



te waipuna puawai
MERCY OASIS Ltd

2025

Annual Report



A Snapshot

Our vision

Whakamana te oranga wairua o te tangata me te whenua
Well-being for our communities and restoration of the earth

Our mission

Kia u ki te mahi kotahi whakarawea te mana wāhine,
Te mana whānau, me te mana iwi whānui
Working together to strengthen women,
Strengthen families and strengthen community

Our values

Te Tapu o te Tangata	Respect
Aroha	Compassion
Tika	Justice
Manaakitanga	Hospitality
Te Tiriti o Waitangi	The Treaty of Waitangi
Mana whakahaere	Mutual enhancement

What we do

To improve the health and wellbeing of the Tāmaki, Rānui and Glendene communities, we:

- ▶ Innovate financial wellbeing initiatives
- ▶ Deliver community-based education programmes
- ▶ Activate or support community-led initiatives

Our approach

Our Mercy kaupapa requires this kind of response:

- ▶ Collaborative, relational, holistic
- ▶ Community-based, community-led
- ▶ Whānau-centred, outcome-focussed
- ▶ Innovative, relevant, life-giving
- ▶ Earth-aware, Tiriti-based practice

Our goals

Our strategic plan challenges us to:

- ▶ Live our Mercy Kaupapa
- ▶ Hold space (te wā) for the community to thrive
- ▶ Sustain an impactful, fit-for-purpose organisation

Outcomes we strive to achieve

- ▶ Whānau, women and children are thriving
- ▶ Recognised as a sustainable, fit-for-purpose organisation offering a safe haven
- ▶ Engaged member of the community, sitting at the table with those impacting the community
- ▶ Informed and committed stakeholders remain involved
- ▶ Evaluation and evidence-based reporting that demonstrates positive impact
- ▶ A culture of open communication and working together
- ▶ Mercy kaupapa woven through all our activities and processes

Tumuaki Chair's Report



"As we weave our strands together, we strengthen our kaupapa, creating a tapestry of resilience and unity that reflects the heart of our communities."

As we reflect on 2025, the theme of **"Weaving Our Strands Together"** encapsulates the essence of our journey at Te Waipuna Puawai. This year has been pivotal in strengthening our kaupapa across Tāmaki and West Auckland, as we embrace a more integrated approach to our mission.

In this period of growth, we have focused on deepening our connections and reinforcing our relationships within the community. Each interaction serves as a vital strand in the tapestry we are creating, highlighting our commitment to serving the diverse needs of those around us.

Our partnership with our parent Whānau, Mercy Ministries, is flourishing, and together we are navigating a new chapter of shared purpose and vision. Their evolution inspires us, reinforcing our dedication to the principles that guide our work. As we align our goals, we are excited to support each other in creating safe, inclusive spaces for our communities.

In Glendene and Rānui, we have prioritised establishing our physical spaces as welcoming havens. One cup of tea and one conversation at a time, we are weaving relationships that will sustain and expand our services in these areas.

I am deeply proud of our team, whose resilience and commitment have been instrumental throughout the year. Their dedication, combined with the unwavering support of our board, has enabled us to approach our growth with thoughtfulness and intention.

Looking forward, we will continue to explore innovative financial sustainability models to secure our future. Together, we will ensure that Te Waipuna Puawai remains a vital resource for our communities.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we are weaving a brighter future.

Luke Ryan

Tumuaki/Board Chair



"Together, we are not just building a future; we are weaving a legacy of hope and support for generations to come."



Manukura Chief Executive's Report

Tihei Mauri Ora!

**Ko te maunga o Maungarei e tu tonu mai
ki te awa o Tāmaki e rere atu rā ki te moana
o Waitemata
ki te waka o Tainui, ki nga iwi o Waikato-Tainui,
Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Paoa
Mihi mai, mihi mai ra**

**Ko Waiatarua te rohe
Ko Ruapotaka te marae, he marae mo
te hapori katoa
Ko Te Waipuna Puawai, he wāhi atāwhai,
he wāhi manāki
Ko nga Whaea Atāwhai o Aotearoa e mihi
atu nei ki te ao hurihuri, ki te ao hou**

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tatou katoa

As we move through 2025, we continue to meet the invitation from our communities to deepen our connections and strengthen our kaupapa. The challenges we face remind us of our resilience and the importance of our mission.

