WOMEN'S REFUGE

NATIONAL COLLECTIVE OF INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S REFUGES INC
NGĀ WHARE WHAKARURUHAU O AOTEAROA

















ANNUAL REPORT

2025 - 26



With grateful thanks to our partners...

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Chief Executive's Report



Naomi Ogg
Women's Refuge
Chief Executive

When I stepped into the Chief Executive role, I knew I was joining a Movement with a proud history, strong voices and a deep commitment to women and children. One year in, I can say that sense of purpose remains as strong as ever.

What has changed is my understanding of just how much sits behind the frontline work.

My first year has been about listening, asking questions, visiting Refuges and building relationships with government agencies, sector partners and people across our wider community. I wanted to understand what works well, where the challenges are, and how National Office can provide the best possible support to our affiliated Refuges.

Across our 41 affiliated Refuges, there is an incredible depth of knowledge, experience and commitment. Each Refuge is also part of a different community, with its own needs and challenges. Local responses will not always look the same, and that is an important part of the strength of our Movement.

Demand for our services remains significant, but numbers alone do not tell the full story. Women may be experiencing repeat victimisation, changing levels of risk, housing barriers, technology-facilitated abuse and a range of other challenges. Supporting women and children to be safe can take time, persistence and sustained support. There is rarely a simple or one-size-fits-all answer.

This year has also reinforced for me the importance of our data. Data helps us understand demand, improve services and communicate the support our Movement needs. But data is only part of the picture. Numbers can tell us what is happening; the experiences of women, advocates and communities help us understand what sits behind those numbers.

I have also learned that being part of a National Collective means bringing together different perspectives. We will not always see things in exactly the same way, and that is okay. Listening to each other, asking questions and being open to different views helps us learn and make better decisions together. What matters is that we remain connected by our shared kaupapa and our commitment to women and children.

To our affiliated Refuges, thank you. Every day you respond to crisis, support women and children, manage changing circumstances and find ways to meet the needs of your communities. Your local knowledge and experience are incredibly valuable to our national work. Your feedback, ideas and perspectives help us understand what is happening on the ground and where we can do better.

To the National Office team, thank you for the expertise, care and commitment you bring to your work. Much of what you do happens behind the scenes, but it helps keep our national work moving, supports our Refuges and strengthens the wider Movement. I am grateful for your willingness to work through challenges, share your knowledge and find practical ways forward.

To Te Taumata o Te Kōwhai Core Group and Whaea Te Inupō, thank you for your leadership and support throughout my first year. Bringing together a National Collective of Independent Refuges is a unique responsibility. Each Refuge has its own identity, relationships and decision-making, while we also have shared responsibilities as a Movement. I have appreciated your guidance as I have learned to navigate that balance.

I also want to acknowledge our government partners and community organisations. The work we do is strengthened by relationships built on openness, respect and a willingness to work together. There will always be difficult issues to navigate, but having good relationships means we can have those conversations and continue working towards better outcomes for women and children.

To our corporate partners, donors and supporters, thank you. Your generosity provides practical support and allows us to respond to needs that are not always covered through government funding. Your belief in the work of Women's Refuge makes a real difference to what our Refuges can provide and to the women and children they support.

I want to make a special mention of Contact Energy, who quite literally, keep the lights on in our safe houses, ensuring these vital spaces remain warm, connected and welcoming for women and children. Contact has also invested in ground-breaking research that helps us better understand family violence and improve the ways in which we respond to it. That combination of practical support and a commitment to building knowledge is incredibly valuable, and we are very grateful for their ongoing partnership.

I did not enter this role expecting to have every answer, and I certainly do not have them all now. What I do have is a much clearer understanding of the strength of this Movement and the importance of the work we do together.

There is always more to learn and more to do. Our focus must remain on supporting the work that makes a difference, learning where we can improve, strengthening connections across the Movement and being honest about the challenges our Refuges and the communities they serve are facing.

Thank you for the kōrero, the support, the questions, the encouragement and, yes, the occasional reality check.

It has been a full and rewarding first year. I feel very privileged to be part of this Movement and look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in the year ahead



Naomi Ogg

Te Taumata O Te Kōwhai



From left to right: Rachel Black, Annie Tupaea, Leannah Kaye, Siohban Hohepa, Shona Savage, Louise Waterworth, Jodie Harris, Hana Kakoi, and Te Inupō Farrar

Tēnā koutou katoa,

E mihi ana ki a koutou katoa mō tō koutou kaha, tō koutou manawa tītī, me tō koutou ū ki te kaupapa o te whakakore i te tukino ā-whānau.

We acknowledge you all for your strength, your endurance, and your commitment to the kaupapa of eliminating family violence. As Co-Chairs, it is our privilege to present this year's Annual Report and to reflect on another year of mahi, challenge, achievement and change.

The past year has once again shown us the incredible strength and resilience of our organisation. We have seen the courage of survivors, the dedication of our kaimahi, and the commitment of our refuges and communities to supporting women, children and whānau. We are also grateful for the relationships and partnerships that continue to grow and strengthen, helping us to work together towards lasting change.

We know that the environment in which we work remains challenging. Demand for family violence services continues to be significant, while the needs of whānau are increasingly complex. At the same time, financial and operational pressures across the sector require us to be thoughtful, creative and focused on sustainability. These challenges remind us of the importance of standing together and ensuring that the voices, knowledge and experiences of our refuges remain at the heart of our collective work and decision-making.

A significant achievement this year has been the completion and adoption of our new strategic plan for 2026–2030. The strategic plan provides clear direction for the work of National Office over the next four years, setting out the priorities and areas of focus that will guide their mahi and support the needs of our organisation. Its development gave us an important opportunity to reflect on where we have come from, consider what is needed from National Office now, and look ahead to how we can best support our members and contribute to the wider family violence sector.

We are excited about what this new strategy provides for the years ahead. It gives National Office a clear framework for its work, while allowing us to remain responsive to the changing needs and priorities of our refuges and whānau. We particularly acknowledge our National Office team, whose knowledge, commitment and care will be central to bringing the strategic plan to life. Their work, often behind the scenes, is critical to supporting our movement and ensuring that we remain connected, responsive and focused on the needs of our members and the communities we serve. We thank them for the mahi they undertake and look forward to seeing the strategic plan translated into meaningful support, leadership and advocacy for our movement.

This year has also brought an important leadership transition for our organisation. Following the retirement of Dr Ang Jury at the end of 2025, we welcomed our new Chief Executive, Naomi Ogg. We acknowledge Ang's many years of leadership and the strong foundation she leaves behind. We are grateful for all that she has contributed to our organisation and our movement. We warmly welcome Naomi as she steps into this role and look forward to working alongside her as we begin this next chapter and bring our new strategic plan to life.

Our heartfelt thanks also goes to Te Inupō Farrar, our kuia, for her continued wisdom, guidance and support. Her presence brings strength and grounding to our work and reminds us of the values and relationships that keep people, whānau and community at the centre of all we do.

To all our kaimahi, and to those who contribute through Te Taumata o Te Kōwhai Core Group, thank you for the incredible mahi you undertake every day. Our organisation is strongest when we work collectively, sharing our knowledge, supporting one another and learning from the experiences of our independent refuges. We are deeply grateful for your passion, resilience and commitment to this kaupapa.

We also extend our sincere thanks to our funders, partners, supporters and communities. Your trust, collaboration and ongoing support make it possible for us to continue this important mahi. We value the relationships we have with you and the contribution you make to our shared purpose.

Family violence remains one of the most pressing social issues of our time. While there is still much work to do, we remain hopeful and committed. Our new strategic plan gives National Office a clear pathway forward, while the strength, knowledge and determination of our people give us confidence in what we can achieve together.

As we look to the years ahead, we do so with gratitude for those who have walked this path before us, appreciation for those doing the mahi today, and hope for the future we are creating together.

Together, we will continue building safer homes, stronger communities, and a future where all people can live free from violence.

Ngā manaakitanga,



Hana Kakoi
Co-Chair



Rachel Black
Co-Chair

Te Taumata o Te Kōwhai Core Group

Our Purpose

To liberate women, children, families and whānau from family violence by providing quality services and social commentary.

Our Vision

Leadership that influences the prevention and elimination of domestic violence.

Whakapapa
Understanding the depth of our kaupapa, who we are and where we stand.

Tikanga
Doing things according to our values and cornerstones.

Wairua
Understanding and contributing to the essence of how we work, through respecting each other and our environment.

Tapu
The practice of individual and collective protection.

Mauri
Encompassing the evolving lifeforce across all things.

Mana
Upholding empowerment and growth of our people, individually and collectively.



