilitated by the Akina Foundation and involving SE hubs from Northland through to Christchurch.



## NZ Navigator and Community Net

NZ Navigator is an on-line assessment tool that has been developed for New Zealand community organisations by The Bishop's Action Foundation and Platform Trust, and is supported by the Department of Internal Affairs – Charities Services. NZ Navigator is focussed on building strong and effective organisations and communities, enabling users to assess the performance of their organisation by rating all the important areas of the organisation's operation – direction, governance, leadership, people, administration, finances, communication, evaluation, and relationships.

Following the success of the NZ Navigator tool which now has nearly 2000 registered community

organisations, the NZ Navigator partners worked with the Department of Internal Affairs to take over management and ownership of the Community.Net database. This has enabled the database to be refreshed as a key resource for the community sector.

The partners have also completed the development and incorporation of the NZ Navigator Trust which will work to create a growing portfolio of digital spaces that equip a thriving charitable and community sector in Aotearoa New Zealand.

For more information visit <https://nzntrust.org.nz/>

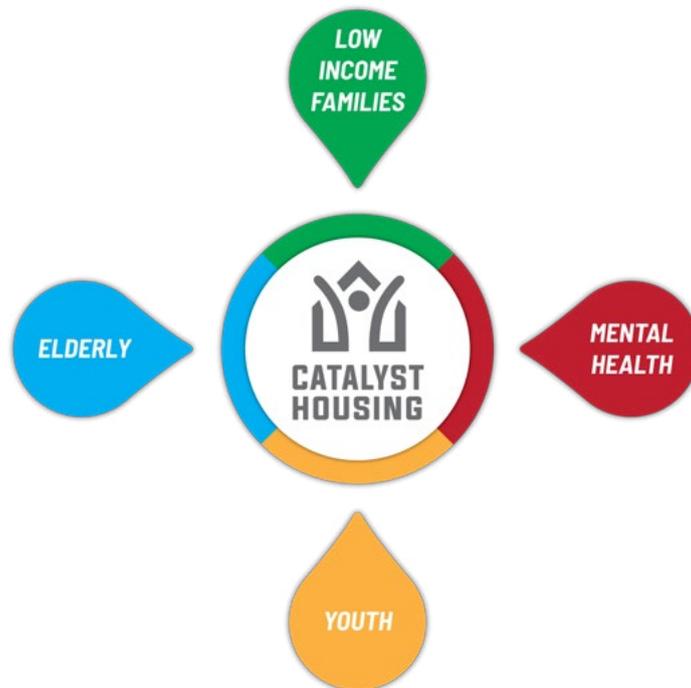
## Catalyst Housing Ltd

Catalyst Housing is a charitable company which was created by BAF following research into the need for affordable housing in Taranaki with the aim of providing pathways to sustainable housing. Our vision is: Within Taranaki those who need it have access to truly affordable and healthy housing options.

To achieve this vision we aim to be a catalyst for change enabling dialogue and action that achieves:

- The provision of sustainable, affordable, healthy and secure rental accommodation for those who need it in Taranaki.
- The creation of pathways that lead to ownership of affordable and healthy homes for those who need it in Taranaki.
- The regeneration and growth of strong and stable communities and townships across Taranaki.
- A dynamic housing pathway that enables people in Taranaki to move towards independence through affordable and sustainable housing.

Having been involved as a catalyst working with Housing New Zealand and the New Plymouth District Council to navigate a redevelopment programme within the Marfell neighbourhood we have now identified the following priority areas moving into 2019:



Our actions to achieve this will be:

1. Advocacy, partnership formation and collaborative leadership drawing together local and central government, agencies, builders, landowners and communities;
2. Creation of a regional affordable housing strategy;
3. Growth of affordable rental and ownership stock through renovation and new build;
4. Development of secure rental, rent to buy and shared equity systems;
5. Operation of a Navigator role to support people on their affordable housing journey to ensure they are successful.