This year, we have seen a significant increase in our operating budget, reaching \$1,121,253. This growth reflects our commitment to responding effectively to the needs of Tāmaki and West Auckland. Through collaborative efforts, we have activated community leadership and fostered creative spaces for initiatives that promote wellbeing and resilience.

This year we found our place in West Auckland, working with our whanau to ensure we can meet the invitation of the communities that we serve.

The spirit of collaboration has been vital to our success. We have worked closely with local agencies, uniting diverse voices to co-develop responses that address community needs. Our involvement in various initiatives has allowed us to support outreach efforts that enhance whānau wellbeing, translating public health messages into accessible formats.

In this ever-changing landscape, we have prioritised the wellbeing of our team, adapting our communication methods and embracing technology to stay connected. Daily check-ins and reflective practices have allowed us to maintain our focus on what it means to serve with compassion and integrity.

I am immensely grateful for the dedication and skill of our team, as well as the ongoing support from our partners. As we navigate the complexities of our work, we remain committed to being proactive, agile, and responsive to the evolving needs of our communities.

Together, we are weaving a legacy of support and connection, ensuring that Te Waipuna Puawai continues to thrive as a beacon of hope.

Bill Takerei
Manukura





COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Community Growth & Enhancement: Nurturing Whānau in 2024 / 2025

In 2024 / 2025, our Community Growth and Enhancement programmes continued to flourish, building on our commitment to empower whānau and strengthen community bonds. Through diverse offerings, we created spaces for learning, healing, and connection, directly responding to the aspirations and needs of our communities in Tāmaki and West Auckland.

Wheiao Reo Wananga

Our Reo classes, facilitated by Tamati Patuwai, saw 24 participants across 4 classes in 2024. Welcoming both Māori and non-Māori, these classes provided a supportive environment for exploring language, culture, and identity. One participant shared:

"My highlight for reo classes was being able to learn at my own pace... I'm thankful to have a big support group on my reo journey."

Pantry Cooking

With 15 participants in 3 classes, Maria's Pantry Cooking sessions empowered whānau to create nutritious, affordable meals using basic ingredients. These classes addressed food insecurity while fostering community. A participant noted:

"I loved going to Auntie Maria's classes, not only do we cook together, but we also eat together at the end. Win win for me!"

Aua Hoki

Focusing on self-discovery through a Māori kaupapa lens, Aua Hoki engaged 16 wāhine in 2 classes. Participants explored their whakapapa and expressed their identity through creative arts, leaving feeling empowered. As one described:

"Whaea Sophie got us to research our whakapapa and make booklets... Our booklet sits on our fridge at home."



Emotional Energy Wananga

Chieko McGee's intimate sessions on anger management equipped 14 participants with practical tools for emotional wellbeing. The safe space allowed for vulnerability and growth. A participant reflected:

"I went into this class angry... the only difference is that I'm now more aware of the symptoms I feel."

Financial Wellbeing

In collaboration with Pale Sauni, our 3-month co-designed programme supported 5 single mothers in addressing cultural and emotional spending habits. By involving their whānau, participants built sustainable saving practices. One mother celebrated:

"Pale's teaching allowed me to pay off a debt that's been sitting on my mind for so long."

Glen Taylor School Parent Group

Partnering with Glen Taylor School, we engaged 10 parents in a fortnightly café to strengthen school-whānau relationships. This initiative, which continues in 2025, focused on attendance support and community building.

Together, these programmes reflect our dedication to nurturing resilience, cultural pride, and intergenerational support. As we look ahead, we remain committed to evolving our initiatives to meet the changing needs of our communities, ensuring every whānau has the opportunity to thrive.



