

# QUARTERLY REVIEW 12-02

December 2023 to February 2024



Photo courtesy of Peter Feuerstein

## Full steam ahead

With autumn and Easter both arriving this month, Christmas 2023 is starting to feel like a while ago. But before we officially designate it a distant memory, I wanted to thank everyone who contributed to our Christmas campaigns. We were blown away by the generosity of supporters who donated to our Buckets of Love campaign – including Milford employees. Thank you.

Further down in this newsletter you can see the tangible difference Buckets of Love made to hurting families, through our partner charities.

This year has started strongly, with our 16 Scholarship students for 2024 now enjoying their first few weeks at university. We caught up with most of them in February to present their laptops and “Book of Helpful Stuff” to begin their tertiary studies. We now have 30 students across two year-levels undertaking study with the assistance of a Milford Foundation Scholarship. It’s great to see the difference the Milford Foundation is making.

Speaking of making a difference, one of the ways we have been supporting our charity partners is through engagement

with ImpactLab. ImpactLab helps philanthropic funders and for-purpose organisations to measure, understand, and demonstrate their impact. Using their Good Measure tool, ImpactLab generates three metrics – social value, social value per person, and social return on investment. We’ve been delighted to facilitate reports for Barnardos 0800 What’s Up?, Graeme Dingle Foundation’s Kiwi Can programme, and MoneyTime - all of which now have a greater understanding of their current social impact, and potential for the future.

Transformational change for a better Aotearoa New Zealand is the ethos behind everything we do as a Foundation, and we are pleased to have you on the journey with us. Please enjoy this latest update.



*Bryce Marsden*  
Bryce Marsden  
Chief Executive

## Give a little bit

At Milford Foundation, we offer a unique approach to philanthropy. For every dollar you donate, 50% is immediately granted to impactful causes we monitor and work closely with, while the other 50% is invested to grow and support future initiatives.

We’re committed to making a difference in youth development, environmental preservation, and education. If any of these causes resonate with you, we invite you to join us by donating to the Milford Foundation and help us continue our meaningful work.

If you are unable to assist financially, there are other ways you can support us. Regularly, you’ll find our Milford volunteers

trading in their office attire for gumboots and gardening gloves as they actively participate in the Puhinui Regeneration Project. This initiative is all about helping to create the conditions for the restoration of the mauri - the life force - of the land, waters, and communities within the Puhinui catchment.

Everyone is welcome in Puhinui, and if you’re eager to be a part of this meaningful project, check out the details at: [events.humanitix.com/give-back-to-te-puhinui](https://events.humanitix.com/give-back-to-te-puhinui). Together, we’re making a significant impact!

As at  
29 February  
2024



Funds Growing

**\$6.76M**



Money granted/committed to grant

**\$6.73M**

## Our partners



## Koha/Donate now

Visit [milfordfoundation.co.nz/donation](https://milfordfoundation.co.nz/donation)



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# Feeling the Love!

Thanks to your incredible generosity, our Buckets of Love Christmas campaign raised a total of \$93,372! The funds supported three incredible charities: Pillars, School Start First Impressions and Nurturing Families.

## Nurturing Families

Below is feedback from the Founder of Nurturing Families.

"We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone from the Milford Foundation. This year was our biggest Christmas mission (helping 1,502 children with 9,500 presents) and, like last year, this was only made possible through the financial support of everyone at The Milford Foundation. We had such positive feedback from our community partners and we know this simply would not have been possible without this community. Thank you so much to everyone who supports us year on year to make this possible".

**Tayla Nasmith**

Nurturing Families distributed gifts through their networks – here’s what a couple of their contacts had to say:

"Thank you very much and to the team for the wonderful presents. The families I delivered to today were very excited and could see joy in their eyes. Mum said she will hide the presents and will place under the tree near to the time."

**New Zealand Police**



"I wanted to express my deepest gratitude for the incredible generosity you displayed during the Christmas season. Your thoughtful gifts brought joy to our Community and provided relief to whānau during a time in need. You were able to prioritise and deliver, exceeding all expectations with my several short notice requests. I am, and will be forever grateful for our partnership and look forward to seeing it grow from strength to strength."