## Te Hau Maiangi – Voices of Experience

Earlier this year Bishop's Action Foundation (BAF) and Access Radio Taranaki (ART) collaborated to form a space of thought leadership and innovation for Taranaki. This partnership aims to bring together an online portal where community groups can access local, national and international innovators talking about their field of expertise and their stories of experience, land and culture.

This collaboration aims to make accessible a wide spectrum of voices to ignite community inspiration, empowerment and action.

In 2019 we aim to record a collection of voices from around Taranaki Maunga to bring together a diverse range of information to grassroots organisations, to help shape the future of traditions relative to the future of our region.

We also aim to bring a collection of interviews and stories from national and international speakers on climate change, community collaboration and sustainability and its relevancy to Aotearoa innovation.

Te Hau Maiangi was a name initiated through collaboration and korero. Meaning the gentle breeze the name reflects the kōrero (breeze) that is shared, without judgement, through this project.

## Social Isolation of Older people

BAF has partnered with the Selwyn Foundation and Taranaki's Tainui Village to help prevent social isolation of older people throughout the Waikato and Taranaki regions. Through the partnerships we have established Selwyn Centres in Waikato and Tainui Day Centres in Taranaki as a response to the growing social isolation issue for elderly.

The centres offer social activities, gentle exercise, friendship, laughter, outings, help and support to those over 65 who may be living alone or have limited opportunity to get out and about.

The programme is community based and is designed to protect older people from social isolation or loneliness. Although based mainly in the Anglican Church premises, the centres serve older people from across the entire community.

In Waikato we have centres in Cambridge, Te Awamutu, Morrinsville and 3 centres in Hamilton (Melville, Chartwell, Dinsdale). In Taranaki we have centres in Opunake, Patea and Waverley.

BAF continues to look at ways to expand the programmes to more communities in the two regions.



## MENTORING FOUNDATION OF NEW ZEALAND

### The Mentoring Foundation

BAF continues to support the development of a national mentoring programme. The initiative is backed by The Tindall Foundation and is currently delivering community sector programmes in Taranaki, Bay of Plenty, Whanganui and Auckland (arts specific).

The Mentoring Foundation is strengthening the community sector by bringing mentoring to community sector leaders. The evaluations from

the first cohort of leaders through the Taranaki programme have reinforced that the programme is achieving many positive outcomes for both the mentees and mentors.

The Mentoring Foundation is exploring the opportunity to expand the programme to other regions and develop additional sector specific programmes such as sport and recreation.