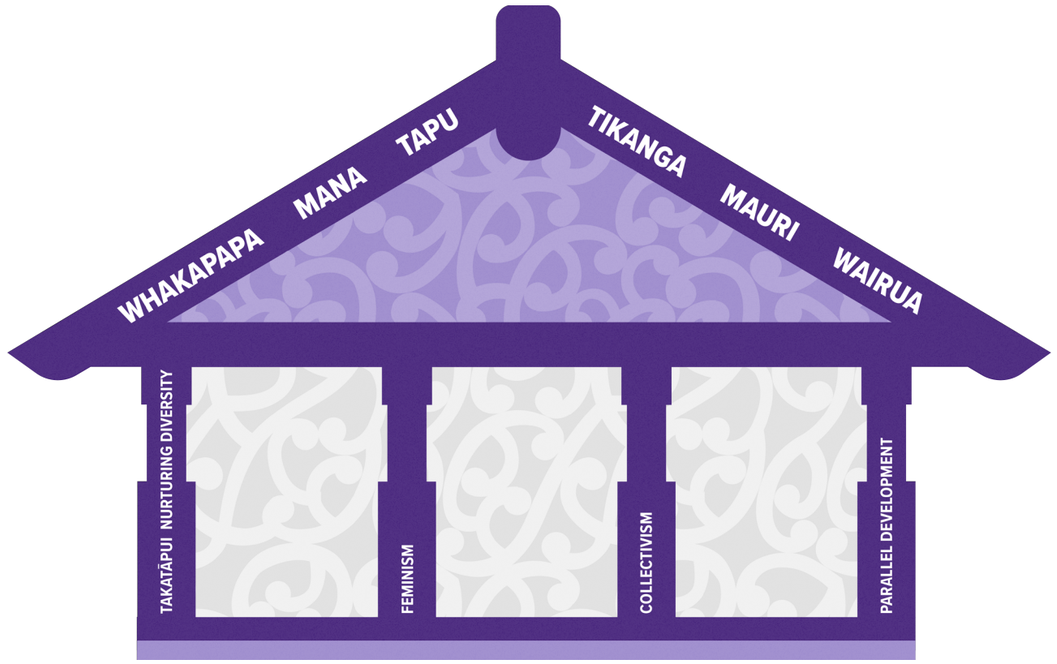
Cornerstones

Our four cornerstones underpin our values and guide the way we work: takatāpui nurturing diversity, feminism, collectivism, and parallel development.

Together, they shape our approach, strengthen our relationships and ensure that women, children and communities remain at the heart of everything we do.

Takatāpui Nurturing Diversity:
Commitment to nurture diversity and difference and work actively to combat heterosexism and homophobia.

Kōkiri Mana Wahine/ Feminism:
Belief in and commitment to working towards equal rights and opportunities for all women.

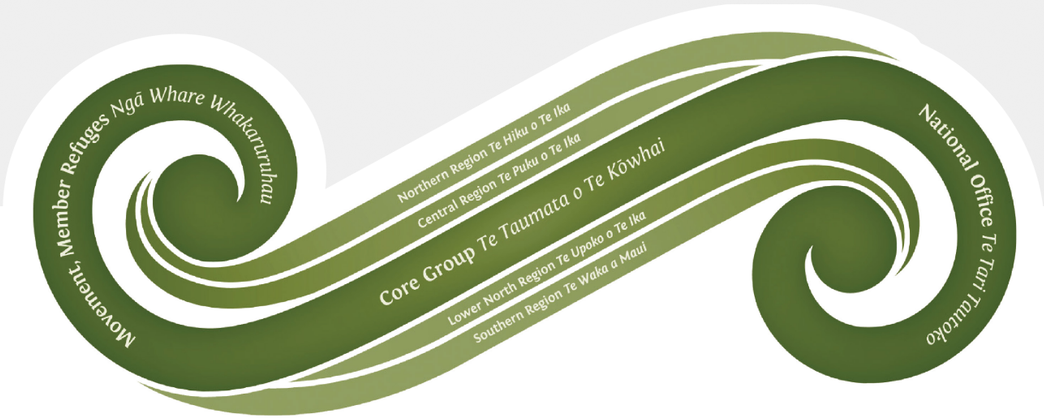


Kotahitanga / Collectivism:
Commitment to practices enabling all women to participate at the local, regional, and national level through shared responsibility, participation, and accountability by all members.

Piritaha / Parallel development:
Enables Tangata Whenua and Tauiwi to develop in ways that are culturally appropriate and complementary, and which allow parties to work together to preserve the integrity of the whole organisation.

Our Structure

The National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges (NCIWR) is the umbrella organisation for 41 affiliated refuges located throughout Aotearoa.



The governing body of our organisation is Te Taumata O Te Kōwhai Core Group. For the 2025-26 financial period the four regions were represented by the following women.

NORTHERN

Māori – Annie Tupaea
Tauiwi – Jodie Harris

CENTRAL

Māori – Siohban Hohepa
Tauiwi – Leannah Kaye

LOWER NORTH

Māori – Shona Savage
Tauiwi – Louise Waterworth

SOUTHERN

Māori – Hana Kakoi
Tauiwi – Rachel Black

These eight women, supported by our kuia, Te Inupō Farrar, form an overarching governing board that makes strategic decisions about how the National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges operates. It guides our organisation and is responsible for setting our strategic direction based on the views and needs of refuge members.

The group ensures that Women's Refuge operates as a truly 'bottom-up' organisation. One tangata whenua Māori representative and one tauiwi non-Māori representative from each of the Women's Refuge's four regions are represented on Te Taumata o Te Kōwhai Core Group.

Our Collective



Northern Region

Eastern Refuge Society inc • Fale Pasifika • Hestia Rodney Women's Refuge • Mid North Women's Refuge • South Auckland Family Refuge • Te Puna O Te Aroha • Te Whare Herenga O Ngā Tangata Māori Women's Refuge • Tryphina House • Whare Timatatanga Hou Ora - Kaitaia Women's Refuge • Women's Refuge Tamaki Makaurau

Central Region

Awhina Society Trust - Taupo Women's Refuge • Family VIP Services • Taumarunui Women's Refuge & Support Centre • Te Wāhi Whakāora Rotorua and District Women's Refuge • Te Whare Oranga Wairua inc • Te Whare Whanau Purotu inc • Wāhine Safety Centre • Waitomo–Waipa Women's Refuge

Lower North Region

Hutt Valley Women's Refuge • Kapiti Women's Refuge • Kokiri Marae Māori Women's Refuge • Womens Refuge Manawatū • Taranaki Women's Refuge • Te Roopu Whakaruruhau O Nga Wahine Māori • Te Whare Rokiroki Māori Women's Refuge • Te Whare Tiaki Wahine Women's Refuge • Wairarapa Women's Refuge • Wellington Women's Refuge • Whanganui Women's Refuge - Te Piringa Puna Wahine • Women's Refuge Porirua

Southern Region

HAVEN - Mid South Refuge • Gore & Clutha Whānau Refuge • Malborough Women's Refuge & Sexual Assault Resource Centre • Ōtepoti-Dunedin Whānau Refuge • SHE (Support, Heal, Empower) • Te Whare Hou - Invercargill Women's Refuge • West Coast Women's Refuge • West Christchurch Women's Refuge • Whakatū Refuge Trust

Collective Highlights

Northern Region

Hestia Rodney Women's Refuge

We delivered Painting Our Towns Purple by getting out into the community and making support visible. We partnered with local businesses, and community groups sponsors to turn Warkworth purple through a community walk and a food tour, alongside purple shopfront displays and pop-up information tables. These events brought people together, started important conversations, and gave locals clear, practical information about how to access help or support someone else.

We did it by working collaboratively, promoting the events through local networks, and using purple as a consistent, recognisable signal of solidarity and safety across the town.

South Auckland Family Refuge

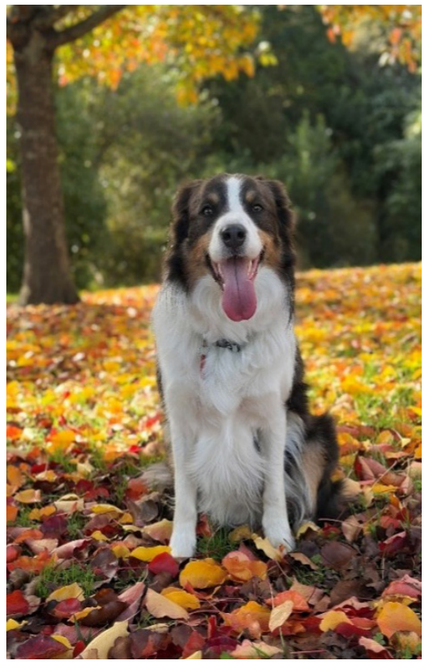
Over the past year we have had a significant rise in wahine presenting with immigration issues needing visa application support. The visa applications process is a long one with many documents required and hoops to jump through. I am so pleased to say that one of our long term clients successfully had her residency visa approved via a domestic violence work visa and ha transitioned from refuge safehouse to our transitional housing complex. She is now eligible for financial assistance from MSD as well as housing. This wahine came with her young Tamariki in January 2026 and stayed in our refuge safehouse for 204 days. This wahine faced many challenges along the way, but with encouragement from the staff and advocates she pushed through and achieved her goal.

Women's Refuge Tamaki Makaurau

This year has been one of growth, connection and strengthening the foundations of Women's Refuge Tāmaki Makaurau. Our small but passionate team of skilled advocates continue to make a meaningful difference for wāhine and tamariki, and we were delighted to welcome a very special new member to our WRTM whānau; our Wellbeing Companion, Zephyr (pictured).

We are incredibly grateful for the organisations and funders who have stood alongside us and invested in our mahi. Partnerships with Foundation North, Four Winds Foundation, Pub Charity, and the Lion Foundation (among many others!) have provided valuable funding and support that enables us to continue responding to the needs of wāhine and whānau.

A particularly exciting recent milestone has been receiving a generous grant from The Lion Foundation, which will enable us to purchase our own van. This will make a meaningful difference to our ability to safely transport and support clients, whether travelling to appointments, collecting essential items or helping wāhine transition towards greater independence.
We are proud of what we have achieved together and deeply grateful to everyone who continues to support our kaupapa.



Collective Highlights

Northern Region

Whare Timatatanga Hou Ora

This year, Whare Tīmatatanga Hou Ora's Māreikura Wahine programme continued to deliver strong outcomes, centred on wellbeing, empowerment, and domestic violence education. Notably, 70% of wāhine who have graduated from the programme have not returned to family violence, a testament to its lasting impact.