**Henderson Police and Hoani Waititi Marae**



"I would like to express gratitude for your generous Christmas gifts for my families. These have greatly assisted these parents to prepare for a meaningful Christmas day. Your support and compassionate gestures always contribute positively to the well-being of our communities. Thank you."

**Community midwife**

"The whānau are going to be so overwhelmed with joy, thank you all for your kindness."

**Kāhui Tū Kaha social worker**



"A huge heartfelt thanks for providing so much joy and happiness for the family via the gifts that were given to them from your organisation. Thank you for being amazing humans and spreading the true meaning of Christmas to those less fortunate. You all have made such a difference to their lives. May God continue to bless you all."

**Tongan Health Society**



## Pillars

We also enabled Pillars to provide 150 tamariki with festive treats. Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou was able to add food vouchers, petrol vouchers and Westfield vouchers to all whānau kai parcels to help brighten Christmas for tamariki with a parent in prison.



## It takes a Village

In the last Quarterly Review, we shared with you how Milford employees had donated yummy treats to fill 100 Christmas boxes, which were distributed through our friends at The Village Trust. Here’s a couple of photos of the boxes and other goodies being collected, and then ready for distribution.

# Meet our 2024 Scholarship Students

In the last edition of our Quarterly Review, we updated you on our 2023 Milford Foundation Scholarship students, and their visit to Auckland.

This quarter we'd like to introduce you to the 16 members of our 2024 cohort, who started their university studies at the end of February. We are still seeking sponsors for several of our students.

Your commitment to these future New Zealand leaders will be an investment of \$10,000 (paid in March per year, and tax deductible) 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 partner with us. Sponsoring a student will make you part of something truly special. We know, that together, we can make a real difference.

For more information, email Bryce Marsden: [bmarsden@milfordfoundation.co.nz](mailto:bmarsden@milfordfoundation.co.nz)

To read the extended profiles of our Scholarship recipients please visit <https://milfordfoundation.co.nz/scholarship/recipients/>



**Eman Al Hamdoush**  
Hometown: Auckland. Bachelor of Architecture, AUT

As a Syrian refugee, who also lived in Lebanon, Eman understands the harsh reality of living without basic necessities.

“I have lots of dreams I want to achieve. Helping people makes my life happier and more meaningful. Everyone has the right to education, food, clothes and shelter.”



**Lucy Alpin**  
Hometown: Wainuiomata. Bachelor of Communication, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington

Lucy has had a difficult past year, losing two close family members.

“It took a toll on my family, however its helped me to become more motivated because I know I’m making them proud – especially my grandmother who never had the opportunity to finish high school.”



**Lily Ashe**  
Hometown: Wānaka. Bachelor of Science, Otago University

Lily has plans to major in food science because she's passionate about making a difference to sustainable food development in New Zealand.

“When I received the call that I was successful, the reality kicked in that my dream to attend university was actually coming true.”



**Brody Brownlee**  
Hometown: Mt Maunganui. Bachelor of Engineering (software engineering), University of Auckland

The recipient of a Māori Academic Excellence Award, Brody wants to create change within his community, and bring pride and mana to his mother and extended family.

“I want to inspire the next generation and carry pride for being a Māori in software engineering.”



**Olisa Faatupu**  
Hometown: Auckland. First Year Health Sciences, University of Otago

Samoan-born Olisa's determination to become a doctor is the result of a childhood spent in and out of hospital with a serious heart condition.

“I want to be a doctor to support patients who feel disadvantaged due to health conditions and have a poor family background. This scholarship proves I can be more.”



**Tabitha Hildyard**  
Hometown: Alexandra. First Year Health Sciences, University of Otago

Tabitha's goal is acceptance into Otago's dental programme, but for now she's concentrating on successfully completing first year Health Sciences. The death of her sister in 2021 had a huge impact on her, affecting her focus and motivation.

“Receiving this scholarship gives me motivation to work hard and push through the challenges.”



