



Pūrongo ā-tau Annual report 2022-2023



CCS
disability action
Including all people

TE HUNGA HAUĀ MAURI MŌ NGĀ TĀNGATA KATOĀ



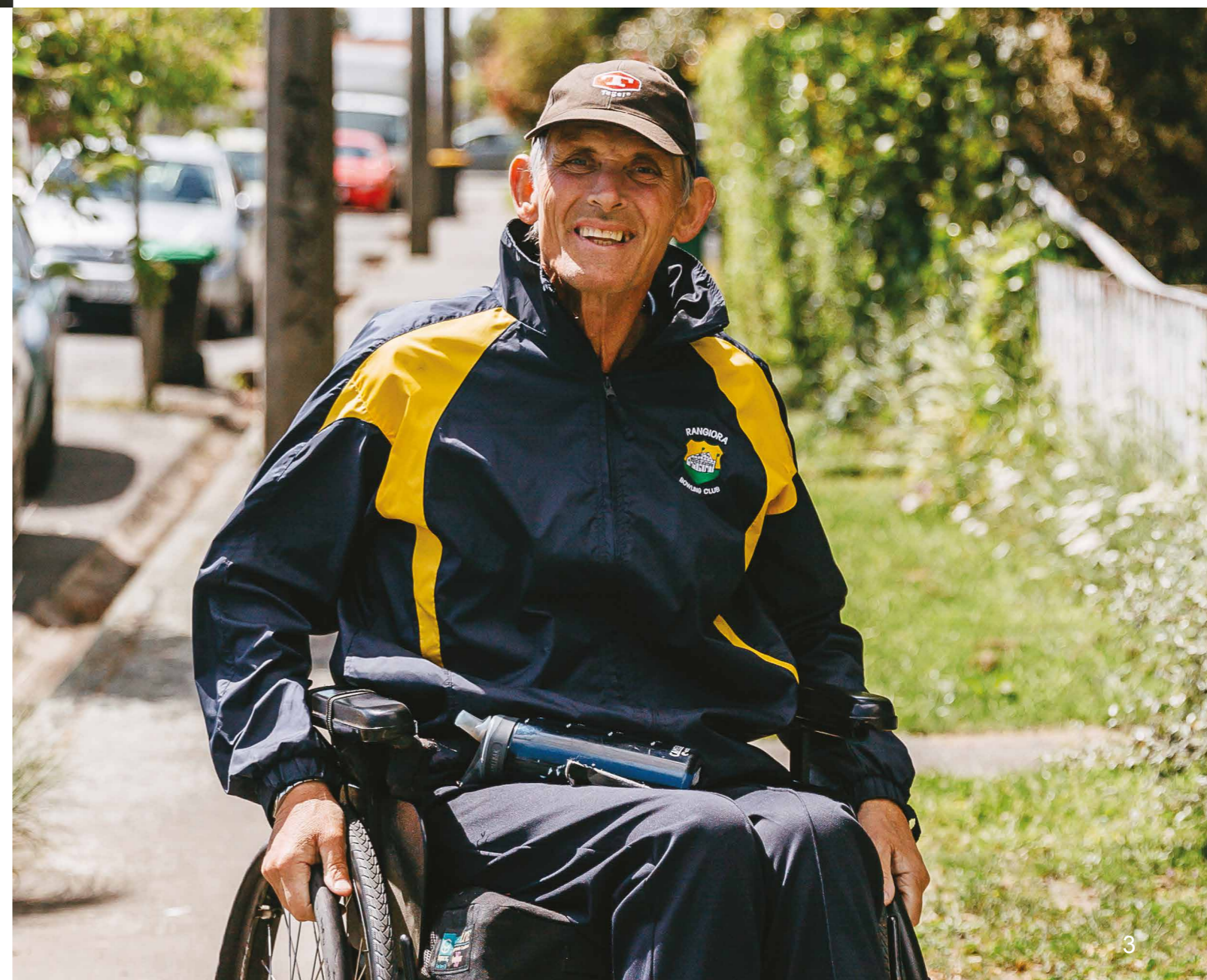
Mō mātou

About us

CCS Disability Action
Whanganui Incorporated

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Te Aronui



Every disabled person/whānau hauā is interwoven into the lives of their whānau and community.

