

QUARTERLY REVIEW

September to November 2023



Photo courtesy of Peter Feuerstein

A year of progress

As we come to the end of another year, there's a lot to reflect on in what has been a stellar 2023 for the Milford Foundation.

A recent highlight was gathering our inaugural Milford Foundation Scholarship students together in Auckland, to celebrate completing their first year of study, to get to know each other, and to meet the people behind the Foundation which has supported them this year. It was an outstanding two days, and we are delighted to share more of it with you below.

We have now selected 16 exceptional young people to be our second cohort, starting their studies in 2024. We are offering friends of the Foundation an amazing opportunity to support these students in a very unique way. Details of how you can be a life-changer for a deserving student are in the article below. Please consider joining us on this incredible journey.

We have had a strong year working with our partners, supporting them as they do fantastic work in the community.

Working alongside them is a privilege.

It's been a year of change for us, with a new Board Chair and Trustee, two new Executive Members, and the hiring of a part-time support person. I'm grateful to be working with such dedicated and passionate people.

Lastly, I want to thank you for YOUR support of the Milford Foundation. Every donation makes a huge difference and we are grateful that so many people share our vision to improve the lives of future generations in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Have a wonderful Christmas and summer holiday.

Bryce Marsden
Chief Executive

\$93,372 raised through Buckets of Love

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Buckets of Love special charities Christmas campaign this year. Your generous donations were matched dollar for dollar by both Milford and the Milford Foundation to raise a total of \$93,372 for three amazing charities.

School Start First Impressions (\$32,584), Nurturing Families (\$30,414), and Pillars (\$30,374) will use the funds to help hurting families this Christmas. A massive thank you to the Hugo Charitable Trust, which donated a very generous \$5,000 per

charity. Tayla Nasmith, Founder and CEO of Nurturing Families, said: "This year has been extremely tough for so many, so we are delighted to be able to have the Milford Foundation's support again this year.

"We would like to thank the entire Milford Foundation community. As a small organisation these funds are genuinely going to make a huge impact. This donation has enabled us to support over 1000 children this year with Christmas presents, to bring some happiness in their homes this festive season."

As at
30 November
2023



Funds Growing

\$6.68M



Money granted/committed to grant

\$6.71M

Our partners



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A word from our Chair

I don't know about you, but this year feels to have been so fast-paced. I cannot quite fathom the Christmas countdown having started.

Look, those of us reading this are fortunate. We are! I know that my kids have zero clue about what hardship is. How could they? They have not experienced what a greater number of New Zealand children are facing than ever before. The fact is, we have comfortable lifestyles and what we might consider stressful at this time of the year, is a fraction of the stress those who are struggling financially are facing. Not to mention the impact that extreme financial hardship can have on mental health, general wellbeing and the family dynamic. Imagine how hard it is for families living below the poverty line to visit a supermarket at the moment - with Christmas tunes playing and the aisle ends chocka with Christmas treats. At this time of the year, as work and life pressures are placed on me, I am often having stern words with myself as a reminder that the challenges I am facing, are a fraction in comparison to those of us doing it tough. I think it's really important to remember that.

We've certainly done all we can to support as many as we can leading into Christmas. I wish we could have done more. It's also important to take the time to reflect, which I am looking forward to over the Christmas break. The work done behind the scenes by so many who work for Milford and the incredible support Milford provides, not only financially but also in enabling the team to give time to our charitable endeavours, is nothing but awesome.

I am enormously proud of what we have been able to achieve this year and what we have worked to deliver. From our cyclone recovery fundraising event back in May, partnering with the beneficiaries of that fundraising throughout this year,

ongoing support for our charity partners, and the incredible work that has gone into not only identifying next year's Milford Foundation Scholarship recipients, by quite literally dozens of Milford team members, but also mentoring this year's Scholarship recipients.

It is quite honestly a blessing and a privilege to have the Chair seat for the Foundation and to have the unwavering support, commitment and passion of every single Milford employee walking alongside us to make a sustainable impact on as many New Zealand communities as possible. The more funding we can raise in 2024, the more we can do - and we are committed to making a difference. We can't do it on our own, we need our amazing Milford client network to work with us. The more that we do together, the greater the impact we can have.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and restful holiday period, filled with laughter and joy, and extend my sincere thanks to all those who have donated funds or gifted their time this year. We could not do what we do without you. Please come back and walk alongside us again in 2024.



All the best,
Sarah Norrie
Chair

Enjoy some Island time this summer

Here's the perfect way to wow your family and friends this summer.

Foxes Island Wine has created a spectacular offering exclusively in support of the Milford Foundation's work helping transform communities in New Zealand. You'll receive two bottles of stunning 2014 Artist Series wine, bundled in an elegant gift box. 20% of every purchase will be donated to the Milford Foundation.



