

South Island

- **The MacKenzie District** has 33 registered charities and around 240 volunteers each week. Volunteers in this region contribute over 589 hours to the community each week.
- The **Nelson-Marlborough** region has approximately 2,848 volunteers contributing over 9,564 hours to the community each week.
- In **Southland** there are 800 registered charities, and over 6,930 volunteers who contribute almost 28,790 hours each week.

Some local examples

Canterbury

- **Christchurch** has over 2,500 registered charities, and over 52,000 volunteers. Volunteers in Christchurch contribute over 239,000 hours per week to the community.
- **The Canterbury** region has 3,519 registered charities (and another 92 in Waimate), with almost 62,000 people volunteering each week.
- **South Canterbury region** has 408 registered charities, with over 5,000 volunteers contributing over 19,000 hours to the community every week.

Waimate:

The Waimate Hub: located in a Salvation Army Church, now plays a key role in the small Canterbury community by providing a venue for community programmes like health and exercise classes and cooking classes, as well as a drop-in centre for school aged children during the holidays. Since its opening last year the Hub has become a focal point for the community, including providing support for migrant workers in the dairy industry

Waimate's community centre, the Waimate Hub, was developed by the Waimate District Resource Trust (WDRT) with funding provided by the Department of Internal Affairs under the Community Development Scheme (CDS) which provided funding of \$80,000 a year for three years.

The WDRT also contributed to the 'Settling In' initiative for the South Canterbury district, providing representation on the multi-agency steering group set up to support the growing number of migrant workers in the region's dairying industry.

Shakti Ethnic Women's Support Group (Christchurch):

The Christchurch Shakti Ethnic Women's Support Group received a Community Organisation Grant Scheme grant in 2014 of \$6,000 to help them meet the costs of employing a Youth and Women's Advocate. Shakti provides culturally appropriate services such as case-management, crisis intervention, specialist advocacy (for medical care, immigration, housing, state welfare), counselling, and safe house accommodation. A small team of volunteers actively support the weekly work of the organisation.

Volunteering Canterbury:

Volunteering Canterbury helps people to find voluntary work. In 2014 they received a Community Organisation Grant Scheme grant of \$6,000 to assist with operating expenses, which was promptly followed by the registration of 1,510 new volunteers. 242 of these were from non-English speaking backgrounds, and 94 of the volunteers were under 25 years of age.

Adult Reading Assistance Scheme (Christchurch)

A team of *Adult Reading Assistance Scheme* volunteers give 85 hours per week to support the organisation's Christchurch office. Literacy and numeracy skills are fundamental in helping equip people with the ability to perform basic daily living skills that many people take for granted. A 2014 COGS grant of \$3,000 contributed to paying the wages of a part-time finance officer. ARAS tutors deliver a number of literacy and numeracy courses. One example is working with people who struggle with reading and understanding the written questions necessary to successfully pass the Learner (driver's) Licence test.

Nelson:

Nelson Womens' Centre received a Community Organisation Grants Scheme (COGS) grant of \$6,000 helps pay the wages of staff employed by the Nelson Women's Centre. The Centre delivers free counselling services, delivered by six volunteer counsellors. The volunteers are senior students or graduates who are actively working towards membership of the New Zealand Association of Counsellors (NZAC). They are required to gain at least 200 hours of face-to-face counselling under the close supervision of a senior NZAC counsellor. The Centre's coordinator describes the affiliation as a win-win for everyone. The COGS grant also helped pay for some of the volunteers' expenses, such as reimbursement for the counsellor's supervision costs.

Volunteer Nelson: received a grant from the Support for Volunteering Fund in 2013/2014, which they used to expand their workshops to include seminars on organisational governance, and to introduce a new workshop on volunteer management. They also launched the first Nelson Youth Volunteering Summit, which was attended by around 40 people.

Southland:

Southland disAbility Enterprises Incorporated provides employment related services for people with disabilities, with support from 70 volunteers. Through Business Collections and Kerbside Recycling (operating collectively as Invercargill Recycling Depot) the organisation collects and sells as many and as much recyclable items as logistically possible, reducing landfill waste and creating employment.

This service was recognised in four categories (Retail Business Award, Not for Profit, Business Sustainability Award, Business of the Year) in the 2013 Westpac Southland Business Excellence Awards.

Victim Support operations in Gore and Invercargil have received Community Organisation Grants Scheme grants amounting to \$11,000 to help the service support its volunteers. The volunteers have helped around 440 people through difficult times in their lives.

North Island

- In **Auckland** over 128,000 people volunteer, contributing over 128,000 hours per week to their community.
- **Rotorua** has 391 registered charities, and over 4,500 volunteers contributing 14,716 hours each week to their community.
- The **Tauranga region** has over 700 charities, and over 10,855 volunteers contributing over 49,015 hours each week to their community.
- The **Waikato** region has approximately 2,393 registered charities, and approximately 448,365 volunteers donate over 1,860,000 each week.
- The **Hawkes Bay** region has 10,000 volunteers per week, amounting to approximately 87,000 hours contributed by volunteers every week.
- **Wairarapa** has 343 registered charities, and over 2,674 volunteers who contribute more than 8,795 hours each week to the community.