Ā mātou whāinga rautaki matua

Our strategic priorities

Disabled people – Whānau hauā

Our purpose and focus. This sits centrally in Te Aronui as a reminder that everything we do will be underpinned by the self-determination of disabled people.

Knowledge – Mātauranga

All people have knowledge to contribute to our society. We recognise disabled people/whānau hauā as the experts in their own lives. We recognise that we benefit from receiving the knowledge that disabled people hold. We will also share our knowledge freely to ensure disabled people can access the information that they need.

Connectedness – Whanaungatanga

Understanding that all people and systems are interconnected. We will seek to identify connections between people and systems to ensure that disabled people have access to the relationships and resources they need.

Wellbeing – Hauora

Acknowledges that being well means different things to different people. We will ensure that the voices of disabled people/whānau hauā guide us in enabling people to lead their own lives, in their own way.

Our work will be organised to ensure that:

- Disabled people and their whānau have access to information, resources, support and advocacy at the right time.
- The community is supported to become disability aware, engaged, physically accessible, inclusive and welcoming of all people.

Te hunga hauā mauri mō ngā tāngata katoa

Our foundation statement

This statement forms the foundation of our identity and means that all people have Mauri, unique life force, and that we value every person equally.

Te whakatara

Our challenge

One in four New Zealanders lives with an impairment. Our society does not always operate in a way where everyone can participate. This lack of participation can be due to a physical barrier; a barrier created by other people's attitudes and behaviours; or by a lack of access to information, resources and support. These barriers create an environment that can make life even more challenging for disabled people.



Tō mātou tōpūtanga

Our organisation

CCS Disability Action, formerly known as the Crippled Children Society, was founded by Rotary in 1935 to support children affected by polio.

CCS Disability Action is the largest disability support and advocacy organisation in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We support people with all types of impairments and have been working alongside disabled people since 1935. We are at the forefront of service provision, advocacy and information sharing in the disability sector. We partner with disabled people, their families and whānau to enable them to have choice and control in their lives. Our vision is to see every disabled person and whānau hauā interwoven into the lives of their whānau and community.

We work from a Human Rights perspective within a disability rights framework, and this is reflected in everything we do. We partner with disabled people, their families and wider whānau, to support them having choice and control in their lives. We also work with local communities, to assist and challenge them to become more inclusive.

In our work, we connect with all parts of Aotearoa/New Zealand. We acknowledge Māori as Tangata Whenua. We are committed to being in relationships with Hapū and Iwi so that we continue to develop our ability to support disabled Māori and their wider whānau.

We use the term “disabled person” in our documents to align our vision with the social model of disability, Enabling Good Lives Principles, and the NZ Disability Strategy. We respect the right of all people to define their individual and varied identities for themselves.