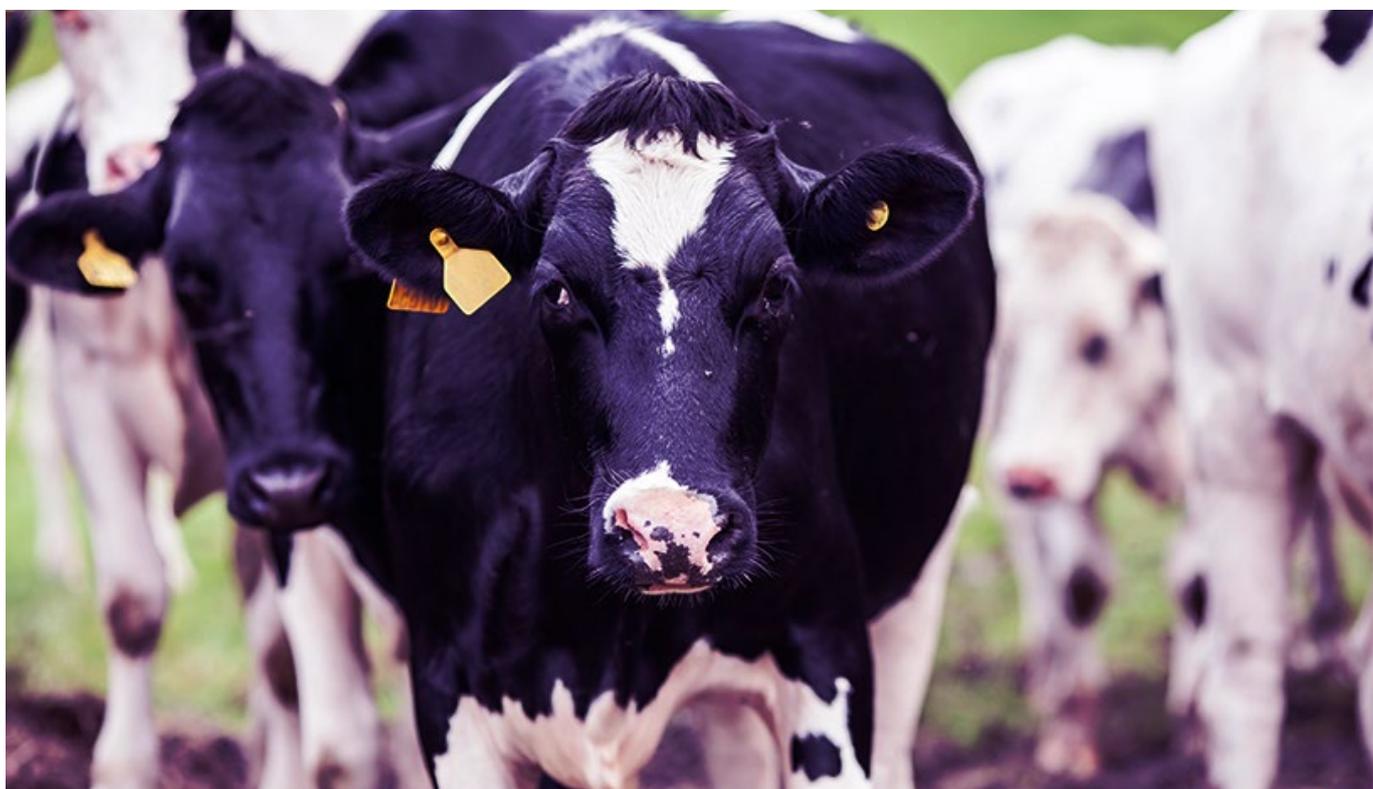
## Bashford-Nicholls Trust

BAF manages the scholarships provided by the Bashford-Nicholls Trust. This trust operates two dairy farms in South Taranaki with the aim of generating surpluses to enable scholarships for agriculture and veterinary science study and research.

BAF has developed and now manages an exciting and future focused scholarship programme that has extended the impact of the scholarships offered through the Bashford-Nicholls trust. The exciting scholarship programme has scholarships available for tertiary (vocational or undergraduate) and post-graduate (Masters or PhD) students. For tertiary students awards range from \$1,000 to \$4,000 per year and for post-graduate students from \$13,000 to \$20,000 per year.

BAF will also launch a new Bashford-Nicholls Award in 2019 offering up to \$100,000 per year towards high impact research in the fields of agriculture or veterinary science. This award will be delivered in partnership with a significant national partner.

Working in partnership with PKW, Te Karaka Foundation and CommunityForce, an online scholarship portal has been developed to streamline access to Taranaki based scholarships. In 2018 Nga Ruahine joined the portal partnership. Scholarships for Bashford-Nicholls and the other partners to the portal are available for applications in October each year by visiting <https://taranakis-scholarships.communityforce.com>