KAI HUB

Growing Stronger Together

Nourishing Connections: Strengthening Community Through Kai Hub

Over the past year, the Kai Hub has continued to grow as a vital part of the Rānui community, not just as a source of kai, but as a welcoming space where whānau connect, share, and strengthen relationships. What began as a response to immediate food needs has blossomed into a hub of connection and conversation, enabling deeper engagement with other services and supports.

A Place to Belong and Connect

The weekly gatherings at Kai Hub remain a powerful invitation into the mahi of Te Waipuna Puawai. The presence of whānau standing in line is more than a simple transaction—it's a doorway to building trust, fostering social networks, and creating a safe space where people feel seen and supported. For many, this place has become a regular point of connection, where breakfast catch-ups and shared kai nourish both body and spirit.

Enabling Conversations That Matter

Kai Hub acts as a central space where conversations happen naturally—between whānau and with our team—helping identify how we can best support each individual and family. This ongoing dialogue is key to building pathways that extend beyond food provision, reinforcing our holistic approach to community wellbeing.



Looking Ahead

As Kai Hub continues to evolve, we remain committed to deepening its role as a community anchor—expanding its reach, enhancing engagement, and connecting whānau to a broader network of support. It's more than a food distribution point; it's a place where community grows stronger every week.

Highlights

- ▶ 65-70 parcels on weekly
- ▶ 400+ Registered
- ▶ 3 - 5 new registration weekly
- ▶ Diverse cultures with 80% Maori, 10% Pasifika, 6% Indo/Middle Eastern/Asian and 4% NZ Kiwi



ENVIROMENTAL PAPATUANUKU

“At Te Waipuna Puawai, we believe that a healthy environment is the foundation of a thriving community. This year, we’ve woven environmental stewardship into the heart of our work, empowering individuals to become kaitiaki of our shared taonga.”

At Te Waipuna Puawai, caring for our environment is fundamental to nurturing the wellbeing of our communities. Over the past year, we have strengthened our commitment to kaitiakitanga by deepening community connections, fostering learning, and restoring our natural spaces.

Key Highlights from 2025:

- **Community Clean-ups:** We brought together whānau, tamariki, and volunteers in successful stream clean-up events that not only improved the health of our awa but also strengthened community pride and environmental stewardship.
- **Native Tree Planting and Awa Restoration:** Through coordinated planting initiatives, we restored native vegetation along waterways, enhancing biodiversity while nurturing a collective understanding of ecological guardianship.
- **Digital Environmental Education:** Our interactive education sessions with local schools leveraged social media and video content to engage tamariki in learning about biodiversity and their role as kaitiaki, making environmental education accessible and inspiring.

One of the greatest sources of pride has been witnessing rangatahi returning time and again to volunteer, showing a growing commitment to sustainability. This intergenerational engagement reflects the heart of our mission — empowering communities to take ownership of their environment.



Our success is founded on strong, enduring relationships with schools, mana whenua, community groups, and volunteers. When people feel valued and connected, their participation flourishes. While challenges such as limited resources and weather disruptions sometimes slow progress, the strength of our collective support ensures we continue moving forward.

This year, we celebrated many community stories, including the Rongoā walks, the Ranui Primary Enviro Weed Hunter series, the official signing of the Te Rangi Hiroa marae lease, and the first Matariki harvest from our mara kai — all milestones that reflect our growing environmental and cultural resilience.

Looking ahead, we acknowledge the need to expand environmental education beyond classrooms, secure sustainable funding for maintenance, and develop inclusive engagement strategies for Pacific and migrant communities. We also aim to create paid pathways for rangatahi interested in environmental careers, ensuring the future of kaitiakitanga is strong and vibrant.

The Te Rangi Hiroa / Birdwood Reserve mara kai project embodies this vision — a place where traditional knowledge and modern sustainability converge, creating a living classroom and a source of fresh, healthy kai for our community.