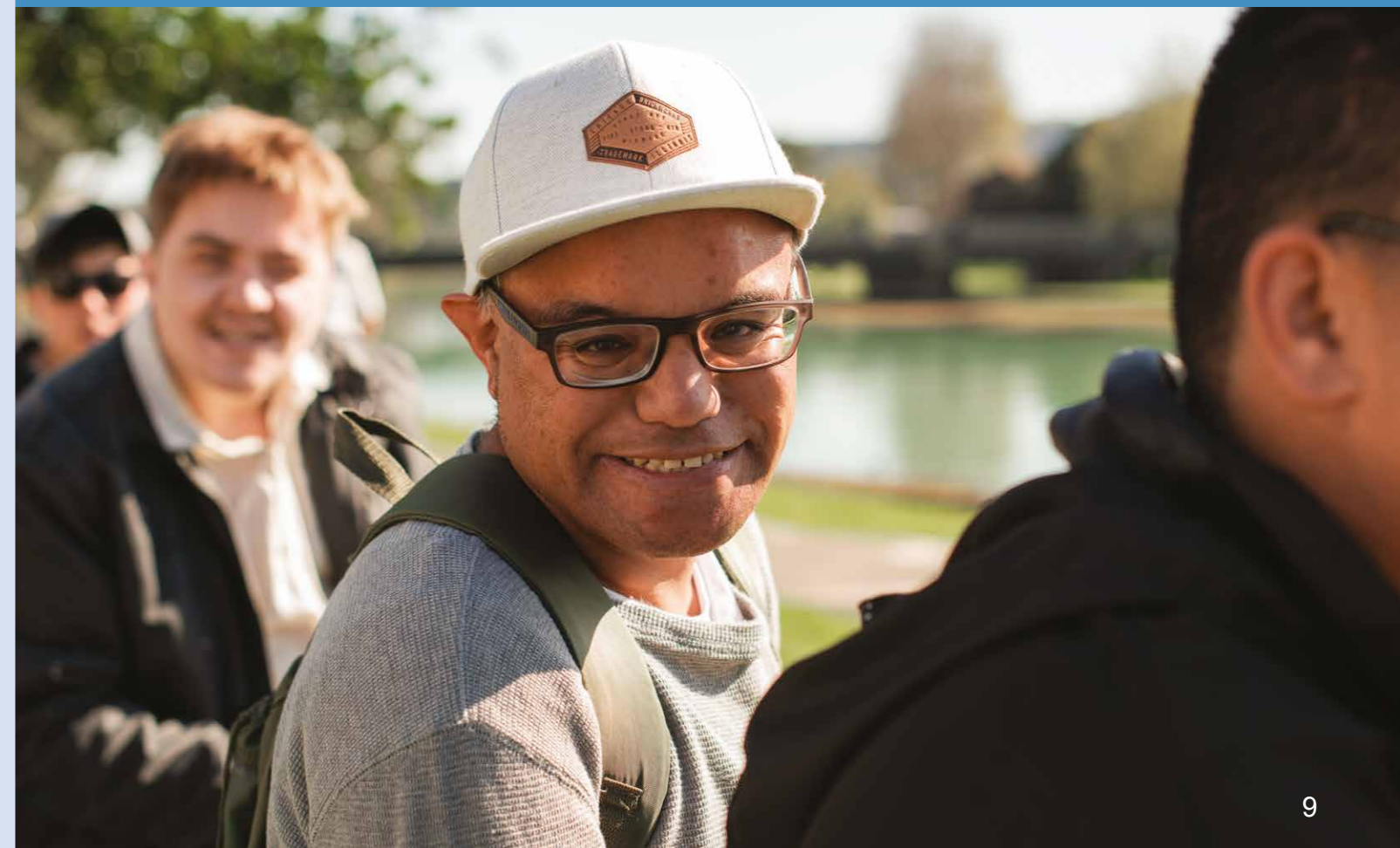
Ā mātou peka

Our branches

CCS Disability Action is a national organisation made up of 18 incorporated societies. These consist of 17 branches and a national entity (CCS Disability Action Inc.).

The 17 branches are organised into four regions (Northern, Midland, Central and Southern) and provide a range of direct support services as well as community development programmes to disabled people and the communities they live in. Each region operates a business support hub.

CCS Disability Action Whanganui was incorporated 2016 but has links back to 1935. Whanganui's wider geographical area covers from Whanganui to Waverley, Rangitikei from Bulls to Taihape, Ruapehu from Waiouru to Ohakune/Raetihi/National Park. The branch is based in Whanganui.



Branch report

E hara taku toa ite toa takitahi, engari, he toa takimano takitini.
Success is not the work of one but the work of many.

Janine Hoete-Thornton, general manager

As the general manager for the Central region of CCS Disability Action, I am proud of the outstanding outcomes we have seen in the Wanganui branch, with a genuine person-directed way of working. Our team has been doing excellent work across all services, and we can all be proud of the positive impact it has had on the people we support.

We have grown our reputation in the community and have a full cohort of amazing staff we have received positive feedback from agencies, community members, and disabled people alike.