## PROJECTS/SERVICE HUB

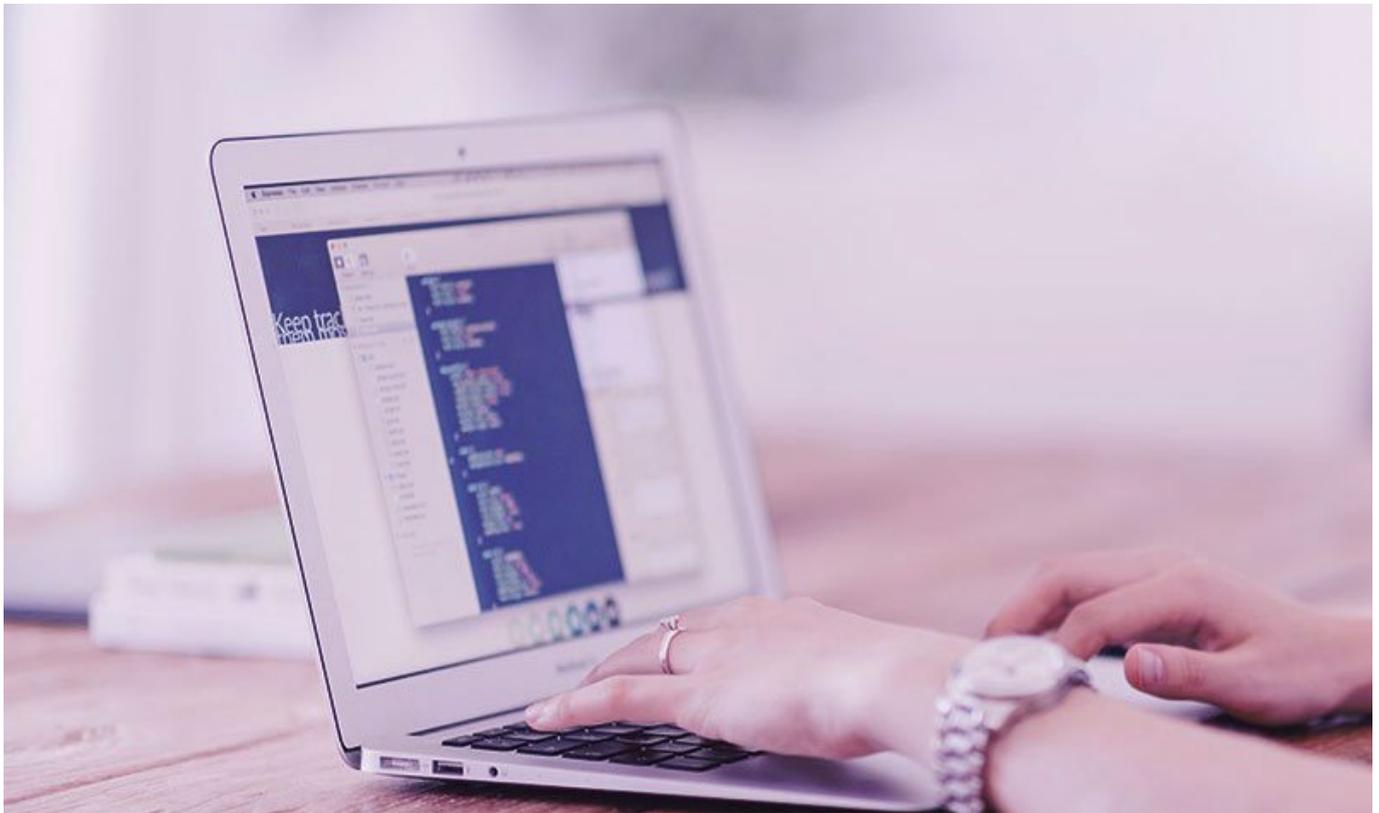


### Capacity Building

BAF continues to be a partner to The Wheelhouse – the regional collaboration committed to better co-ordination of training, educational opportunities and provision of resources for community groups throughout Taranaki - visit [www.wheelhouse.org.nz](http://www.wheelhouse.org.nz). The Wheelhouse vision is “stronger and more sustainable community organisations”. To do this The Wheelhouse provides a dynamic online portal that enables organisations to access training, mentoring, resources, funding support and much more. It also enables knowledge and learning to be shared. During 2018 over 264 people attended 35 Wheelhouse training courses.