**Destiny Martin**  
Hometown: Christchurch. Bachelor of Arts, University of Canterbury

A childhood of domestic violence turned from trauma to motivation for Destiny, who plans to support young people in her career as a teacher. She says while her childhood created a lot of anguish, it also made her independent and resilient from a young age. Head Girl and Māori Prefect at her high school.

“University will open new doors to meaningful connections.”



**Oliva Reid**  
Hometown: Auckland. Bachelor of Design (Economics and Industrial Design), AUT

Hard work over talent is something Oliva lives by. It's seen him win academic excellence awards and being named top student in six classes over the past two years – despite needing assistance through learning support programmes as a younger student.

“Everything I have endured has made me who I am today.”



**Baromey Rous**  
Hometown: Thames. Bachelor of Engineering (Hon), University of Auckland

Baromey has a strong set of values, rooted in resilience and determination, borne out of her early life in Cambodia. The family faced language barriers and financial difficulties in New Zealand, however her toughest challenge was when her mother lost her battle with cancer when Baromey was in her early teens.

“My career interests lie in chemical engineering, after witnessing deaths in my home country due to contamination.”



**Josh Sherwin**  
Hometown: Christchurch. Bachelor of Commerce, University of Otago

Sports-loving Josh has many outstanding achievements, but even more so when you consider Josh has physical disabilities in both arms and hands.

“Going through life with this forced me to become extremely adaptive and extremely ambitious to be able to keep up with my peers – and in many cases surpass them.”



**Meet our 2024 Scholarship Students continued on the next page.**

## Meet our 2024 Scholarship Students *continued*



### Roya Sultan

Hometown: Wainuiomata. Bachelor of Arts and Law conjoint, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington

When Roya passionately expresses her desire to improve the lives of children in Afghanistan, she's drawing from her own experiences growing up in Kabul. An outstanding scholar, Roya's goal is to work for an organisation like UNICEF or the United Nations.

“My homeland has faced conflict and instability, which have had a devastating impact on the lives of its youngest citizens. I am committed to the cause of providing these children with the opportunity to pursue their dreams.”



### Waiata Taikato

Hometown: Rotorua. Bachelor of Arts and Commerce, University of Auckland

Waiata sums himself up in two words – hard working. Raised by a solo mum, he worked up to 35 hours per week on top of his schooling – to support his family of six siblings. Overcoming a mountain of obstacles, Waiata is an inspirational student who is disciplined, resilient and driven to succeed.

“This scholarship is the single most important achievement I have had the privilege to acknowledge as my own. It is proof that working hard opens doors.”



### Malia Telefina Moa

Hometown: Auckland. Bachelor of Business Studies, AUT

Malia is a “proud Tongan” ready to embrace the opportunities university will bring. Some tough experiences at high school built up Malia's resilience and faith in God.

“It's helped prepare me for university – and the future. I know I can stand on my own two feet when life throws me curveballs. I'm looking forward to learning more about myself and being able to grow.”



### Malaika Tasnia

Hometown: Auckland. Diploma in Business, AUT

Malaika has an entrepreneurial spirit – among her many ventures, she operated an organic veggie business while in primary school in Suva, Fiji. Moving to New Zealand five years ago, she cites her parents' lack of education as her motivation to succeed.

“As a child of immigrant parents, I learned to take responsibility for my family and myself at a very young age. I love to help others and that's something I want to continue to do.”



### Kahukura Te Rauna

Hometown: Wainuiomata. Bachelor of Commerce/Māori Studies, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington

Te reo is an important part of Kahukura's life – in fact, it's his first language. The eldest of five boys, Kahukura was head boy at his high school, and is an outstanding all-round achiever who volunteers in his community, works part-time and is a Wellington and national ki-o-rahi rep.

“The scholarship will support me during my studies and help me network and make connections with like-minded people who want to succeed as much as I do.”