We recently held a successful branch planning day alongside Manawatu/Horowhenua where we discussed how we could bring our new strategic priorities, Te Aronui, to life. Our strategic areas of focus are:

- Disabled people: Whānau hauā
- Knowledge: Mātauranga
- Connectedness: Whanaungatanga
- Wellbeing: Hauora

The simpler but meaningful areas of focus supported an effective planning process, and I am excited to see the results of this mahi in the year to come.

In terms of our financial health, we continue to be supported by our Manawatū/Horowhenua branch coupled with fundraising/grants for the branch. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Manawatū/Horowhenua local executive committee for their strong financial management and support.

Our focus for the future is building relationships across the region – connecting through team building and regional events. It's important to increase connectedness as the more we know about each other, the more we can support each other. This in turn helps us to serve disabled people more effectively. ►





◀ We will continue to grow our disability leadership and Māori leadership and development – and understanding what underpins these areas within our organisation at a strategic level. We have also seen a greater focus on responding to our quality assurance processes – and ensuring we have a culture that is open and responsive to feedback for the benefit of disabled people.

Finally, I would like to thank all who have supported us including:

- Disabled people and families who allow us into their lives.
- Our staff who continue to work tirelessly under the leadership of service manager, Scott Richards.
- Our branch members.
- Volunteers, funders, and sponsors.
- Our local committee for their guidance and support.
- Our regional representative to the national board Len Lidbetter
- Patron Hamish McDouall.

Robert Scott, chairperson, local committee

How quickly another year passes. The older I get the faster they go!

It's good to look back and reflect on what our branch has been up to over the past 12 months and set the stage for what may be ahead of us as a disability support organisation. We can rightly celebrate our past, but it's an improved future that we should get excited about.

In the Whanganui region, we've seen steady growth as the branch continues to work at becoming self-sustaining. I am especially grateful to the Manawatū Horowhenua branch for their oversight and financial support – investing in the wider region we serve. I would particularly like to thank Scott Richards, service manager Manawatū/Horowhenua and Whanganui and Janine Hoete-Thornton, general manager. Thank you for the part you play in helping the Whanganui branch develop.

I would also like to acknowledge Len Ledbetter, our regional representative to the national board. We appreciate the national context, insight and experience you provide, to assist our local committee to deliver for our community. ▶

◀ I would like to thank all governance members for their contribution and for the way we work together to oversee the branch activities. We saw executive assistant Divya Reddy depart the organisation during the year and Sheryl Brightwell has picked up some of the support and minute taking role for our governance team, which we really appreciate. (Sheryl take a bow!).

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our incredible team in Whanganui who continue to make a positive impact on the lives of those people they support and serve.

Looking to the future, we continue to face down the challenges, but I firmly believe that we are well placed to build, strengthen, and expand our support of those in our community.

Ngā mihi.

Len Lidbetter, regionally elected representative to the national board

For me Whanganui continues to be a cheerful and welcoming branch. One of my recent visits coincided with a visit from then, then, local MP Steph Lewis. The branch spent over an hour discussing their issues with Steph and considering what she could do as MP to support. There was also consideration to making this meeting a regular event, perhaps something to consider for the incoming MP.

Whanganui is also establishing contacts with the local mayor and still has links with the previous mayor. It is contacts like this that keep the awareness of our concerns foremost in the minds of the power brokers, so well-done Whanganui.

A major piece of work was completed by the CCS Disability Action National Board this year working with the national leadership team. Te Aronui, our strategic priorities, went out to branches in June and was formally presented to the governance forum in July. The feedback I have received is that this was met with approval across the country.

More recently the board has spent time looking at the future of our governance structure. We have been aware for some time of the requirement to re-register as an Incorporated Society by April 2026 to comply with the changes to the Incorporated Societies Act – which were legally adopted in 2022.