To our wider whānau: caring for our environment is a shared responsibility. Every small action contributes to restoring balance in our ecosystems and strengthening the bonds that hold us together. As Bill Takerei reminds us,

“True environmental stewardship is about more than just caring for the land — it’s about nurturing the spirit of our communities, empowering rangatahi, and weaving together knowledge from our past to create a sustainable future for all.”

Bill Takerei, Manukura

Together, we continue to weave a legacy of care that will nurture both our land and our people for generations to come.



Community Spotlight: Sylvia Martin

A Journey of Growth and Connection



Embracing Lifelong Learning

Meet Sylvia Martin, affectionately known as "Sylv" within our community. As a dedicated mother of six, Sylvia embodies the spirit of lifelong learning, embracing every opportunity to grow and strengthen her skills in our Learning Spaces while her tamariki are at school.

"I love that while my tamariki are at school learning, I too am away at TWP doing my own learning!"

A Commitment to Service

In 2025, Sylvia extended her service by volunteering with Whānau Mercy Ministries, Hikoi Atawhai ki Aotearoa – Mercy Pilgrimage in New Zealand 2024, playing a vital behind-the-scenes role at Morehu Marae, ensuring the wellbeing of the team.

"My time in Pawarenga was truly something special... It was beautiful to be in that space, to meet the whānau, and to work alongside." Josie and the team."

Passion for Cultural Connection

Driven by a deep passion for whakapapa, identity, and cultural connection, Sylvia is currently on a mentorship journey supported by Te Waipuna Puawai and 3 Bags Full, gaining specialised training to become a facilitator.

"Thank you, Te Waipuna Puawai, for creating safe and welcoming spaces for whānau like me... I feel confident knowing that whatever path I take, TWP will always be there supporting me."

A Testament to Community

Sylvia's journey exemplifies our kaupapa: walking alongside wāhine as they grow in confidence, identity, and purpose. Her story is a testament to the power of community, connection, and unwavering support.



COUNSELLING

Supporting Whānau Wellbeing in Rānui

Cheiko McGee has been a steady and compassionate presence at our Rānui site, offering part-time counselling every Thursday since October 2024. In her mahi, Cheiko has walked alongside four community members through a series of 10-week sessions, fostering a space for reflection, healing, and personal growth. Her welcoming approach ensures that new whānau who register for counselling support feel immediately embraced.

These 10-session blocks are designed to provide a valuable foundation for whānau to explore their wellbeing journeys in a safe and supportive environment. Participants have the opportunity to delve into their experiences, enhancing their emotional resilience and overall mental health.

The ongoing demand for counselling services in Rānui highlights the critical need for spaces where our people feel heard, valued, and uplifted. Cheiko's commitment to supporting whānau wellbeing not only addresses immediate mental health needs but also contributes to the long-term strength and resilience of our community. Through her work, she embodies the spirit of manaakitanga, ensuring that every individual feels seen and supported on their journey towards healing.