Some local examples

Auckland:

The Elizabeth Knox Home and Hospital in Auckland received a grant from the Support for Volunteering Fund in the 2013/ 2014 round to launch an initiative to improve the literacy and social integration of migrants in Auckland, and they decided to carry this work out through the Aged Care sector. This programme has been an astounding success. The number of monthly volunteers at the Knox Home has increased from an average of 38 in January 2013 to an average of around 600 per month.

Part of the initiative involves the migrants who attend the literacy workshops committing to volunteering at Knox Home and practising their conversation skills with the residents. The result is about 150 volunteers per week at Knox Home each week- over half the volunteers are migrants and around two thirds of them speak English as a second language.

Mt Roskill is one of four communities throughout New Zealand that is taking part in a community-led development programme that supports communities to identify shared issues and decide on local solutions. Rather than small grants, the community has access to flexible funding for activities and projects. Under the project name 'Roskill Together' the residents have achieved the following projects:

- The formerly under-utilised Roskill Retirement Hall has been repurposed as the 'Village Hall' and is being used for activities such as chair

aerobics, hand massage, card and board games, darts, indoor bowls, line dancing and tai chi.

- The community successfully held a Neighbours' Day street party on 22 March, and Roskill Together was able to progress its 'Pride in Mt Roskill' and 'Growing Community Connectedness' goals through a competition to win a street party.

The Takitumu Cultural and Arts Society Community Development Scheme (CDS) project is coming to the end of a three year CDS project that aimed to improve the outcomes for Cook Islanders living in Auckland. Successful initiatives include:

- The Cook Islands Development and Action plan, named Akirata Ou meaning 'new dawn', was launched at the inaugural Akirata Ou Festival in 2013. The festival continued in 2014 and it is anticipated that this celebration of Cook Island culture will become an annual event.
- The oneCOMMUNITY S.H.E.D. (Social Human Economic Development) – Social Innovation Centre project aims to generate income, jobs and build sustainability in Cook Island families and the community by supporting start-up community-led enterprises.
- The Cook Islands oneAWARDS have been set up to honour the success and achievement of Cook Islanders across New Zealand.
- The oneCHILD initiative, aimed at providing early childhood education for Cook Islands children via dedicated centres, recently received Ministry of Education funding to open its first centre.

Bay of plenty:

Volunteer Western Bay of Plenty have recently implemented a Corporate Volunteering project by working with local companies, and giving their employees opportunities to donate their time and knowledge to community organisations. An example of this is a journalist volunteering to capture good news stories about volunteering and to support newsletters and publications of member groups.

The group also received a Community Organisation Grants Scheme grant of \$4,500, which made it possible for the organisation to reimburse volunteers' travel costs. The grant also assisted the Volunteer Centre in Tauranga with the implementation of an online volunteer job database, so volunteers and coordinators can now register and list volunteer roles online.

Wairarapa:

The Wairarapa Volunteer Centre was launched in August 2014 with help from a \$5,000 grant from the Community Organisation Grants Scheme. The Centre is a subsidiary business of the Wairarapa Community Centre, and is governed by a group of eight volunteer trustees who support and promote volunteering in all its forms. The Centre supports volunteers by providing information on all

aspects of volunteering, and matches volunteers with organisations to strengthen their services in the local community.

Since March this year a group of Massey University accounting students have been volunteering their time, under supervision, to run weekly one-on-one clinics and training sessions with community groups. The students are gaining on the job experience, and community groups have are gaining valuable financial advice.

The initiative was developed by Palmerston North Community Services Council, Massey University, the City Council and the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Waikato:

Hamilton Ethnic Women's Centre Trust (SHAMA) was established in 2002 and is run by ethnic women for ethnic women, to help them meet new people, learn new skills, and access support and services. The Community Development Scheme provides funding for community run projects that address local issues. SHAMA received a grant in 2014 to:

- Help integrate young people into the community and encourage civic participation;
- Run workshops to discuss the generation gap emerging within ethnic communities;
- Encourage young ethnic people to mentor the older generation in digital literacy.

The Mangakino community-led development initiative supports communities to identify shared issues decide on local solutions. Rather than small grants, the community has access to flexible funding for activities and projects. The Mangakino community is one of four communities taking part in the CLD programme, and have had a number of successes:

- The Mangakino Festival Committee, along with the Bus Stop Café and local residents organised the third annual Easter raft race and festival.
- Local residents are working together to install heritage walking trail markers around Whakamaru.
- Opened a new skate park in December.
- They have transformed the town's brand with new town signs, a new website and other community promotional material which has contributed to more activities and visitors in the area.

Hawkes Bay:

The *Royal New Zealand Plunket Society* received a Community Organisation Grants Scheme (COGS) grant of \$2,500 which funded three volunteers to attend the national training conference. Plunket has a team of community volunteers developing a Volunteer Home Visiting Programme aimed at supporting parents of under five year olds, and enhancing their parenting and budgeting skills by setting goals based on their needs and circumstances.