



Pillars
Ka Pou Whakahou

Positive futures

for the tamariki and whānau of people serving a sentence

Annual Report
2022-2023





Ko Tā Mātou Kaupapa

Our Purpose

Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou supports tamariki and whānau of people in prison to create positive futures for themselves.

Karakia Timatanga

Manawa mai te mauri nuku
Manawa mai te mauri rangi
Ko te mauri kei au, he mauri tipua
Ka pakaru mai te pō
Tau mai te mauri
Haumi e, hui e, taiki e!

Embrace the life force of the earth
Embrace the life force of the sky
The life force I have gathered is
powerful and shatters all darkness
Come great life force
Join it, gather it, it is done!

Ko ō Mātou Uara Our Values

1

Rangatiratanga Leadership

We value effective leadership at all levels of our organisation: tamariki, whānau, Māori, partners and stakeholders. We act with integrity, accept accountability, insist on excellence and support innovation. We motivate and inspire all those working with or making decisions about children of people serving a sentence in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

2

Whānaungatanga Relationships, Kinship and Connection

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the framework for partnerships between tangata whenua and tangata tiriti. We respect Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles within our mahi.

3

Aroha, Tautoko Love and Support

Our every action comes from a place of love, compassion, support, inclusiveness and empathy.



4

Pono Integrity

We uphold high professional standards. We demonstrate honesty, decency and trustworthiness.

5

Ako Learning

We embrace the process of reciprocal learning. We produce new knowledge and deepen our understanding through research and experience.

6

Tika Fair and Just

We treat our families and whānau, our partners and stakeholders of equal value. We respect their beliefs and practices. We uphold the Children of Prisoners' Bill of Rights.

7

Mana Tūpuna

We respect the unique values, beliefs, and customs of indigenous peoples from lands across Te Moana-nui-a-kiwa.

Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou goal is to help stop intergenerational offending, so children of people in prison do not become the next generation incarcerated.

We are committed to supporting tamariki to work towards their goals and stride into the future with confidence.

We do this through our whānau-led social work support programme, walking alongside whānau and their tamariki, providing support and advocacy. This is paired with our mentoring services for tamariki and rangatahi.

We believe children of people in prison are children of promise and potential.

2023 results from our support program

**Ko te ahurei
o te tamaiti
arahia o
tātou mahi**

Let the uniqueness of the child guide our work

1,444

Prison family pathway
visitation sessions
attended

173

Whānau received
social work support

174

Tamariki matched
with a mentor

Children of people in prison carry an invisible sentence, one of stigma and shame that currently goes unnoticed in our justice system. They are often socially and economically isolated and with no support are

9.5x

more likely to go to
prison themselves.

262

Tamariki received
social work support



He Purongo Nā
Susan Henson

Chair of the Board

Tēnā koutou katoa

Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou has had a steady financial year to report, thanks to income from government contracts with Ara Poutama and Oranga Tamariki, and generous grant funding from trusts and foundations, corporate supporters, Pillars Friends and individual donors. Without this diverse funding, we could not carry out the work we do each day with tamariki and whānau via our programmes. Thank you.

It is a year since we wound down Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou Incorporated society and brought the new Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou charitable trust into being. The new entity has allowed for more stable governance with greater flexibility for our board to make decisions.

One high point during the year was becoming fully staffed. The board was delighted to appoint Tuhi Leef as General Manager – Kaiwhakahaere Matua, and his experience, enthusiasm and skills have been evident to all. The board has also been particularly grateful to the management team who kept everything on course during the year, and to all the kaimahi for your dedication to the mission of Pillars.

Finances have been stable from 2022 to 2023. While general donations have reduced due to prior years having one-off inclusions, trust/grant income has risen. This is not taken for granted, and maintaining and increasing service delivery is the priority. As expected, expenses have seen an increase, mainly due to filling previously vacant positions, although inflationary pressure has been felt across all inputs in our organisation.

A special thank you to the mentors and other volunteers who walk alongside tamariki on a regular basis to be friends and trusted adults in their lives.