On behalf of The Wheelhouse BAF employs the Wheelhouse Manager and acknowledges the support of the TSB Community Trust which has provided funding for the position.

Through funding support from the Taranaki Electricity Trust we are also able to provide capacity building support to community sector organisations across Taranaki. During 2018 we have provided support to a wide range of organisations. This support has involved strategic planning, enhancing governance, developing future focused plans and financial sustainability strategies.



## ICT Gateway

The ICT Gateway is a social enterprise operated by BAF which aims to support local community organisations including local Iwi and hapū by building the capacity of these organisations to effectively plan and utilise Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

ICT can be a powerful mechanism to support community organisations to operate as effectively and efficiently as possible. All community organisations are offered initial support from the ICT Gateway at no charge. Our thanks to the TSB Community Trust as the funding partner for this service.

The support to community organisations includes strategic advice and guidance, ICT language

translation, ICT plans and most importantly solutions targeting the specific needs of the organisation. We expect the ICT Gateway to continue to grow as further community organisations seek ongoing support with their ICT services via service level agreements.

In 2018 we entered into exciting partnership talks with a local corporate ICT provider which may enable further extension of the benefits of the ICT Gateway service. 2019 will see a 2nd ICT Gateway technician employed to enable us to meet the growing demand for the community focused support of the ICT Gateway.

## New Horizons

In 2018 we completed programmes working at Devon Intermediate School, Manukorihi School, Coastal Taranaki School, Spotswood College and Te Pi'ipi'inga Kākano Mai I Rangiatea supporting 29 rangatahi / young people. Working with DOC and the Taranaki Mouna Project, rangatahi built pest eradication traps, who then had the opportunity to place them at the Blue Rata Reserve, seeing first-hand the impact their work will have on the predator numbers in the National Park.

We also partnered with Red Cross to build benches for their Buddy Bench programme. The benches are gifted to local schools to support student connection and reduce isolation. Benches built by the New Horizons programmes were gifted to Vogeltown Primary, Waitara East School and Coastal Taranaki School.

New Horizons Aotearoa is a collaborative initiative implemented by the Bishop's Action Foundation and the New Horizons Group. The programme sees years 7-10 students work with mentors on groups building projects. The idea was founded by Kere Ell who actively manages the kaupapa of the programme and Bishop Action Foundation (BAF) connects the various organisations involved, oversee the mentors, manage the programme logistics and works with the schools involved.

Our mentors are an integral part of the programme and include local business / trades people, as well as anyone who has a passion working with youth.

All mentors have been through the police vetting process.

The programme fosters positive relationship building with mentors while being encouraged to be open to vocational career pathways and helps students to be ready to connect with existing initiatives at high school.

Participating students achieved the following outcomes during 2018:

- Helped to build pest eradication traps to protect their natural environment
- Learned practical building / construction skills;
- Developed a sense of responsibility and trust;

Current supporters of this programme include ITL Engineering, Pepper Construction, ITM Building Supplies and ICT Gateway. We gratefully acknowledge these businesses for their support. We also gratefully acknowledge the TSB Community Trust for providing funding for the programme.

The programme's Facebook page at New Horizons Aotearoa provides further information and pictures.





## Incredible Years

During 2018 BAF delivered Incredible Years programmes in New Plymouth and Eltham as part of the approved panel of providers engaged by Ministry of Education. We also secured funding to deliver a community-led Incredible Years programme in partnership with the Marfell community. This will begin in 2019 with the aim of training local leaders to deliver future programmes.

BAF was successful in tendering to continue as an approved delivery partner with MoE for programmes from 2019 onwards.