We have also continued strengthening collaborative relationships across our community, working closely with Iwi providers and both governance and non-governance organisations. Another key achievement was helping establish monthly managers' hui across the Northern Region, which have strengthened relationships between providers and ensured we remain well connected, with communication at the forefront. We also contributed to developing a strategic plan for the Northern Region, an initiative that remains ongoing and will continue to guide collective direction across the region.

Central Region

Family VIP Services

The past year has been particularly challenging for Family VIP Services in Hastings and Napier. Our ability to deliver services came under immense pressure following the loss of our Napier safe house, which resulted in us being without this vital resource for more than sixteen months.

Despite these challenges, I am incredibly proud of our kaimahi, who have shown remarkable resilience and commitment in continuing to support whānau without access to this essential facility. As a result, our Hastings safe house was utilised extensively to meet the increased demand.

At the same time, our National Home Safety Service, Whānau Protect, enabled us to create safe environments for māmā and their tamariki within their own homes. This service has empowered women to remain in their homes, or return to them sooner, with increased confidence, security, and peace of mind. Through practical safety measures and ongoing support, we have continued to help whānau feel protected and supported during times of crisis.



Collective Highlights

Taumarunui Women's Refuge & Support Centre

The past year has thrown everything at us: floods that destroyed homes, fires that closed our safe house, and an earthquake that shook the Central North Island. At times, it felt as though Mother Nature had added us to her group chat and was sending too many notifications! Through it all, our team kept showing up with warmth, humour, courage and an unwavering commitment to our community. We continued providing quality support to wāhine and whānau, while growing our team and the services we offer. Alongside our core family violence mahi, we strengthened and expanded support for tamariki, rangatahi and tāne, helping us respond to the needs of the whole whānau. The year tested our buildings, our plans and occasionally our nerves, but never our purpose. Whatever comes next, we will keep doing what we do best, supporting whānau, strengthening our community, and keeping the emergency snacks well stocked!



Te Wāhi Whakaora – Rotorua Women's Refuge

The past year has been a time of reflection, transition and renewal for Te Wāhi Whakaora. We welcomed new management, navigated operational challenges, while strengthening the systems and everyday practices that support safe, responsive and high-quality services.

We acknowledge our Board and NCIWR for their leadership and manaakitanga, and our dedicated kaimahi who walk alongside wāhine, tamariki and whānau with aroha, compassion and commitment.

Highlights 2026:

- beginning our transition towards a specialised, culturally responsive and whānau-centred practice model;
- strengthening relationships with iwi, community organisations and local supporters; and
- expanding our lense beyond crisis response towards healing, mana motuhake and long-term whānau wellbeing.

The courage and resilience of the wāhine and whānau we serve remain our greatest inspiration. Their voices and aspirations guide the refuge we are becoming.

Mā te huruhuru, ka rere te manu—together, we help whānau rise and flourish with strength and hope.

Collective Highlights

Te Whare Whānau Pūrotu

Te Whare Whānau Pūrotu has seen many changes and growth over the past year, with the addition of our Transitional Housing contract, Te Whare Puāwai, and welcoming new team members on board, including our new Manager, Practice Lead and TH team.

We've gone from strength to strength, nurturing existing relationships with stakeholders and actively building new relationships within the community. This has been reflected in the positive feedback we've received and greater communication with those we work alongside for whānau, and we've felt privileged to have wāhine we've worked with, recommend our service to their loved ones.

We've taken advantage of the learnings made available to us, from Advanced Advocacy to Wāhine Kī Toa, putting us in the best place to enhance the support we give. We've also laid the foundations to grow our social media presence and, though small steps so far, we're seeing greater connection with our community already.

Wāhine Safety Centre

This year has been the year of visibility, accessibility and community connection for Wāhine Safety Centre. Following an in-depth review of our purpose and culture, we undertook a complete rebrand. Our goal was to ensure we presented ourselves to our community in a way that reflected our values and communicated our willingness and ability to walk alongside wāhine and tamariki affected by family violence as they navigate their own unique pathway to a violence free life.

The products of the rebrand included a new logo, website and social media presence and an online women's programme that makes learning and connecting accessible to rural and isolated women, those without childcare and transport and those not yet ready for an in-person setting. In addition, we engaged our business community in donating funds and items to provide monthly care packages to our clients, welcomed our first Pasifika staff members and established a full-time satellite service in Matamata.



Collective Highlights

Lower North Region

Hutt Valley Women's Refuge

This year has been one of growth, collaboration, and continuing our commitment to supporting women, children, and whānau experiencing family violence. Highlights have included growing our frontline team to seven registered social workers, growing our Crisis Team, and welcoming a new Practice Lead, further strengthening the support, guidance, and reflective practice within our service. Together, our team continues to provide compassionate, trauma-informed support to those we walk alongside.

We have also taken a small but meaningful step towards sustainability with the addition of an electric vehicle to our fleet, helping to reduce our carbon footprint while enabling our team to continue providing outreach and community-based support.

We remain committed to working collaboratively with partner agencies and our community to achieve positive outcomes for whānau. We are incredibly grateful for our team, volunteers, supporters, and partner organisations whose ongoing dedication and care make this work possible every day.

Women's Refuge Manawatū

We are proud of these achievements and look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.

Women's Refuge Manawatū provides services in Tararua, Horowhenua and Manawatū working with children, women and Rangatahi. Services include not only support and advocacy but extends to Kids in the Middle one on one advocacy work, Whanau Protect, 24/hr Crisis-line, Prevention and networking community work, Transitional Housing and educational programs for women, children and youth.

Two of the major highlights this year is the name change from Palmerston North Womens Refuge to Women's Refuge Manawatū to reflect the extension of services delivered to surrounding towns. We have 4 office sites to accommodate local advocates and easy community access

Secondly, Women's Refuge Manawatū is now a proud owner of an office building to accommodate up to 20 staff and are in the process to moving into the new space by end of the year.





Collective Highlights

Women's Refuge Porirua – Te Whakaruruhau o Porirua

It has been a busy and rewarding year for Women's Refuge Porirua – Te Whakaruruhau o Porirua as we continue to establish ourselves and grow our presence within the Porirua community.

Since beginning our Refuge services in early 2026, our focus has been on providing a safe, welcoming, and responsive service for wāhine and tamariki experiencing family violence. Our small but committed team continues to provide Refuge services and ongoing support, while building strong relationships across our local community and wider Refuge network.

We are proud of how far we have come in a relatively short time. Alongside our day-to-day mahi, we are strengthening our kaupapa Māori practice and developing initiatives that support longer-term healing and wellbeing.

As we look ahead, our focus remains on growing a strong, sustainable Refuge for our community and that supports wāhine and tamariki to move forward safely and standing strong in their mana.



Women's Refuge Whanganui

Women's Refuge Whanganui is proud to bring our community together each year for our Christmas Quiz fundraiser, raising much-needed funds to help keep our 24/7 crisis line running.

In the past, our Christmas kaupapa sat alongside White Ribbon in November, standing with the national message to end violence. Last year, our event grew into something of its own called Hīkoi of Hope. It has become a local movement built on a simple belief, no one should have to walk alone.

Hīkoi of Hope is about coming together as a community. It acknowledges the strength of survivors, the importance of whānau, and the role we all have in creating safer homes and stronger communities.

Every ticket purchased for our quiz, donation made, and show of support helps us continue providing a 24/7 crisis line for wāhine and tamariki in our community. It also helps us support the dedicated staff responding to people in crisis. Looking after our team means they can continue providing the care and support that so many families rely on.



Southern Region

Gore & Clutha Whānau Refuge

We are proud to reflect on another year of supporting whānau while continuing to grow initiatives that create lasting change in our community. We were privileged to be invited to deliver a weekly programme with Year 10 students at a local school and celebrated the successful graduation of our Rangatahi Mahi participants in Terms 1 and 3, while strengthening engagement with their parents. We also introduced a new mediation service and expanded our team with a student counsellor and dedicated Tamariki Advocate. Alongside service delivery, we strengthened community support through two fashion fundraisers facilitated by Tuihana Ohia, a golf tournament, Paint the Town Purple, and several successful raffles. While our crisis response remains at the heart of what we do, we are equally committed to investing in prevention, knowing that early intervention is key to breaking the cycle of intergenerational trauma and family violence and building safer, stronger communities.



HAVEN - Mid South Refuge

This year, we wanted to take that message beyond the walls of HAVEN and into the heart of our communities. And so, we set ourselves an ambitious goal for our annual appeal month: Paint the Town Purple.

Our vision was simple but powerful, to make family violence visible, encourage conversations, challenge the stigma and silence that too often surround it, and ensure whānau know that support is available. Most importantly, we wanted our communities to stand together and say: Family violence is everyone's concern, and everyone has a part to play in creating safer whānau and stronger communities.

From a Local Seed to a Nationwide Movement

What makes this year's campaign particularly special is how far this idea has travelled. Paint the Town Purple began here at HAVEN Mid-South as a local initiative, but its message was too important to remain local. After seeing the impact of the campaign in our communities, other Women's Refuge services across Aotearoa embraced the concept and brought Paint the Town Purple to their own towns and communities.

To see an idea born here at HAVEN Mid-South grow into a movement reaching communities across the country is something we are incredibly proud of. It demonstrates what is possible when one simple idea, a passionate team and a community committed to change come together.





Collective Highlights

Te Whare Hou Invercargill Women's Refuge

2026 has been a really busy year for us. Our education programmes have been in very high demand for both women and children. We have been getting very positive feedback on these from participants.
We have a small but dedicated team who work tirelessly to deliver services to our clients and ensure they are well supported and their needs are being met.