Board members have been generous with volunteering their time and dedication this year to help further and guide Pillars, and this is sincerely appreciated. Amelia Link has joined the board during the year and brings her auditing and financial experience to the table. The support of the other trustees is invaluable, as they both work on sub-committees and meet as a board monthly to work on the business of Pillars. Vince Hapi has been guiding the board on tikanga during board meetings, and we are also all working on the Māori view of governance. Ngā mihi.

Our three-year strategic plan guides and focuses our thoughts, planning and actions. By demonstrating the tangible benefits of investing in Pillars in five core areas, the board aims to increase Pillars financial sustainability to meet current and future objectives.

As ever, our priority is supporting whānau and tamariki of people in prison to create positive futures for themselves. By helping stop intergenerational offending and recognising that these children have promise and potential, we aim to enable tamariki to stride confidently into the future. Thank you for your support in helping us achieve this.

Ngā mihi nui

Susan Henson, Chair



He Purongo Nā
Tuhi Leef

General Manager / Kaiwhakahaere Matua

Tuhia ki te rangi

Write it in the sky

Tuhia ki te whenua

Write it in the land

Tuhia ki te ngakau o nga tangata

Write it in the heart of the people

Ko te mea nui?

What is the greatest thing?

Ko te aroha

It is love

Tihei wa, Mauri ora!

Behold there is life!

Tēnā koutou katoa

The success of our organisation has been made possible thanks to the hard work and valuable contribution of our talented, passionate team and board. Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou are currently reviewing our strategic priorities to ensure we remain focused on meeting the needs of our whānau. We continue to strengthen our partnerships with government, iwi, marae, local social service providers, philanthropic organisations and private donors to ensure we are financially sustainable so that we can deliver on our purpose.

Extending our purpose to meet the growing needs of whānau asking for our help, we are looking to expand our services into other areas of Aotearoa New Zealand.

This year, our tamariki and rangatahi of people in prison have faced an extra tough winter, through the cost-of-living crisis, food insecurity and issues around higher power bills and rising fuel costs. We continue to support whānau wherever we can to help them get through these challenging times.

The Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou Youth Advisory Panel, Ngā Rangatira Mō Āpōpō, has been a source of inspiration for each other and our team. Our rangatahi have come together several times over the last year to share their lived experience, insights and advice to advocacy groups so that changes can be made for better outcomes. We acknowledge the courage and voice of our rangatahi; our future leaders.

While the economic and political landscape are uncertain, our team remain committed to creating a positive future for the tamariki and whānau of people in prison.

To help us achieve our kaupapa, we acknowledge the amazing support we receive from our funders and donors.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou.

Nāku noa, nā.

Tuhi Leef

**Ko ō mātou mema poari
Our Board Members**



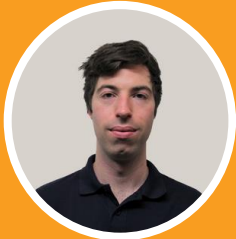
Susan Henson
Chair



Nova Banaghan



Danté Fyfe



Logan Smedley
Secretary/Treasurer



Nick Burns



Helen Te Hira



Vince Hapi
Kaumātua



Sandra McCallum



Amelia Link
New Trustee

[Read our Board bios on our website](#)



Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou Kaitiaki



Tāmaki Makaurau team



Ōtautahi team



Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou is one of a few organisations that support the invisible victims of crime: children and families of people serving a sentence.

For many whānau, the pathway to Pillars has been filled with trauma, poverty, hardship, and pain.

Reaching out to Pillars for support is the first step towards positive futures. Our Social Workers walk alongside whānau throughout their journey with Ara Poutama (The Department of Corrections), providing advocacy, education, resources, and support. The voice of the child is always included in planning and assessments. For many, Pillars is the first organisation to truly listen.



"My journey with Pillars was the best thing that happened to me and my family. **They picked me up when no one else would.** Without the help and support of this awesome group of people, I would not be here today. The people at Pillars were there for me every step of the way in our dark times. I had reached out to other groups but was informed I was in the too hard basket... They listened to my story and did not judge me."