Many of the changes relate to constitutional requirements, and an updated national and branch constitution are required as part of the registration process to comply with the new Act. ▶





◀ After several years of governance forum conversations, touching on the challenges of our current governance structure and operational impact, the national board is taking the need for re-registration as an opportunity to consider and investigate what the best governance structure could be for CCS Disability Action. Our aim is to be fit for purpose going forward and ensure we are relevant to and of service to Disabled People – Whānau hauā, whilst upholding our vision, Te Aronui.

Part of this we felt, would be a stable and knowledgeable board to guide us through the process.

We are looking for a governance structure that will:

- Ensure that disabled people are at the heart of what we do and how we work, as illustrated in Te Aronui.
- Enable governance members to meet their responsibilities through timeliness and quality of information and reporting.
- Ensure a healthy and positive relationship between governance and management.

I am looking forward to a productive and busy 2024.

Ngā mihi.

“I am proud of the outstanding outcomes we have seen in the Wanganui branch, with a genuine person-directed way of working. Our team has been doing excellent work across all services, and we can all be proud of the positive impact it has had on the people we support.”

Kathy's story

"Kathy is a massive advocate for the needs of neurodivergent people. She's an amazing woman – highly intelligent, well read and really has a lot to offer. Sometimes the anxiety that comes with her impairment gets in the way of her self-belief and quality of life, so my role has been to put things in place so that she could achieve her goal of paid work and thrive in the workplace,"

– Keay Bishop.



Kathy Worthington.



Keay Bishop.

Like many disabled people looking for work, Kathy Worthington has given it her all.

The 41-year-old Whanganui resident has always wanted to find work where she can help other people who, like her, are neurodivergent.

"I have been with CCS Disability Action for many years – initially through the Whanganui Disability Resource Centre, which then became CCS Disability Action," explains Kathy.

Kathy was referred to CCS Disability Action as part of the organisation's employment support mahi and in recent years began working with senior service coordinator Keay Bishop.

"I like helping those on the spectrum like myself. I have been told by others that I am calming to talk to. I would like to be able to advocate and help them to better communicate their needs," says Kathy.

"Kathy is a massive advocate for the needs of neurodivergent people. She's an amazing woman – highly intelligent, well read, and really has a lot to offer. Sometimes the anxiety that comes with her impairment gets in the way of her self-belief and quality of life, so my role has been to put things in place so that she could achieve her goal of paid work and thrive in the workplace," explains Keay.

Kathy has a Bachelor of Communications and had volunteered for many years at the Red Cross bookshop in Whanganui.

Kathy applied for a role at the Whanganui Library in 2022 and while she missed out, she impressed the interview panel. Nicolas Keene (frontline services manager) and Jane Barlow (senior children's librarian) met with Keay about the potential to create a new library assistant position, funded through an MSD 'Project in the Community' scheme.

"Believe it or not, libraries are cash poor. So regardless of your suitability or experience, they are challenging places to get work. I heard about this project, and I thought, maybe it's a way to get Kathy in the door?" says Keay. ►

◀ Keay describes Nicolas and Jane as “knowledgeable and open” to hiring a person who identifies as neurodivergent, and they were interested in potentially creating an opportunity for Kathy.

The door Keay hoped to create was firmly open and Kathy was ready to step through it into a part-time paid job.

It’s work that ticks all the boxes for Kathy.

“I like helping people and putting books away, and I get to do this at the library,” she says.

Kathy’s job title is library assistant – neurodiversity project, which involves a range of tasks. *“I begin with doing lunch cover, which involves behind the front desk, time out on the floor tidying shelves, and helping customers. I also attend the children’s trolley and put the books away.”*

Not only is Kathy doing well in her day-to-day work, she’s also working towards her dream of helping others. Kathy loves the idea of a low-sensory reading session at the library, for people who can feel overwhelmed by the busy buzz and noise of what is a popular library.

“The library is trying to support the neurodivergent community. I thought of the name ‘Neuro Space’. It creates a special hour outside the library hours for those with low sensory needs,” says Kathy.

“Kathy is the perfect fit for this job, so it was an exciting moment to be part of,” says Keay.