There are exciting times ahead for us as at the beginning of the year we managed to purchase the property next door to our existing office with a view to purpose building a new office to expand on space and services we currently deliver. We look forward to being able to keep you all updated as things progress towards this major milestone for our whare.



Whakatū Refuge Trust

This year has been one of growth, renewal, and exciting progress for Whakatū Refuge Trust in Nelson. A major highlight has been the completion of accessible renovations at our safe house. It has been transformed into a beautiful, warm, and welcoming home where women, children, whānau, and people of all abilities can feel safe, supported, and valued. The improvements have enhanced accessibility, comfort, and dignity while creating an environment that truly reflects our commitment to inclusion.

We have also launched a new Strategic Plan that provides a clear and ambitious roadmap for the future, ensuring Whakatū Refuge continues to meet the evolving needs of our community.

The Trust has welcomed a new Board, bringing fresh perspectives, strong governance, and a shared commitment to our vision. We have also welcomed a new Manager, Annamarie Angus, who is excited to be part of the wider team and community. Underpinning all of this is a dedicated and passionate team who work tirelessly every day to support whānau and help eliminate family violence across Whakatū.



Projects & Policy

We are grateful to our partnership with Contact Energy that supported the important research behind these two new reports.

Workplaces response to victims of IPV

Abusers frequently target their victims' employment and financial independence as part of their overall pattern of intimate partner violence (IPV).

This report is the first significant piece of research looking at the impact of the Domestic Violence Victims Protection Act 2018 (DVVPA) on workplace responses to IPV in New Zealand. Drawing on data from Women's Refuge's project Safer When, Safer How, the report suggests the **DVVPA was likely to have been a driver in an overall improvement in workplace responses**. The report also points to areas of improvement.

Victims wanted workplaces to:

- Believe them, respond with empathy, understand their circumstances, avoid judgement
- Ask what support they need instead of assuming
- Understand & proactively offer DVVPA entitlements - FV leave, flexible work arrangements
- Support workplace safety – prevent unwanted contact – in-person, phone, digital.
- Promote a workplace culture where FV policies and supports are visible, accessible, and normalised.

"A simple 'Are you safe?', 'How can we support you?', 'Have you heard about...?'."

Victims of IPV and the emergency housing system in Aotearoa

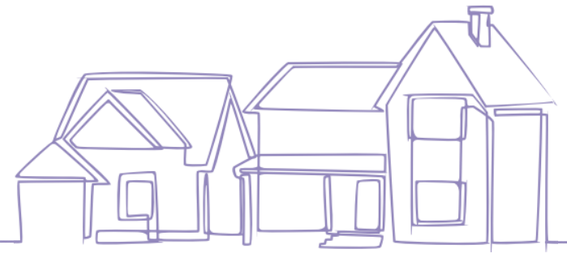
IPV is a major driver of homelessness – many women and children fleeing violence have nowhere safe to go. For victims, escaping a violent abuser means leaving their home, finances, possessions, community and support networks behind. Yet, the current emergency housing system and policies do not adequately account for these specific safety risks and barriers.

Drawing on the experiences of 338 victims from the Safer When, Safer How dataset who had to access emergency or transitional housing because of IPV, this report recommends urgent policy reforms that recognise the intersection between IPV and homelessness and respond to the specific needs of women and children fleeing violence, including:

- better-funded transitional housing
- greater recognition of the safety risks associated with IPV
- simpler, more accessible pathways into emergency accommodation
- holistic, violence-informed support that recognises the realities of living with and escaping violence.

"We [women and her young child] literally had nowhere to go so we had to go back to my ex-partner's house".

"Secure housing is the only thing that matters, most of all."



Projects & Policy - Tech Abuse

Tech abuse in young women's lives:

"I just never felt that I could turn that off and not be tracked", 19-year-old Paige told us, as she recounted her experiences of technology facilitated abuse (tech abuse) by her first partner. As young women's lives are increasingly digitally mediated, so too are the tactics of intimate partner violence (IPV) that are used against them. Our new report ***'Intimate partner violence and technology abuse: young women's experiences'*** shares the stories of 13 women we interviewed aged between 16 and 26. For some the tech abuse had started as early as 13 years old. Their stories included 362 incidents of tech abuse – many of these occurred long after separation. Their abusers used everyday forms of technology - like 24/7 calls, messaging, and social media app tracking, rather than complex or nefarious spyware or tracking systems. Despite the basic tech used, their abusers were able to extend and amplify their control, and cause harm that was severe and life-altering.

We learnt so much from these courageous young women. In September, we were able to present the report findings to a room packed full of frontline advocates at Wesnet's annual Tech Safety Summit in Brisbane. We shared two key messages: that IPV is every bit of severe in young women's lives and that tech abuse informs, enacts, and intensifies IPV. Our simple formula **'AGE + TECH + IPV'** encourages all services to centre young women and respond to their IPV and tech abuse risks seriously.

"My ex had my emails, he linked everything on my phone to his iCloud so if I took a photo it would be uploaded to his iPhone immediately. He could track me. He had all my bank account information, he had photocopies of my driver's licence, it was like he was going to steal my identity. Essentially, he had everything he could get on me."

- Tegan

Nāhana Tūraru/The Risk to Her:

At Refuge, tech abuse is now becoming the bread and butter of family violence advocacy. Alongside our young women's report, our latest risk infographic sponsored by **Contact Energy** paints a picture of the prevalence of tech abuse – with over 80% of 5,000 Refuge clients who entered service between 2024/2025 facing some form of tech-based stalking.





80.6% Most victims experience at least one digital stalking tactic

62.9% The stalking continued after she separated from them

62.8% During the relationship, the perpetrator followed her and showed up repeatedly

54.8% They call or message her constantly to keep her on a digital leash

48.6% They look at her private chats to others to keep her under surveillance

43.5% They use phones/technology to track where she is and what she's doing

Policy Campaign Highlights

This year we collaborated on two major policy campaigns with experts across the family violence and sexual violence sectors to call for politicians to make urgent structural reforms to improve women's and children's lives.

This is Violence

Economic abuse is a form of family violence that uses coercive, controlling, and threatening behaviour to restrict or remove a person's financial freedom, autonomy, and security. Research shows that 15% of ever-partnered women have experienced economic abuse. This year, Refuge collaborated with Good Shepherd NZ, Fincap, and Community Law Centres Aotearoa on the "This is Violence" campaign and corresponding letter to politicians – which calls on the next government to make 9 key reforms.



Reforms:

1. Clarify economic abuse as a form of family violence in the Family Violence Act.

2. Do not hold victim-survivors responsible for paying debt coerced or caused by family violence.

3. Provide non-recoverable flexible funding grants for victim-survivors of up to $5000.

4. Stop prosecuting victim-survivors for benefit fraud because they access a sole parent benefit.

5. Protect victim-survivors from abusers wrongfully claiming child support and Family Court property settlements that ignore the impact of family violence.

6. Provide legal aid for any legal issue resulting from family violence.

7. Give victim-survivors the 'right to repair' credit reports harmed by family violence.

8. Allow for wide-ranging forms of evidence of family violence when any of these reforms require such evidence.

9. Commission independent family violence specialists to research the effectiveness of these changes.

Focus on Safety

The family justice system is one the most significant system barriers to victim-survivor safety and wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand. More than 10,000 children are impacted by the Family Court's decisions each year. The "Focus on Safety" campaign, brings together a non-partisan collaboration of experts from family violence, sexual violence, and adult safeguarding to propose 7 key reforms of the Family Court and wider family justice system. The letter to ministers, endorsed by Refuges across the motu, called for our proposed reforms to be enacted as a priority, for the sake of current and future adult and child victim-survivors and their whānau. The campaign for these 7 reforms will continue after the 2026 election.

Reforms:

1. New FV, SV Specialist Roles

2. A FV, SV Specialist Family Court

3. FV Visa Proceedings Connected with the FV, SV Specialist Family Court

4. Oversight by an Independent FV, SV Prevention & Response Commissioner

5. A Transparent Family Court

6. Access to Legal Aid

7. Adult Safeguarding Statutory Framework

Read more about our seven reforms at:
www.focusonsafety.org.nz

Herstory

Women's Refuge is now a household name, yet the story of one of how one of the largest women's movements in Aotearoa began and grew over time has never been told.

From August 2025 to 2026, over 150 wāhine who were kaimahi or volunteers in Refuges have shared their stories about what it was like to create, work in, fight for, and grow Refuges across the motu. Spanning the early days of Women's Refuges from the 1970s until now, the story of the Refuge movement goes beyond the story of Ngā Whare Whakaruruhau o Aotearoa – the National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges and makes connections between the fight for women's rights more broadly, the fight for whenua and tino rangatiratanga, and the need for anti-racist approaches to gendered-based violence.

Using a combination of audio and video recording, more than 100 hours of material has been collated from voices across Aotearoa. The stories are personal and fiery – they include funny, scary, and insightful anecdotes about what it was like to advocate for the safety of wāhine and tamariki on the frontline when there was no funding and little public support. In short, we are reminded of the very need for people and places of Refuge.

> ***"Looking back, I think the fact that we weren't just a political group, we did that practical work of helping women both in the Refuge work and in the abortion issue. It ended up being quite powerful because you could say look we showed the need was there. [...] We could be political, but the fact that we did both was really powerful."***
>
> – Rosemary, co-founder Christchurch Women's Refuge.



Transtitional Housing



The Transitional Housing Programme, funded by the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport, enables providers to provide short term accommodation with wrap around support, to whānau experiencing homelessness.