Social work success this year

How Pillars has supported our community

Through the voices of our whānau

“As a mum whose ex-partner was in prison, it bought so many challenges for our kids. The look on the parents faces when asked where the kids dad was, then either the abrupt end of friendship or silence. The trauma of having a dad in prison not only had physical challenges but carried emotional trauma.

As well as my children I wore the mental and physical scars, I still carry the guilt of their dad being sentenced to eight years in prison although I know it was his actions, I am yet to face that mountain.

The team at Pillars had family events where I felt included, the whānau who welcomed me and my kids without judgement. I am so grateful for the staff at Pillars who truly understood, the mentors gave my children a sense of normality... recently I have reached a point, I can answer their questions without falling apart.

The team at Pillars became my family, they helped me rebuild the foundations of my wee family. Without Pillars support and love, I don't know where I would be today.”

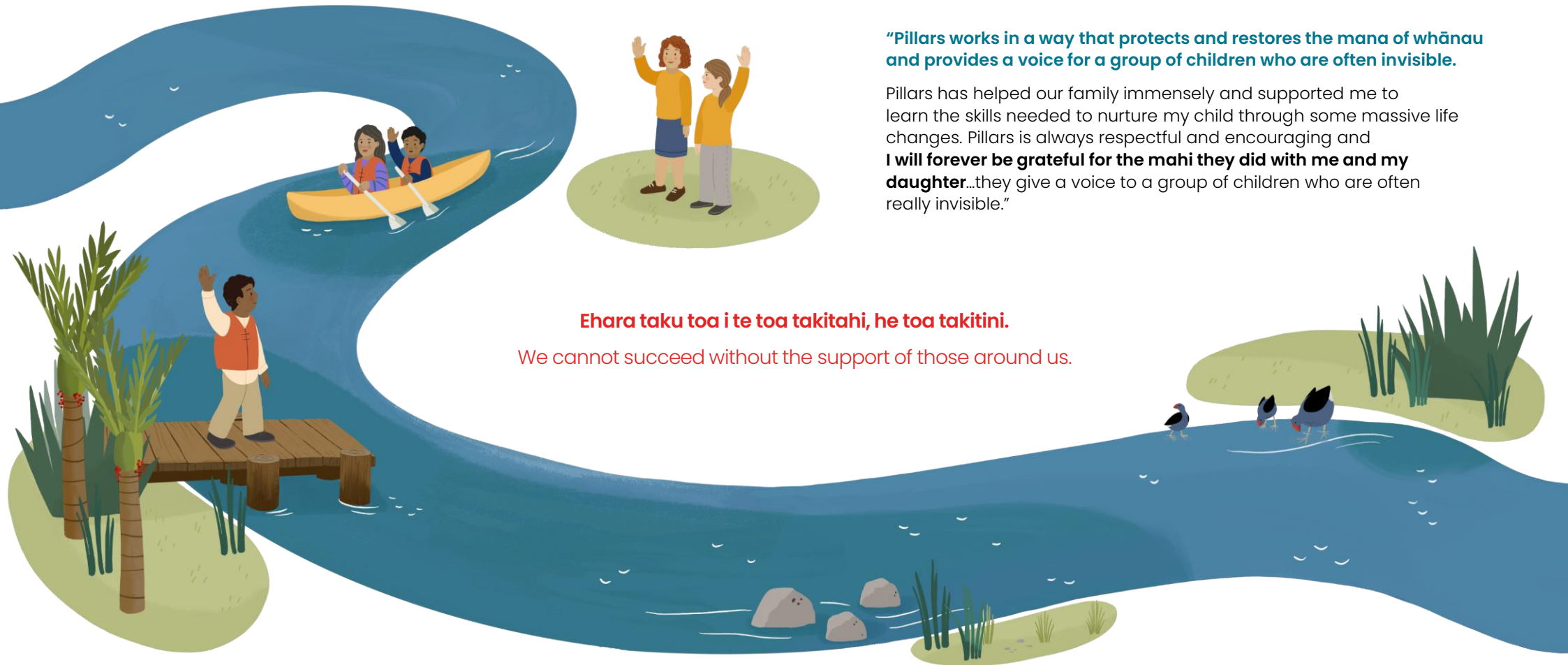


“Pillars works in a way that protects and restores the mana of whānau and provides a voice for a group of children who are often invisible.