 **Buy online now**



MILFORD FOUNDATION
INVESTING IN FUTURE GENERATIONS
TE WHAKATŌ KĀKANO MŌ NGĀ REANGA HOU



Inaugural scholarship recipients visit Milford

In 2023 the Milford Foundation helped ease the financial burden of 15 young Kiwis pursuing their dream to attend university, by awarding the inaugural Milford Foundation Scholarships.

It's been an amazing journey for us, watching them start their studies in February, mentoring and supporting them along the way, and seeing them succeed and make the most of the opportunities presented to them.

We were delighted to have 13 of the 15 students spend two days with Milford and the Milford Foundation at the end of November, celebrating their success. It was a great opportunity for them to meet one another and learn more about Milford and the Foundation.

Day One involved sessions with Jason Gunn on being themselves, having empathy and being relatable. Points were illustrated with plenty of storytelling (as only Jason can). Lunch was a mix n' mingle with the Milford Executive Leadership Team members, and then it was off to a behind-the-scenes business workshop at Giapo. The day ended with pizza and an early night.

Day Two included a think-tank to gather feedback on the scholarship, and their first-year experiences, a KiwiSaver presentation, investing 101, careers' conversation and Milford Panel Q&A. Here's just one of the emails we received from students following the celebration:

"I do not think I can express enough how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to go to Auckland and meet everyone. I had so much fun and being able to come face to face with the people who kindly gifted me this scholarship was just amazing. Meeting the other recipients and being able to create friendships with them was awesome. I learnt so much over the short duration of the trip -more than I expected - and it will definitely stick with me for many years to come. I acknowledge every day how lucky I am to have the ability to attend university. You are all such genuine people with hearts of gold and I still cannot believe that I get to work alongside and be supported by everyone. Just thank you!"



How you can change the lives of 16 young people who deserve the opportunity to succeed in 2024

The Milford Foundation seeks sponsors for the 16 students selected for the 2024 Scholarship programme. Your commitment to these future New Zealand leaders will be an investment of \$10,000 (paid in March per year) for the duration of their undergraduate degree (generally 3 years).

By sponsoring a Milford Foundation Scholarship student, you will be making a big impact to this group of young people, as well as contributing to the future success of our country as a whole.

Please join us. Sponsoring a student will make you part of something truly special. We know, that together, we can make a real difference.



To find out more, and receive our 2024 Scholarship Booklet featuring our 16 students, please email Milford Foundation Chief Executive Bryce Marsden on bmarsden@milfordfoundation.co.nz

Update from the regions

Here's the latest rundown on the cyclone relief projects in Northland, Gisborne and the Hawke's Bay, which the Milford Foundation is supporting with money raised from our Burgers, Beers and Brilliant Sportspeople event last May.

Kaeo, Te Rarawa, Otamatea, Tomarata, Eastern Kaiwaka, Maungaturoto, Wellsford, and Onerahi Rugby Clubs, Northland

Te Rarawa Rugby Club

- New window flashings, scribes, sealant, installation and labour costs

Onerahi Rugby Club

- Gear and custom gear replacement
- Flush, waterblast, vacuum gully and grease trap, recycler unite, disposal and grease trap service to remove silt
- Trophies and engraving
- Clothing, uniforms and embroidery
- Laundry facilities

Rodney/Otamatea Sub Union

- Gear and custom gear replacement
- Clothing, uniforms and embroidery

Kaeo Rugby Sports Club

- The original goal was to repair the clubhouse roof, but further investigation showed it needs replacing which will cost \$100,000. The club is now actively fundraising to acquire the remaining money that is needed. If you would like to assist, please email info@milfordfoundation.co.nz

Tapuae Sports Club, Wairoa

The requirements for the repairs of the clubrooms, changing rooms and plumbing infrastructure are currently awaiting council consent.

Waka Ama Club, Gisborne, Tairāwhiti Adventure Trust, Gisborne Wairoa Netball, Wairoa

An update from Milford Foundation Chief Executive Bryce Marsden

In early December, I travelled with photographer and videographer Brett Phibbs to Gisborne and Wairoa. In Wairoa we met with Michelle, Chair of the Wairoa Netball Club. Michelle organised a thank-you BBQ for the tradies and workers who tirelessly helped clean up homes, parks, rivers and businesses affected by weather events over the past eight months. Brett



and I joined in the BBQ and also interviewed Michelle. It was great to see the young players had enjoyed a stellar season thanks to the repair work enabled by the Foundation.