In the past financial year, 13 affiliated Refuges across the country have supported over 550 families (1,028 individuals), with 28.9% successfully moving into private rentals, and 43.8% in social housing. This year has been one of continued change and growth for our transitional housing service. Our team has continued to support transitional housing advocates to manage the day to day demands of transitional housing while also responding to changing requirements from government and the needs of the people we support.

A key focus this year has been ensuring our processes remain effective and that advocates have the information and support they need to be able to help their clients. This has included working through complex situations, supporting property and maintenance needs, strengthening processes and providing ongoing support to the advocates we work with.

We have continued to build relationships with other housing services across the country, recognising the importance of working together to achieve good outcomes for whānau. While the housing environment continues to present challenges, our teams have remained committed to finding practical solutions and ensuring people have access to safe and suitable housing.

Comments from those who have been through our service:

"Yes, I just wanted to say thank you to the support team who have supported me and my children to finding a home, thank you for the safe place and space we had at our stay there, very much appreciated."

"I couldn't think of a better person to have dealt with, she treated me with such respect, took the time to listen and supported me through a very hard time"

Transitional Housing Hui

In March, our team at National Office organised a 2-day Hui in Wellington for transitional housing advocates from across the country. This Hui was a great opportunity for transitional housing kaimahi to connect; build relationships and discuss the important work we do. We had a guest speaker come to talk about supporting our clients into long-term housing and how to overcome barriers, along with many constructive group conversations. It is always inspiring to bring together our transitional housing teams to share kōrero, knowledge and ideas!

Whānau Protect



For the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 the Whānau Protect team have processed **1412** client referrals, with **1313** of those referred clients receiving the service.

There are 41 affiliated Refuges
and
6 external family violence providers

The Whānau Protect Programme, funded by the Ministry of Justice, plays a key role in providing support and resources for family violence victims and their children to remain free from violence while remaining in their own homes. This service is for high-risk victims who are currently experiencing repeat family violence that is likely to cause serious injury or death.

Whānau Protect is a six-month service that includes a monitored safety alarm and a home safety improvement. When the alarm is triggered, the police are notified and the unit activates an audio recording. The recording may be used by police for the purpose of investigation and prosecution against the perpetrator.

The home safety improvement involves a safety assessment of the property to identify areas of weak security that the perpetrator may use to quickly gain entry to the property. The security of these areas is then improved by a Whānau Protect contractor and a safe room is established. This room is intended as a place for the victim to shelter while waiting for the police to arrive in the event the offender attempts to gain entry to the property.

*"**The only reason I'm not running is because of that alarm.** If I didn't have the alarm and I couldn't get one of the kids to go down to the rooms grab the pendant and quietly just tap it, **I wouldn't be here, I would have relocated**. So that is the effect the alarm has on my life at the moment."*

*"I feel like it is the best thing that happened to me in this whole break up situation. **The only thing that has brought me back really to life is I feel so safe,** besides coming back home late **I feel safe to go to sleep, go to bed. I feel safe to wake up.** It has been great."*

Te Kāhui Hineora

Our Team

This year has been a bit of a new journey for our rōpū, with two new kaimahi joining our team. It's been awesome welcoming them in, sharing our whakaaro and getting to know each other along the way. With new people comes new ideas, different strengths and plenty of opportunities to learn from one another. We've been finding our feet together, building those connections and creating a team where everyone can bring their own mana and strengths to the mahi.

Our mahi is grounded in the values of **Whakaoranga – to revive, Whakamānawa – to inspire, Whakamaru – to protect, and Whakamana – to empower**. These values sit at the heart of how we work and remind us that mahi is not just about getting the job done. It's about the way we work together, the relationships we build and the way we uplift and support the people around us.

For us, **whanaungatanga and mahi tahi** are a big part of our everyday. We kōrero, we share ideas, we support each other, and we have plenty of laughs along the way. While a lot of our mahi happens behind the scenes, we know that every little part contributes to the bigger kaupapa. We're proud of the way our rōpū has come together this year and are looking forward to continuing to grow, learn and mahi alongside each other.

Naau te rourou, naaku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi

With your basket and my basket we can sustain everyone



Celebrating Matariki and Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

This year we continued our mahi of celebrating Matariki and Te Wiki o te Reo Māori at National Office. Each year, we look forward to creating spaces where our people can connect with tikanga and mātauranga Māori, have a go at something new and share in the kōrero and learning together.

For our celebrations this year, we got stuck into a range of hands-on activities, including **poi making, creating tukutuku panels, making rongoā in the form of bath salts, and making our own ukutangi.** It was awesome seeing everyone getting involved, having a go and sharing their own whakaaro and experiences. There was plenty of creativity, kōrero and laughter along the way, and it was great to see how much everyone enjoyed being part of it.

As we look towards another year, we'll continue building on the practices and learnings of **tikanga Māori and mātauranga Māori at National Office**. These celebrations are a big part of that journey, giving us a chance to bring people together, keep learning and create a space where te ao Māori can be seen, heard and experienced throughout our workplace.

Kōkihi Ngā Rito

Kōkihi Ngā Rito (KNR) continues to be delivered across the motu through six refuges, with funding from **MSD**. As part of our ongoing connection with the kaupapa, we visited each of the six refuges between April and June. It was awesome to reconnect with the teams, see the mahi happening on the ground and hear about the experiences of the tamariki involved. Each visit gave us another insight into the ways KNR is being brought to life and the difference it is making.

A real highlight has been seeing the mahi of the **Kaiārahi Tamariki – Children's Advocates** and the way they continue to hold the kaupapa and its principles at the centre of their work. The kōrero and feedback shared with us were incredibly meaningful, particularly hearing how KNR is creating space for tamariki to have a voice, to be listened to, and to have their own whakaaro recognised. Seeing these principles reflected in the mahi of the Kaiārahi Tamariki has been a real reminder of the importance of this kaupapa.

In September, the **Kaiārahi Tamariki come together at National Office for their annual hui and workshop**. This is a chance for the Kaiārahi to reconnect with one another, share resources, kōrero about what's working, and exchange the knowledge and learnings they've gained through their mahi. The hui will also provide some opportunities for further learning and education that they can take back and weave into their mahi with tamariki.

Looking ahead, we're continuing to look at ways to grow the reach of **Kōkihi Ngā Rito** beyond the current six refuges and explore funding opportunities that could support the kaupapa beyond the current agreement. The hope is that more refuges will eventually be able to be part of KNR, allowing the kaupapa to reach more tamariki across the motu.

He taonga te mokopuna, kia whaangaia, kia tipu, kia rea.

A child is a treasure, to be nurtured, to grow, to flourish



Te Ara Ki Hawaiki Roa

Another key part of our mahi is delivering Te Ara Ki Hawaiki Roa wānanga across the motu for kaimahi. These wānanga create space for kaimahi to come together, connect, learn and explore te ao Māori in a safe and welcoming environment. This year we've already held two wānanga, with another two planned before the end of the year.

We held our first wānanga in Tūrangi with Te Whare Oranga Wairua, followed by the Lower North Island wānanga in Ōtaki, which brought together both **tauiwi and tangata whenua.** Coming up, we'll be heading to **Ōtautahi for the Southern wānanga**, again bringing tauiwi and tangata whenua together, and then travelling north to **Ahipara** for the Northern wānanga.

Patrick Salmon has been a frequent facilitator for Te Ara Ki Hawaiki Roa, and we are blessed to have him continue to show up and share his knowledge, experience and whakaaro in support of this kaupapa. Through **Ngā Tuarā Tōtara Whakamarumaru**, he brings the wānanga to life, incorporating **Ngā Ātua** and **Hue** activation to create opportunities for kaimahi to connect with the guiding principles of **Wairuatanga, Tapu o te Tangata, Mauri, Te Reo me ōna Tikanga, Whakamana and Whanaungatanga.** It's been awesome seeing kaimahi from different regions come together, share their experiences and whakaaro, and engage with the kaupapa in their own way.

There's something special about taking this mahi out across the motu and creating spaces where kaimahi can learn together, kōrero together, and build connections. We're looking forward to the next two wānanga and continuing to grow **Te Ara Ki Hawaiki Roa** as part of our ongoing mahi.

Te Korowai Māramatanga

About us

In 2024, NCIWR was able to secure funding from Health New Zealand's Innnovation Fund for two years, to set up a new initiative focusing on mental health and the use of substances within the context of family violence.

As a result, a new team was set up mid-2025. The team includes three advisors that hold qualifications, and have prior experience in the field of mental health and addictions, as well as an administrator to help support.

The name gifted to this team is **Te Korowai Māramatanga**, bringing together two kupu with deep meaning:

- *Korowai:* a traditional Māori cloak, often worn as a sign of prestige and care. It also carries the metaphor of being under protection, surrounded by warmth and manaaki.
- *Māramatanga* is more than just "understanding." It's insight, clarity, enlightenment — the kind of knowing that brings light where there has been darkness and creates pathways forward.

Together, the name speaks to wrapping our mahi and our people in a cloak woven with understanding, insight, and collective wisdom to create safety and healing.

We extend our deepest thanks to Adam Maki, who gifted this name to us.