### Kyla Wilson

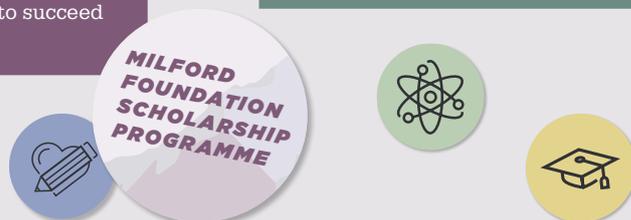
Hometown: Thames. Bachelor of Commerce (Marketing), University of Otago

A former Thames High School Head Girl, Kyla has a long list of achievements to her name – both academic and sporting. Softly spoken, moving to Thames from a small rural community was a challenge for her.

“I learnt to be resilient and empathetic towards others when faced with challenges. It's given me the confidence to take risks despite uncertainty.”

To read the extended profiles of our Scholarship recipients please visit

<https://milfordfoundation.co.nz/scholarship/recipients/>



## Enjoy some Island time this autumn

Here's the perfect way to welcome in the cooler months ahead.

Foxes Island Wine has created a spectacular offering exclusively in support of the Milford Foundation's work helping transform communities in New Zealand. Here's the perfect way to welcome in the cooler months ahead. 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



# 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 year.

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

**Goal:** Assisting in the repair of the clubrooms, changing rooms and plumbing infrastructure.

### **Te Rarawa Rugby Club**

**Update:** Works have been completed and the Foundation's payment has been made to the club.

### **Onerahi Rugby Club**

**Update:** Work completed, and the Foundation's payment has been made.

### **Rodney/Otamatea Sub Union (5 clubs)**

**Update:** Works have been completed and new equipment sourced. The Foundation's payment has been made to the club.

### **Kaeo Rugby Sports Club**

**Update:** Through the quoting process it was determined that the clubhouse roof is in a much worse state than originally believed. The repair costs are now likely to be \$100,000. The Foundation is still committed to providing \$20,000 towards this project. The Foundation has also provided a Letter of Support for the Kaeo Club hoping it will encourage other organisations/charities to provide funding for the roof.

## **Tapuae Sports Club, Wairoa**

**Goal:** Assisting in the repair of the clubrooms, changing rooms and plumbing infrastructure.

**Update:** Weather events and a new season starting, continue to delay this process. The club is now considering two areas of support. These being: improvements to the changing sheds, and fixing the impact of silt on the sports field.

The Tapuae Sports Club Senior Men's Rugby Team (pictured) was undefeated last year and are now in the Premier Division.



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

### **Mareikura Waka Ama Club**

**Goal:** Replacing damaged/destroyed waka.

**Update:** Mareikura triumphed over adversity, marking a poignant milestone by participating in the Waka Ama Sprint Nationals after enduring significant setbacks.

A year after Cyclone Gabrielle wreaked havoc, the club faced further challenges in November due to adverse weather, impairing access to the river and hindering training for at least three weeks. Overcoming these obstacles, the club returned to the Nationals symbolising resilience and determination. In a remarkable achievement, Mareikura successfully assembled teams across all rangatahi and adult divisions.

A highlight for the club was the qualification of the J16 Girls' Waka Ama team for the World Waka Ama Sprints in Hilo, Hawaii, scheduled for August. This presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for nine rangatahi, amplifying the significance of the moment. However, financial constraints pose a challenge for some whānau, prompting intense fundraising efforts.

Mareikura's commitment to overcoming these hurdles underscores the dedication to providing opportunities for its members, showcasing the resilience and unity that defines the club's spirit.

### **Tairāwhiti Adventure Trust**

**Goal:** Building a new Pump Track in Tolaga Bay.

**Update:** Council has now provided consent for the track to be built. Funding for the whole track has now been obtained.

### **Wairoa Netball Club**

**Goal:** Replacing all netball posts and other equipment such as the club's laptop, along with providing a temporary storage facility.

**Update:** All items purchased, and successful winter and summer seasons held. They held a netball open day which was filmed.

## 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.

A strong distinction between the Milford Foundation and other charities, is that every cent of your donation will go to the purpose it was intended. Milford pays all costs associated

with running the Foundation. 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](mailto:info@milfordfoundation.co.nz) and we'll add your name.