We then drove to Gisborne. It was an early start on Saturday - down at the river at 6am for the karakia to bless the waka purchased with funds raised at our event in May. The Mayor of Gisborne spoke, along with several others in the waka community, thanking the Foundation for its support. Also in attendance was the Gisborne-based Sonic Surf Craft team (Matt and Kylee Sutton) who had built some of the waka.

They young paddlers then hit the water to test out and fine tune the new waka. Included in this group was the open women's world champion. There were plenty of smiles and a bit of competitive spirit as they undertook some mock races.

From there, we drove back to Wairoa, where we participated in/watched an open day for young people new to netball, at the Wairoa Netball Club. We also spoke with a number of the community, and they told us more about what it meant to them to have their netball club up and running again – Hope.

The Wairoa Netball Club continues to thrive/grow and there will be a summer netball league starting in the middle of January, with the regular winter league starting in May.

This was a heart-warming trip to see how the Milford Foundation has made a tangible difference to hurting communities.

Watch the videos of the visits below.




Bryce Marsden
Chief Executive

Climb every mountain

We are extremely grateful for every donation we receive towards the Milford Foundation's work. It enables us to support our partners, sponsor students into university, and provide one-off assistance in emergencies – such as the aftermath of devastating Cyclone Gabrielle.

You can give through our website where you are given the option to be named on our fantastic Mountain of Support.

If you have given in person via eftpos (at one of our events, for example), you can still request to be on the Mountain. Just email info@milfordfoundation.co.nz and we'll add your name.

What else have we been up to?

A treat for Christmas

Milford Foundation is making Christmas extra special for hurting families this Christmas by gifting more than 100 Treat Boxes filled with yummy delights, through our wonderful friends at The Village Trust. We want to give a huge shout out to our new friends at Whittaker's, for making these boxes super amazing through their incredible donation of peanut slabs and chocolate squares. They complete the boxes perfectly and we can't wait to get these into homes ready for a magical Christmas.

Sunday Star-Times Short Story Competition

The Milford Foundation was proud to sponsor the Sunday Star-Times Short Story Awards for the third year running.

This year the nationwide competition featured the Milford Foundation Secondary Schools Category. Students were invited to submit a short story that incorporated environmental themes – in line with the Foundation's pillars of education, environment, and youth. We are delighted to announce that Emma Philips, 18, from Ruawai College is the winner with her story "Changing Landscapes". You can read Emma's story when it's printed in the Sunday Star-Times in January. Congratulations Emma!



MoneyTime

The Milford Foundation was delighted to sponsor prize money for the inaugural MoneyTime school's financial literacy competition.

Bravo class at Glen Eden Intermediate beat 768 other classes from around New Zealand to be named winner. The competition saw classes competing to achieve the highest average score over 31 modules in the MoneyTime school financial literacy program. Rivalry was high, with the lead changing six times in the final eight weeks.

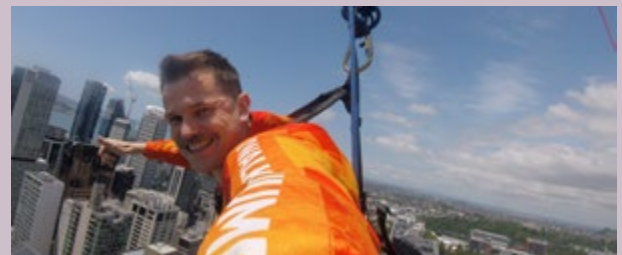
Mark Rosevear from the Foundation, presented the prize to the excited students of Bravo class recently. Said one of the students: "I feel one step ahead in preparation for business studies at high school next year. Moneytime gave me skills to help me identify my 'needs' from my 'wants'. It was funny to use 'fake' money to win a 'real' money prize."



Milford employees with filled Treat Boxes

Ye Olde Foundation Ice-Cream Shoppe

Milford employees had a sweet treat in November – and it was all for a good cause! On a Thursday afternoon, more than 160 ice-creams were scooped into edible cups at Milford's Auckland office - raising money for our Christmas campaigns. It was so popular, we did it again in early December. Chocolate was the clear winner!



Taking the plunge

KiwiSaver Financial Adviser Liam Robertson recently overcame his fears to participate in the Graeme Dingle Foundation "Drop the Boss" event. Held on 16 November, Liam joined other brave souls jumping from the SkyTower to raise funds for the Foundation – one of Milford Foundation's social impact partners.

Liam raised a mighty \$2,460 which will go towards the Graeme Dingle Foundation's school-based programmes, including Kiwi Can, Stars, Career Navigator, Project K, Kiwi Tahī and MYND.

"I felt quite nervous in the lead up to the jump, and the worst part was definitely the waiting at the top," says Liam. "However in hindsight, the worry was much worse than the jump itself – which was actually very exhilarating! And I would definitely do it again. The best part, was doing it for a good cause."

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