Keay’s work did not stop there. As Kathy settled into the role, Keay visited regularly – aware that, regardless of her skills and suitability, the change would be stressful, and Kathy was likely to be experiencing a complex mix of emotions as she navigated the new environment. ▶



“The 41-year-old Whanganui resident has always wanted to find work where she can help other people who, like her, are neurodivergent.”



◀ *“I was there, but conscious that I wanted to slowly fade into the background as Kathy’s confidence grew and she did not need me as much. When she got to the point where she was able to relax and enjoy the role, that was when my role shifted to more ‘behind-the-scenes when needed’, which was awesome.”*

Kathy is grateful to have Keay on her team.

“Keay is the best service coordinator and job coach I have ever had. I hope she stays with CCS Disability Action for a long time,” she says.

Whanganui District Library

NEURO SPACE

Once a fortnight on Sundays , a quiet hour for those with low sensory needs to come and enjoy the library space

**DATES: 15TH OCTOBER
29TH OCTOBER
12TH NOVEMBER
26TH NOVEMBER**

TIME: 3.30PM-4.30PM
DAVIS LIBRARY, QUEENS PARK

Visit www.whanganuilibrary.com for details!

Poster for ‘Neuro Space’, an initiative by the Whanganui District Library to encourage more neurodivergent people to come along.

“The library is trying to support the neurodivergent community. I thought of the name ‘Neuro Space’. It creates a special hour outside the library hours for those with low sensory needs,”

– Kathy Worthington.



**Te maha o ngā tangata i
tautokohia e mātou**
**Number of people we
supported in Whanganui**

Last year

77

This year

110

<17 years of age

10

<17 years of age

13

17- 65 years of age

62

17- 65 years of age

97

Māori

17

Māori

22

Pasifika

3

Pasifika

1

*Extracted from CCS Disability Action Manawatū/Horowhenua branch data.



Mahi kirimana

Branch contract performance

Hours last year

2,730

Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People

1,635

Ministry of Social Development

424

Ministry of Education

814

ACC

512

Other (Individuals or non-Ministry)

Hours this year

4,224

Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People

1,352

Ministry of Social Development

1,251

Ministry of Education

1,236

ACC

1,242

Other (Individuals or non-Ministry)

*Extracted from CCS Disability Action Manawatū/Horowhenua branch data.