Te Korowai Māramatanga has three focus areas, all aimed at increasing kaimahi confidence, and capability in working with mental distress and substance use within the context of family violence:

- **Advisory support:**
  any kaimahi within Women's Refuge is able to contact our advisors for advice
- **Service mapping:**
  developing resources to help kaimahi understand which services can help with mental health and addictions and how to access them
- **Training:**
  developing resources and delivering training that reframes distress and substance use within the context of family violence as opposed to separate challenges



Judith Ewens-Belin, Naomi Ogg, Hon Matt Doocey and Brittany Lyall

Te Korowai Māramatanga

What we did this year

In the first year, Te Korowai Māramatanga worked at pace to ensure this new service was rooted in kaimahi and wāhine voices and met the needs of our collective while making the most of our limited time.
Some of our milestones this first year were:

- Making our advisory service available to all Refuge kaimahi across the country, so that they can talk to our team about mental distress or substance use situations within Refuge mahi, that they may feel stuck with, or need a sounding board for.
- Creating a foundational training focused on Family Violence and how it intersects with mental distress and substance use, rather than looking at things in silos: Mental Distress and Substance Use – A Family Violence lens. This training was turned it into an online self-guided module in collaboration with our Learning & Development team, for those who weren't able to join the training in person.
- Publishing an online reflection space to check-in with attendees a few weeks after the training. We designed this to help kaimahi reflect on their learnings, but also to re-iterate some key pieces of information from the training.
- Researching, designing and releasing a guide, Te Ara Oranga, to help kaimahi identify what services can support their clients with mental health and addictions, keeping safety and family violence considerations at the forefront, and information on where to find out more.

33
Advisory calls

31
Face to face training sessions

330
Kaimahi trained

What was the most helpful?

Kaimahi said:

"Remembering that people are behind a diagnosis, addiction etc. and that we are creative in how we support people by breaking down barriers"

"By seeking guidance from [TKM], I was better able to guide the interagency approach required to ensure the wahine was able to access the right help for her specific needs. Through this process our kaimahi have also developed greater knowledge with regards to meeting the needs of wahine presenting with complex co-existing problems."

IT TAKES SEVEN

This year, our Winter Campaign, It Takes Seven, highlighted the complex and often difficult journey women face when leaving family violence.

The campaign raised just over $100,000 to support women and children across Aotearoa and, importantly, helped raise awareness of the reality that, on average, it can take up to seven attempts for someone to leave an abuser. This number is not a measure of failure. Each attempt represents courage and reflects the many barriers that can make leaving unsafe or difficult.

It Takes Seven encouraged people across Aotearoa to take on their own “7” challenge, whether that meant walking or running seven kilometres, taking on a personal challenge, or finding another meaningful way to participate. Through these challenges, participants helped raise awareness and funds to support vital services for women and children experiencing family violence.

It Takes Seven provided an opportunity for New Zealanders to stand alongside women and whānau, strengthen community understanding of family violence, and reinforce the importance of ensuring support is available when it is needed.



Zone Blue Run Club x Women’s Reuge community run

Turning a statistic into action

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who took up the challenge, helped spread the message, raised funds, and stood beside us. Together, we can continue to build a community where women and children experiencing family violence are supported, believed, and never alone.

A special thank you to **Zone Blue Run Club** and **Solo Girls Run Club** who went the extra mile to support the women and children we support.



Run & Restore fundraising event by Solo Girls Run Club



Peter Jones, top individual fundraiser for It Takes Seven

Investing in the safety of women and children

Alongside our Winter Appeal, we were grateful to have Contact Energy run a campaign in support of Women’s Refuge.

For every $20 Safe Nights donated, Contact matched the donation, up to 5,000 Safe Nights.

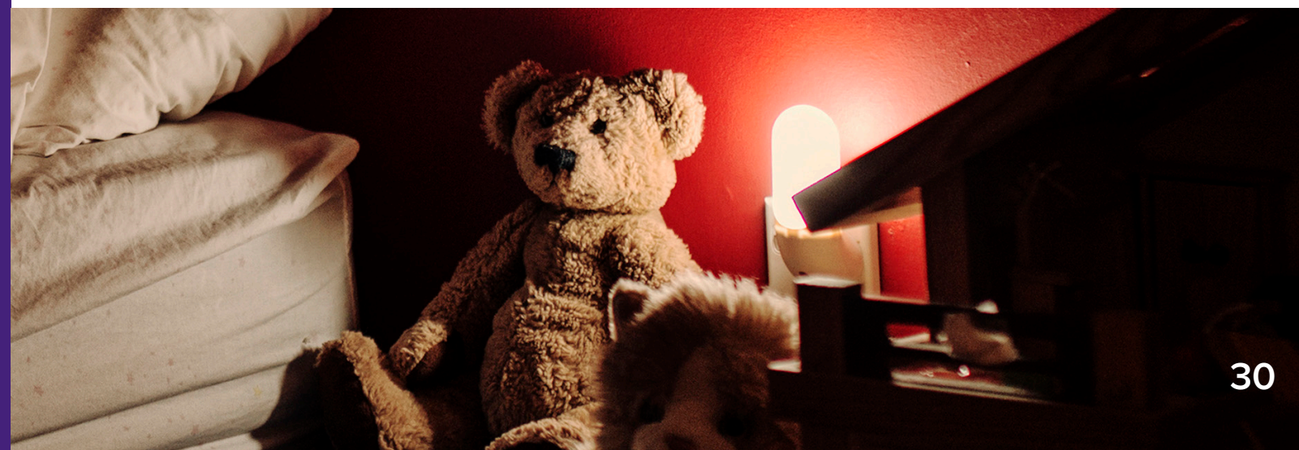
This generous commitment doubled the impact of every donation, helping ensure more women and children experiencing family violence have access to a safe place to stay, warmth, security, and the support they need during some of the most difficult moments in their lives.

The campaign was an important opportunity to raise both funds and awareness, helping more New Zealanders understand the realities faced by women and children experiencing family violence and the importance of having safe accommodation available when they need to leave. Contact’s support helped amplify the message of our Winter Appeal and encouraged people to take action by contributing towards safe nights for women and children.

Contact’s partnership extends well beyond this campaign. Their ongoing support has been instrumental in helping us reach more women and children and strengthen the services we provide. Contact funds our Safer When, Safer How research, helping us build a stronger evidence base around family violence and better understand what women and children need to be safer. This research is supporting our ability to advocate for meaningful, long-term change at a national level and ensure that the experiences of women and children continue to inform conversations about family violence and responses to it.

Contact also helps keep our clients warm and connected by providing free power and broadband to all our refuges and safe houses. This practical support makes a significant difference to the women and children staying with us. Having reliable power and internet means our safe houses can remain warm and welcoming, while women can stay connected to whānau, friends, support networks, education, employment, and the services they need as they navigate their next steps.

We are deeply grateful to Contact Energy for their continual partnership and the many ways they continue to stand alongside Women’s Refuge. Their support demonstrates the powerful difference that can be made when organisations come together to respond to family violence and invest in the safety and wellbeing of women and children.



Accor: Together, Creating Pathways to Safety

Accor, the largest hotel operator in New Zealand, continues to stand alongside us, helping make a real difference in the lives of women and children experiencing family violence across Aotearoa.

Earlier this year, with funding from Accor, we were able to establish a new refuge in Porirua. Women's Refuge Porirua is now up and running and already providing vital support to women and children experiencing family violence in the region. Thanks to Accor's generosity, the refuge has a safe house, a vehicle to transport clients, and a range of essential resources to help women and children stay safe as they begin their journey towards a life free from violence.

Accor's support extends well beyond funding. Its hotels have helped amplify our campaigns, raising awareness of family violence and ensuring more people know that support is available. Accor staff also regularly collect essential items for women and children staying in our refuges, including shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, sanitary products and other everyday necessities.

This practical support is particularly important at a time when the cost-of-living crisis is placing additional pressure on families and making it harder for many of our clients to access even the essentials.

We are incredibly grateful to be Accor's chosen charity partner in New Zealand. This partnership is a powerful example of what can be achieved when organisations come together with a shared commitment to creating safer communities.







Art for Impact

Art and generosity came together through a special collaboration between Trilogy and renowned New Zealand artist FLOX.

Inspired by Trilogy's hero botanicals, FLOX created an original hand-painted artwork using her signature stencil and spray-paint technique. The vibrant piece celebrated themes of strength, nature and community, while raising $1,000 in support of Women's Refuge.

The funds will contribute to our work supporting women and children experiencing family violence and creating pathways to safety across Aotearoa.

We are grateful to Trilogy and FLOX for using creativity and collaboration to make a difference for women and whānau.

Mahi Ngātahi

NZ Sculpture OnShore: Record $400,000 raised for Women's Refuge

Women's Refuge Chief Executive Naomi Ogg was recently presented with the $400,000 cheque, following another hugely successful exhibition.

Organised by the Friends of Women's Refuge Trust, NZ Sculpture OnShore is a spectacular biennial art event that brings together artists, art lovers and the wider community in support of Women's Refuge. This year's record-breaking donation reflects the incredible generosity of everyone involved in making the event possible.

We are incredibly grateful to the artists who generously contribute their work, the attendees who come along and support the event, and the dedicated volunteers who work behind the scenes to make NZ Sculpture OnShore such a success.



Going the Distance for Change

Taking on his biggest challenge yet, Rhys Blissett ran 300 kilometres from Christchurch to Timaru and back, raising more than $10,000 to support women and children experiencing family violence.

Every kilometre represents the strength and courage it takes to move towards safety and a life free from violence. Through his determination and the generosity of those who supported his fundraising, Rhys helped raise vital funds for our work across Aotearoa.

We are incredibly grateful to Rhys and everyone who got behind his Run for Change and helped turn an extraordinary personal challenge into meaningful support for women and children.



Investing in Women's Empowerment

This year, Michael Hill generously donated $35,000 to Women's Refuge as part of its Women's Empowerment Commitment. The contribution was made possible through a portion of the proceeds from pearl product sales during the previous year.

This generous support will help Women's Refuge provide safe nights, essential support services and pathways to safety for women and children experiencing family violence.