The Incredible Years is a series of interlocking, evidence-based programmes for parents, children and teachers, supported by over 30 years of research. The goal of the Incredible Years® programme is to prevent and treat young children's behaviour problems and promote their social, emotional, and academic competence. The programmes are used worldwide and have been shown to work across cultures and socio-economic

groups. Childhood behaviour problems, if left unchecked, can leave children at a greater risk in adulthood of unemployment, mental health problems, substance abuse, early pregnancy or early fatherhood, criminal offending, multiple arrests and imprisonment, higher rates of domestic violence and shortened life expectancy.

The parent programme consists of 14 weekly group sessions led by trained Group Leaders. The programme is well-structured and resourced to ensure that it is delivered with fidelity.

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## Incredible Years Booster Sessions

BAF also delivers the Incredible Years booster session which is a community based programme that all families of children aged between 3-8 years can use to reinforce the original Incredible Years programme focus. In 2018 we supported 20 families to reconnect with the programme through booster sessions.

More specifically, the booster sessions support parents to re-connect with the programme goals to:

- Reduce conduct problems in children
- Promote social, emotional and academic competence in children and
- Promote parental competence and strengthen families

The booster session recognises that for real change to take place, it is the effectiveness of the programme content and influence across time that is the most significant so booster sessions can enhance outcomes and embed them for the future. The group-design of the programme means participants are potentially well set up with on-going support once the booster session programme has concluded.



## Triple P

Triple P offers a one-one programme with a trained facilitator working alongside an individual family with ongoing concerns about their child's behaviour who require intensive training in positive parenting. The parents commit to 10 regular appointments. The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program<sup>®</sup> is one of the world's most effective parenting programmes.

It gives parents the skills they need to raise confident, healthy children and teenagers and to build stronger family relationships. It also helps parents manage misbehaviour and prevent problems occurring in the first place.

During 2018 BAF supported 10 families through the Triple P delivery.



## Food Together

Foodtogether is a social enterprise that enables local communities to operate a food co-op. Foodtogether makes it easy and convenient to access fresh fruit and vegetables at great prices while supporting your local community. It's truly a win, win, win. Food Together can offer the best price because of three reasons; firstly, it is not driven by profits. Secondly, it doesn't have to pay a large staff team as it generates enough surplus to cover Coordination costs and then runs on a great volunteer base led through the support and goodwill of local churches, and thirdly it doesn't have to factor in waste or food expiring because each week the right amount of stock is ordered from the suppliers to fill the orders that have been placed.

BAF has worked with Foodtogether to establish the social enterprise in Taranaki. Our service operates across north Taranaki including New Plymouth, Bell Block and Waitara. The service is also operating in Central Taranaki and South Taranaki.

Our aim is to enable families, especially families on low incomes, to access essential and high quality fruit produce affordably. Check out the Foodtogether New Plymouth Facebook page for more information.



## Seasons for Growth

Having expanded our oversight of these programmes to five areas with programmes operating in New Plymouth, North & Central Taranaki, South Taranaki, Taumarunui and Katikati, in 2018 we worked to establish and grow an additional programme in Hamilton. This latest programme now has two schools engaged and is well placed to continue to expand.

With qualified trainers within our programme staff we are also offering regular training opportunities for volunteers interested in companioning children through the Seasons for Growth programme.

Seasons for Growth is a peer support programme for young people aged 5-18 who are suffering grief and loss through one of the following factors:

- (a) death or life threatening illness of a parent or close relative
- (b) separation/divorce of parents
- (c) Long-term imprisonment of a parent or close family member
- (d) Long-term placement with foster parents or.
- (e) Migration or another qualifying circumstance

Support is provided in small, age-appropriate groups of 3 to 6 young people who work alongside two volunteer adult Companions. Each volunteer is police checked and undertakes a rigorous training programme prior to supporting young people. The programme runs for nine weekly sessions and guides young people along a structured journey to explore feelings and develop sustainable coping strategies for grief/loss.

## CONTACT US

**For more information on how to become involved in BAF projects from funding to collaboration and research, get in touch with us!**

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