Te poipoi i te tapatahinga o ngā hapori

Building inclusive communities

Last year

86

total number of
branch members

131

Mobility Parking
permits issued

521

people using Mobility
Parking Scheme

0

education or training
sessions provided

0

local council
submissions made

This year

100

total number of
branch members

194

Mobility Parking
permits issued

584

people using Mobility
Parking Scheme

0

education or training
sessions provided

0

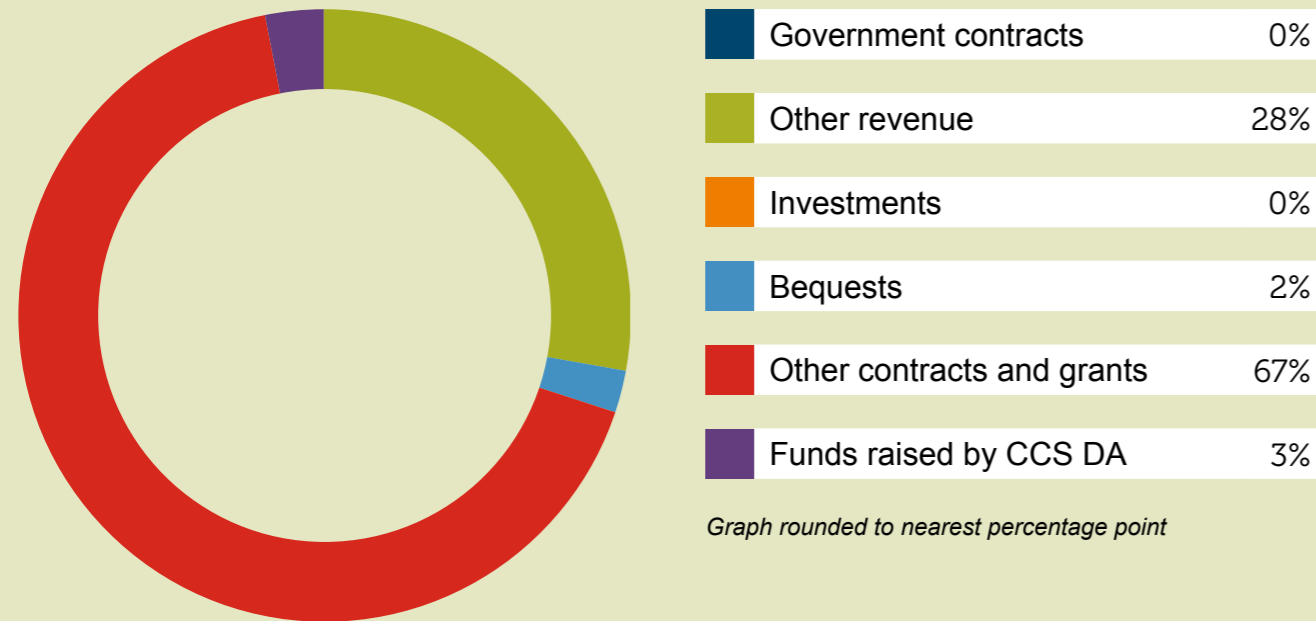
local council
submissions made



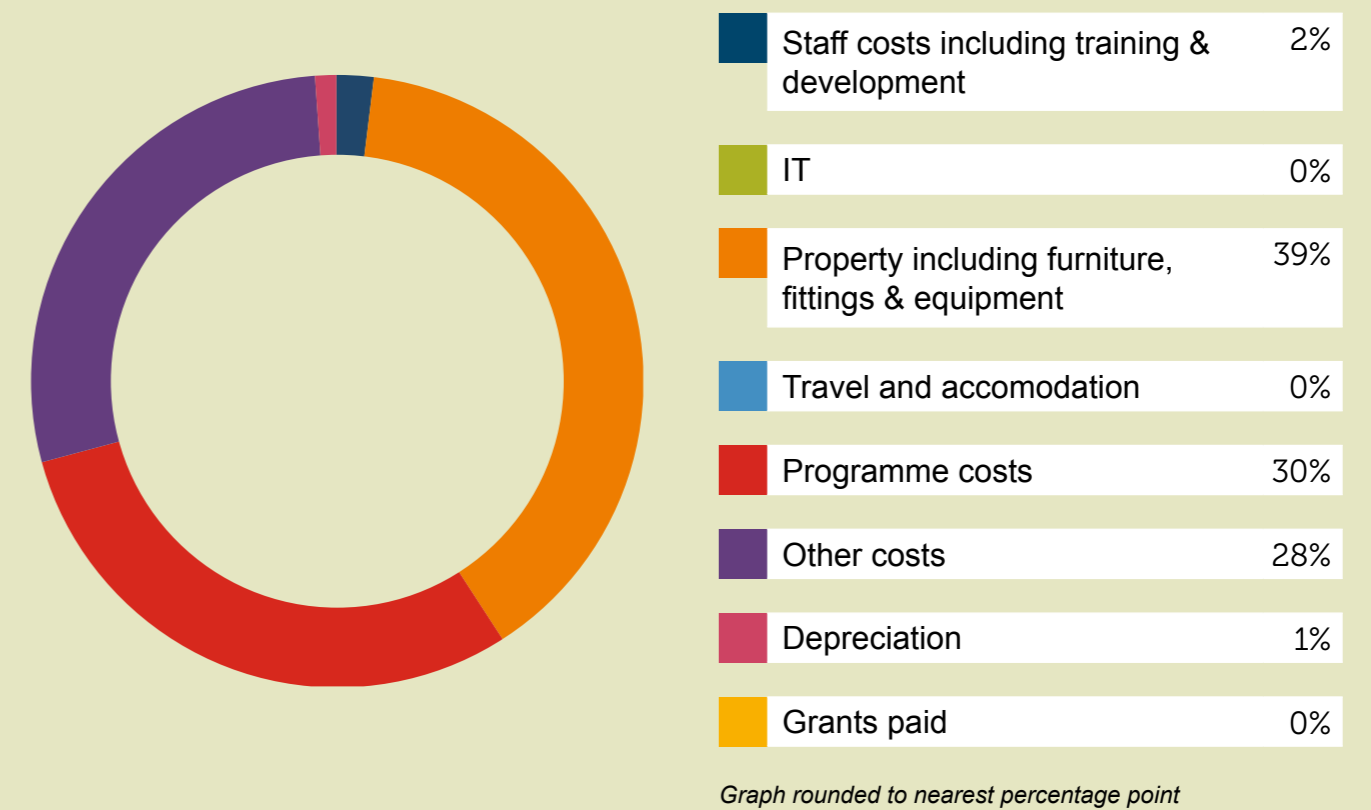
Financial summary

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Revenue



Expenditure



Summarised statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

	2023 \$000's	2022 \$000's
The operating revenue was	58	81
The expenditure was	60	61
Operating surplus/(deficit) before bequests, gains on investments and gains on sale of assets	(2)	20
Bequests received	1	-
Other comprehensive revenue and expense	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE	(1)	20

Summarised statement of changes in equity

	2023 \$000's	2022 \$000's
Opening society funds as at 1 July	39	19
Total comprehensive revenue and expense	(1)	20
Closing Balance as at 30 June	38	39

Summarised statement of financial position

	2023 \$000's	2022 \$000's
Current assets	68	78
Non-current assets	6	5
Total assets	74	83
Current liabilities	36	44
Total liabilities	36	44
Net assets	38	39
Represented by:		
Society funds	38	39

Summarised statement of cash flows

	2023 \$000's	2022 \$000's
Cash flows from operating activities	(7)	39
Cash flows from investing activities	(2)	-
Operating cash and bank balances	69	30
Total cash and bank balances	60	69

Notes to the financial summary of CCS Disability Action Whanganui Incorporated

A summary of the CCS Disability Action Whanganui Incorporated (“the Society”) unaudited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 is shown in the Financial Summary section of this annual report. The summary financial statements have been prepared in accordance with PBE FRS-43 Summary Financial Statements.