We are grateful to have Michael Hill alongside us in our work to support women and children and help build safer futures for whānau across Aotearoa.

He Tangata — Our People

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari kē he toa takitini

My success should not be bestowed onto me alone, it was not individual success but the sucess of a collective



2026 Ngā Puāwai hui cohort



Women's Refuge Tāmaki Makaurau team



Taumarunui Women's Refuge & Support Centre team



National Office Matariki celebrations



Lower North wānanga



Elizabeth Ashby & Dr Sophie Beaumount at the "Still Minding the Gap" afternoon tea



Kōkihi Ngā Rito training for kaimahi



Talia Marshall & Abbie Muir at the West Christchurch Women's Refuge 40th celebration



Fundraising and Comms team at 2025 Effie Awards



Gore & Clutha Whānau Refuge 'Be the Joy' gift collection



2026 Wāhine Kī Toa cohort and alumni



Chief Executive Naomi Ogg & Rosemary Howard

Statement of Service Perfomance Overview



Bednights delivered
across safe houses, whānau protect and transitional housing

FY25 **414,525**

FY26 **383,527**

Women and children **supported**

FY25 **9,743**

FY26 **9,408**

Women and children in **residential services**

FY25 **2,624**

FY26 **2,346**





Women supported in our **community services**

FY25 **4,272**

FY26 **4,240**



Police referrals supported

FY25 **31,176**

FY26 **29,511**

Women supported in our **whānau protect** services

FY25 **1,527**

FY26 **1,536**

Crisis line calls received

FY25 **21,829**

FY26 **25,054**

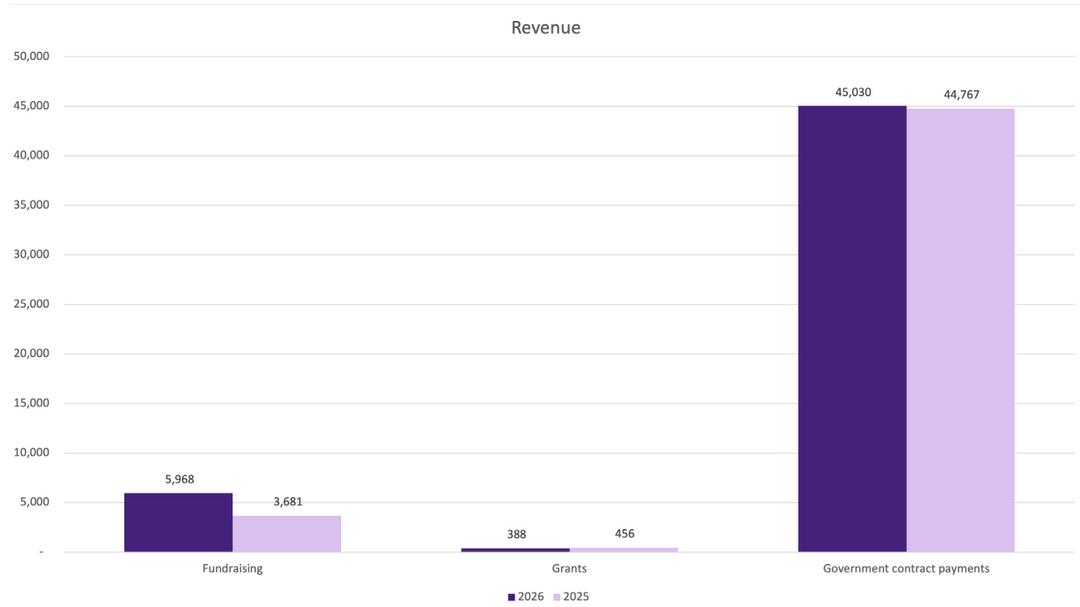
Referrals for services that are now closed are included in FY25 figures to include all services delivered.

FY25: July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025
FY26: July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

Summary Financial Reports

Income statement | For the year ended 30 June 2026

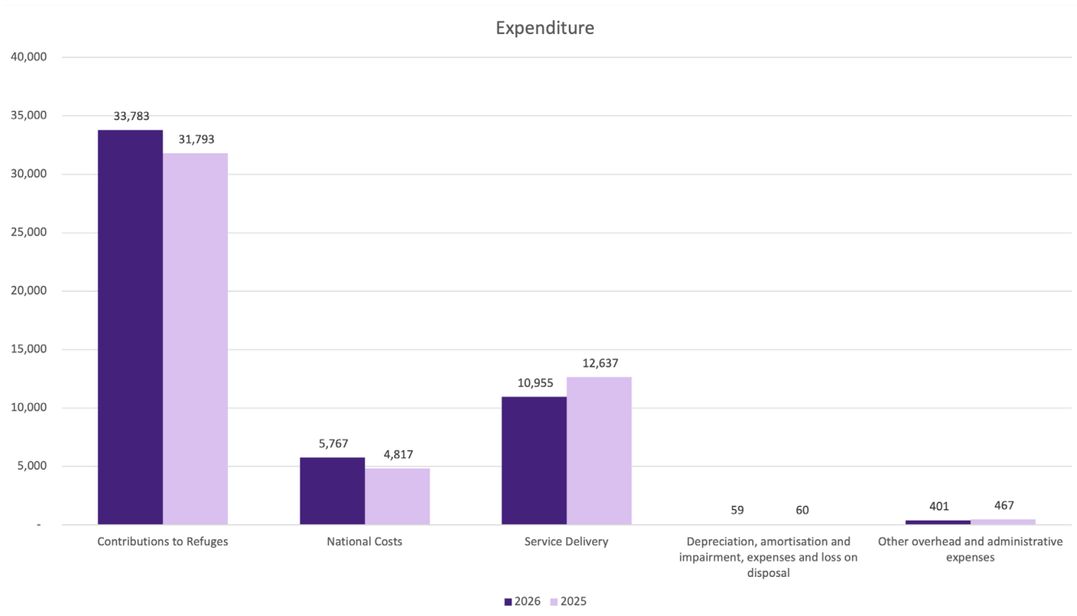
	$(000's)	$(000's)
REVENUE	**2026**	**2025**
Revenue from non-exchange transactions		
Fundraising	5,968	3,681
Grants	388	456
Government contract payments	45,030	44,767
Total Revenue from non-exchange transactions	**51,386**	**48,903**
Revenue from exchange transactions		
Dividend income	65	61
Interest income	874	1,268
Other revenue	1,326	996
Total revenue from exchange transactions	**2,264**	**2,326**
TOTAL REVENUE	**53,650**	**51,229**



Summary Financial Reports

Income statement | For the year ended 30 June 2026

	$(000's)	$(000's)
EXPENSES	**2026**	**2025**
Contributions to refuges	33,783	31,793
National Costs	5,767	4,817
Service Delivery	10,955	12,637
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment expenses and loss on disposal	59	60
Other overhead and administrative expenses	401	467
Exceptional losses	541	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	**51,505**	**49,773**
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	**2,145**	**1,455**
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSES		
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of investments		
- Current year fair value gain/(loss)	90	(23)
Total other comprehensive revenue and expense	**90**	**(23)**
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	**2,235**	**1,432**



Please note this graph excludes exceptional losses.

Summary Financial Reports

Statement of Financial Position | As at 30 June 2026

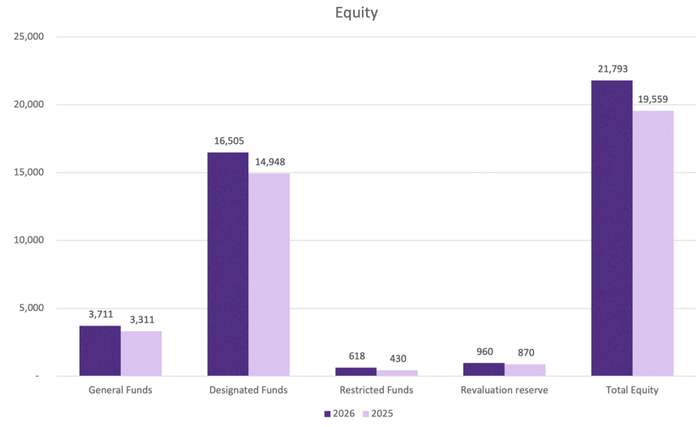
	$(000's)	$(000's)
ASSETS	**2026**	**2025**
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	11,217	11,474
Term Deposit	12,028	9,900
Receivables from exchange transactions	124	462
Receivables from non-exchange transactions	106	184
GST receivable	186	196
Prepayments	17	105
Total current assets	**23,677**	**22,322**
Non-current		
Property, plant and equipment	125	119
Intangible assets	0	0
Other non-current financial assets	960	870
Total non-current assets	**1,085**	**989**
TOTAL ASSETS	**24,762**	**23,311**
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Payables under exchange transactions	2,410	2,984
Employee entitlements	376	357
Deferred revenue	182	411
Total current liabilities	**2,969**	**3,753**
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**2,969**	**3,753**
NET ASSETS	**21,793**	**19,559**
EQUITY		
General funds	3,711	3,311
Designated funds	16,505	14,948
Restricted funds	618	430
Revaluation reserve	960	870
TOTAL EQUITY	**21,793**	**19,559**

These financial statements have been authorised for issue by the Core Group on 23/09/2026.