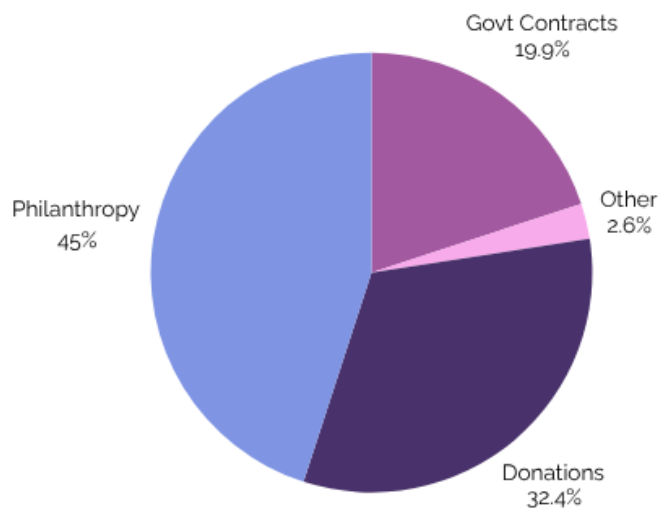


Financial Review 2025

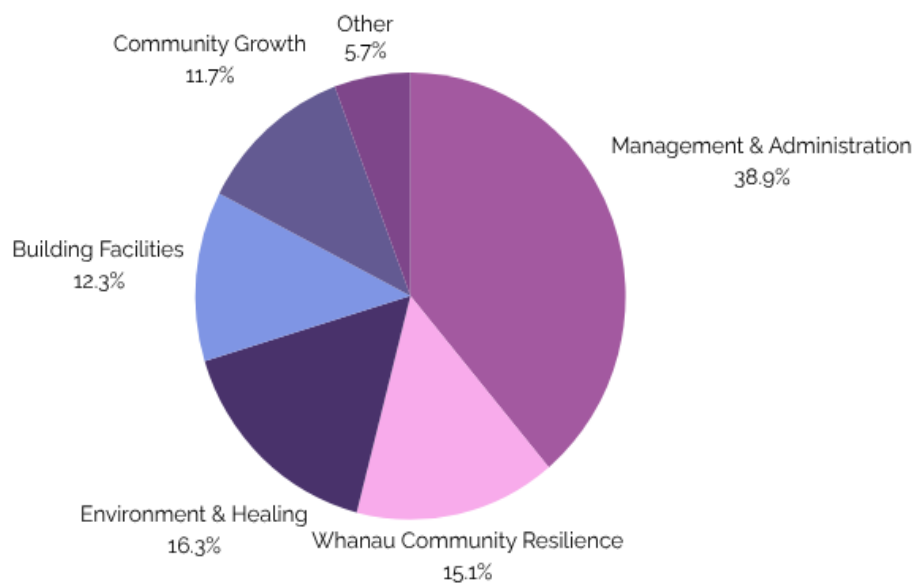
For the financial year ending March 2025, Te Waipuna Puawai responded to the invitation from the communities we serve with a larger operating budget of \$1,121,253. This reflects our dedication to meeting their needs, even as we approach our expenditures with care, ensuring that every resource is directed toward supporting our mission.

The distribution of Te Waipuna Puawai revenue streams changed slightly compared to previous years, with the majority coming from Donations and Philanthropy (77.4%) and government contracts (19.9%). About 48% of our operating budget was spent directly on programme costs, slightly lower than in previous years.

Revenue



Expenditure





Acknowledgements and Thanks

"Our organisation thrives thanks to the generosity of individuals, donors, and partners who believe in our mission. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has invested their time, energy, and resources into Te Waipuna Puawai."

We received funding from philanthropic organisations, listed alphabetically:

Community Organisation Grants Scheme (COGS), Foundation North, Four Winds Foundation, New Zealand Lottery Grants Board, North and South Trust, Sargood Bequest, Sisters of Saint Joseph, Sports Waitakere, The Catholic Caring Foundation, The Dragon Community Trust Limited, and Whānau Mercy Ministries Trust.

We received government funding from:

Auckland Council, Henderson and Massey Local Board, Tamaki-Maungakiekie Local Board, and Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand.

We received food donations from:

Fair Foods Limited, Glen Innes Foodbank, Glendowie Catholic Parish, Glendowie Presbyterian Parish, Kiwi Harvest, Meadowbank Parish, Michael Park School, St Ignatius Primary School, St Vincent De Paul House, The Produce Company, and other anonymous donations.

We received gift vouchers, cash donations, clothing and goods donations, and other support from:

CI Poulter, M Gourley, PAK'nSAVE Glen Innes, Papatūānuku ki Tauranga, Panmure Probus Group, Sister Margaret Browne, St Heliers and Glendowie Church Groups, St Josephs Catholic School, St Kentigern School, St Pius X School, Takapuna, Tony Verner, and other anonymous donors.



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