The full financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards as issued by the New Zealand External Reporting Board. The summary financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars.

The amounts stated in these summary financial statements have been extracted from the full financial statements of the Society dated 14 November 2023.

Copies of these are available from the Society. This summary has been authorised by Janine Hoete-Thornton, general manager Central region on 14 November 2023 and has not been audited.

The summary financial statements do not include all disclosures provided in the full financial statements and cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full financial statements of the Society.

The summarised financial statements should be read in conjunction with the statement of accounting policies and notes to the full unaudited financial statements.



Janine Hoete-Thornton
General manager



Robert Scott
Chairperson, local committee



Ō mātou kaitautoko

Our supporters

CCS Disability Action Whanganui is grateful for the support received from government and other agencies, individuals, trusts and foundations during this year.

Government and other agencies

- Accident Compensation Commission
- Ministry of Social Development
- Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children
- Te Whatu Ora
- Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People

Bequest

- C & V Thrush Estate

Patron

- Hamish McDouall

Trusts and foundations

- COGS Whanganui Waimarino Rangitikei Committee \$4,000 operating costs
- Four Regions Trust
- Grassroots Trust Central
- JBS Dudding Trust
- Mainland Foundation
- NZ Community Trust
- NZ Lottery Grants Board \$10,000 operating costs
- TG Macarthy Trust
- The Lion Foundation
- Whanganui District Council



Donations received

Last year

34

This year

35



CCS
disability action
Including all people

TE HUNGA HAUĀ MAURI MŌ NGĀ TĀNGATA KATOĀ

Whakapā mai

Get in touch

Whanganui

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- 📍 www.ccsDisabilityAction.org.nz
- 📄 Registered Charity Number: CC54863