Hana Kakoi
Chairperson

Rachel Black
Chairperson

Naomi Ogg
Chief Executive



Summary Financial Reports

Statement of Changes in Net Assets | For the year ended 30 June 2026

					$(000's)
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Revaluation Reserve	Total equity
Balance 1 July 2025	3,311	14,948	430	870	19,559
Opening balance	**3,311**	**14,948**	**430**	**870**	**19,559**
Surplus for the year	2,145	-	-	-	2,145
Other comprehensive revenue and expenses	-	-	-	90	90
Total comprehensive revenue and expenses	**2,145**	**-**	**-**	**90**	**2,235**
Transfer to/(from) equity reserves in the year	(1,745)	1,557	188	-	-
BALANCE 30 JUNE 2026	**3,711**	**16,505**	**618**	**960**	**21,793**

Statement of Cash Flows | For the year ended 30 June 2026

	$(000's)	$(000's)
Cash flow from operating activities	**2026**	**2025**
Cash was provided from/(applied to):		
Fundraising, donations, grants and bequests	6,356	3,995
Government contracts	44,879	45,386
Receipts from goods and services provided, exchange transactions	1,664	1,394
Payments to refuges and suppliers	(48,111)	(47,106)
Payments to employees	(3,802)	(3,785)
Net GST paid	10	438
Net cash from operating activites	**996**	**320**
Cash flow from investing activites		
Cash was provided from/(applied to):		
Investment in term deposits (maturity exceeds 3 months)	(2,128)	(400)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(64)	(27)
Purchase of financial assets	-	-
Net cash used in investing activites	**(2,192)**	**(427)**
Cash flow from financing activites		
Cash was provided from/(applied to):		
Interest and dividends received	939	898
Net cash from financing activites	**939**	**898**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(257)	791
Cash and cash equivalents, begining of the year	11,474	10,683
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	**11,217**	**11,474**

Summary Financial Reports

Summary Extract for the Statement of Accounting Policies | For the year ended 30 June 2026

Reporting Entity & Basis of preparation

These are summary financial statements of the Ngā Whare Whakaruruhau O Aotearoa National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2026.

These financial statements contain summary financial information and specific disclosures that have been extracted from the full financial statements which were authorised for issue by the Core Group on 23rd September 2026. Summary financial statements do not include all of the information and disclosures that are included in the full financial statements and therefore cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as would be gained from reading the full financial statements.

Presentation Currency and Rounding

The summary financial statements have been presented in NZD$ and have been rounded to the nearest thousand. They have been presented on a going concern basis.

Comparatives

Comparative amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

Statements of Compliance - full financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice ("NZ GAAP"). For the purposes of complying with GAAP, the Society is a public benefit entity. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 Public Benefit Entity (PBE) Reporting Standards as issued by the New Zealand External Reporting Board (XRB). They comply with the New Zealand equivalents to International Public Sector Accounting Standards (NZ IPSAS) and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards as appropriate to Public Benefit Entities.

The following specific disclosures have been extracted from the full financial statements:

	$(000's)	$(000's)
EXPENSES	**2026**	**2025**
Audit fee	41	30
Rent of premises	255	246
	296	**276**
Designated funds	16,505	14,948
Restricted funds	618	430
Investment Revaluation Reserve	960	870
TOTAL	**18,083**	**16,248**

Designated funds

Designated funds are funds that have been set aside by the Core Group and NCIWR for specific purposes.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds that have been set aside for specific expenditure criteria.

Investment Revaluation Reserve

This reserve records the movements in fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense – Equity instruments. Cumulative gains/losses are not subsequently reclassified to surplus or deficit, although a transfer within net assets/equity may be made.

Commitments

There are no material capital commitments as at balance date (2025: nil)

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

2026: Nil. 2025: NCIWR has received a claim of up to $150,000 and will vigorously defend the claim. As at 30 June 2026, this claim has been settled.

Exceptional Losses – Fraudulent Activity

2026: During the year ended 30 June 2026, the society was victim to payment diversion fraud. Payments of $548,220 were directed to fraudulent bank accounts. The net amount of these fraudulent payments is $541,148 as we recovered $7,072 from the fraudulent bank account. The rest was irrecoverable. The net amount has been recognised as an expense under Exceptional Losses in the Statement of Comprehensive income (2025: nil)

Subsequent events

2026: Nil (2025: NCIWR was the victim of a payment diversion fraud. As a result, $548,220 was transferred from NCIWR's bank accounts to the fraudulent bank accounts).

	$(000's)	$(000's)
Operating leases are held for premises used for office space, motor vehicle and photocopier	**2026**	**2025**
Non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:		
Less than one year	271	284
Between one and five years	344	614
More than five years	-	-
TOTAL	**615**	**898**

Operating leases are held for premises used for transitional housing lease commitments	**2026**	**2025**
Non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:		
Less than one year	2,636	3,185
Between one and five years	107	1,464
More than five years	-	-
TOTAL	**2,742**	**4,649**

Related party transactions

Related party transactions arise when an entity or person(s) has the ability to significantly influence the financial and operating policies of the entity.

The Society has a related party relationship with the 41 affiliated members together with its Core Group members and other key management personnel.

Related party disclosures have not been made for transactions with related parties that are within a normal supplier relationship on terms and condition no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the entity would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

Transactions with related parties

The following transactions were carried out with related parties:

Key management compensation

The Society has a related party relationship with its key management personnel. Key management personnel includes core group members and senior management.

Summary Financial Reports

	$(000's)	$(000's)
Key management personnel includes the following expenses:	**2026**	**2025**
Salaries and other short-term benefits	1,422	1,250
Core group meeting fees	36	30
Total remuneration paid	**1,458**	**1,280**
Number of FTE's recognised as Key Management Personnel:	**9.7**	**9.6**

Close family members of key management personnel are employed by the Society on normal employment terms. The total aggregate remuneration paid to close family members of key management personnel was $120,885 (2025: $97,149)

Transactions with affiliated members
The Society has a related party relationship with its 41 affiliated members who are contracted to deliver services from time to time on behalf of the Society.

	$(000's)	$(000's)
Transactions with affiliated members:	**2026**	**2025**
Payments to the affiliated members for delivery of contracted services on behalf of the Society	31,107	30,307
Payments to the affiliated members of fundraising receipts	2,758	1,771
Payments to the affiliated members for TH contract services	3,415	3,991
Payments to the affiliated members for Whanau Protect contract services	1,047	972
Total value of services provided by affiliates	**38,327**	**37,041**
Receipts from the affiliated members for registration fees	25	16
Receipts from the affiliated members for affiliation fees	60	62
Total value of services provided by the Society to affiliates	**85**	**78**

Report of the Independent Auditor on Summary Financial Statements

To the Members of National Collective of Independent Women's Refuge

Opinion
The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the summary statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, summary statement of service performance, summary statement of changes in net assets and summary statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited financial statements of National Collective of Independent Women's Refuge (the "Society") for the year ended 30 June 2026.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements, in accordance with PBE FRS 43 *Summary Financial Statements* issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

Summary Financial Statements
The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by New Zealand Equivalents to International Public Sector Accounting Standards (NZ IPSAS). Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements.

Other Information
The Core Group are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the summary financial statements does not cover the other information included in the annual report and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. At the time of our audit, there was no other information available to us.

In connection with our audit of the summary financial statements, if other information is included in the annual report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the summary financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of our auditors' report, we concluded that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon
We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated 23 September 2026.

The Core Group's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements
The Core Group are responsible on behalf of the Society for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with PBE FRS 43 Summary Financial Statements.

The title 'Partner' conveys that the person is a senior member within their respective division, and is among the group of persons who hold an equity interest (shareholder) in its parent entity, Findex Group Limited. The only professional service offering which is conducted by a partnership is the Crowe Australasia external audit division. All other professional services offered by Findex Group Limited are conducted by a privately owned organisation and/or its subsidiaries.

Summary Financial Reports

Auditor's Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISA (NZ)) 810 (Revised) *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

An associated entity of the firm provides software consultancy services to the Society. Other than in this capacity, and our capacity as auditor, the firm has no other relationship with, or interests in, the National Collective of Independent Women's Refuge.

Crowe New Zealand Audit Partnership

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
1 October 2026

The title 'Partner' conveys that the person is a senior member within their respective division, and is among the group of persons who hold an equity interest (shareholder) in its parent entity, Findex Group Limited. The only professional service offering which is conducted by a partnership is the Crowe Australasia external audit division. All other professional services offered by Findex Group Limited are conducted by a privately owned organisation and/or its subsidiaries.



Businesses, trusts, and individuals who support us...

Air New Zealand	AMP	ASB	Base.IT
Beautyspot	Captain James Cook Charitable Trust	Crowe	Datastory
DōTERRA Healing Hands Foundation	Dynamix	Findex	Give Back Health
GoGenerosity	Kintyre Trust	KPMG	Lilash
Michael Hill Jewellers	Millane Charitable Trust	National Council of Women	Nikau Foundation
Netsafe	Pet Refuge	PVH Brands	Robyn & Leo Lonergan
Run for Change	Somar Web Design & Development	Spark	Simplicity Trust
Terracycle	Tindall Foundation	Trustees for Helen Stewart Royle Fund	Vevoke
Wild Bamboo	West Georgia Trust	Xero	Zonta

Quotes from our clients

“It had been so long since I felt like anyone actually cared. To have someone listen to me, believe me meant everything. I can’t really explain what that felt like. For the first time in a long time, I didn’t feel so alone.”

“They made me feel like I mattered, and that gave me the confidence to start thinking about what a different future could look like for me and my tamariki.”

“I was so, so scared to leave. Even when I knew things couldn’t carry on the way they were, the thought of actually walking away was terrifying. I tried to leave so many times and they never made me feel bad or judged me for how many times it took. They just kept showing up for me.”



WOMEN'S REFUGE

NATIONAL COLLECTIVE OF INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S REFUGES INC
NGĀ WHARE WHAKARURUHAU O AOTEAROA