Pillars has helped our family immensely and supported me to learn the skills needed to nurture my child through some massive life changes. Pillars is always respectful and encouraging and **I will forever be grateful for the mahi they did with me and my daughter...**they give a voice to a group of children who are often really invisible.”

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini.

We cannot succeed without the support of those around us.



Ngā Rangatira Mō Āpōpō
Leaders for Tomorrow

Walking alongside whānau, supporting them through their journey has emphasised a need to elevate the voices of lived experience.

To contribute to conversations of positive change in our justice system.

Pillars Ngā Rangatira Mō Āpōpō - Leaders for Tomorrow, Youth Advisory Panel have a unique lens on the world, in particular the justice system and surrounding supports. Our Ngā Rangatira Mō Āpōpō are sharing their voices as representatives of their communities.



Our Current Ngā Rangatira Mō Āpōpō:
Nathan Ah Siu,
Troy Phillips,
Amethyst Edwards,
Tayshon Yates,
Courtney Abernethy,
Cherise Hopkins,
Juliann Parea-Desai,
Sharn Te Whiu – Tuakana,
Jarhley Angi – Tuakana,
Kingston Hancy – Tuakana,
Orla Angi – Tuakana.

The Ngā Rangatira Mō Āpōpō group has contributed their voice to many kaupapa, hoping to create positive change for other young people, including:

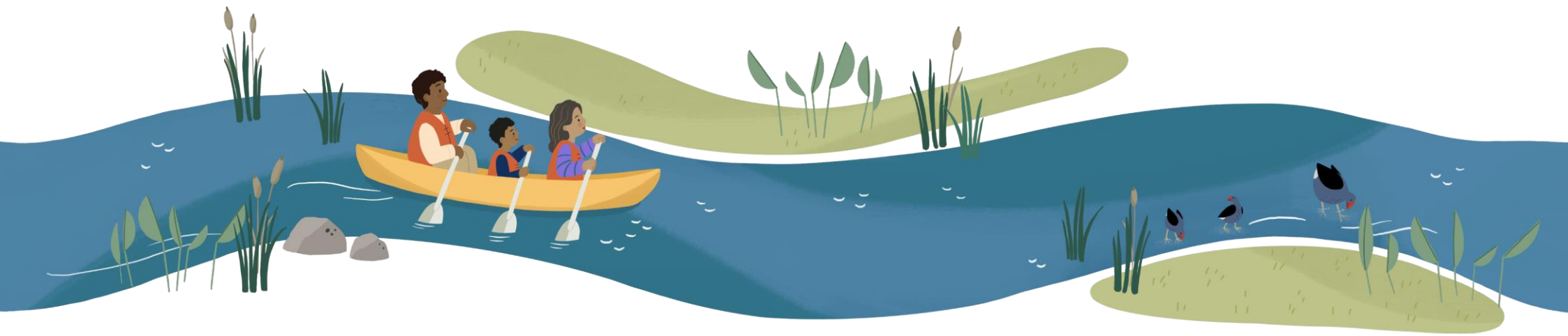
Contribution to
The United
Nations Bill of
Rights

Feedback to the
Raise the Age
of Criminal
Responsibility
campaign

Participation in
Youth Crime
Conference

Feedback to
Office of the
Inspectorate

Contributed
to
Mental Health
Research



Mentoring matters for children of prisoners, who often come from unstable pasts and face uncertain futures.

Our mentors not only change children's lives, but they change their own. They act as an Aunty, Uncle, big brother, or big sister figure who are the joke tellers, adventurers, and trusted supporters that tamariki have been missing.

Names have been changed to protect identity.

Jayshon (7) was very young when his father went to prison for family violence.

There was an attempt to reconnect when his Dad was released but often Jayshon was left waiting on the doorstep for his father to arrive. As a result, Jayshon struggled to trust adults. Jayshon did not have any positive male role models in his life, until he was matched with his mentor.

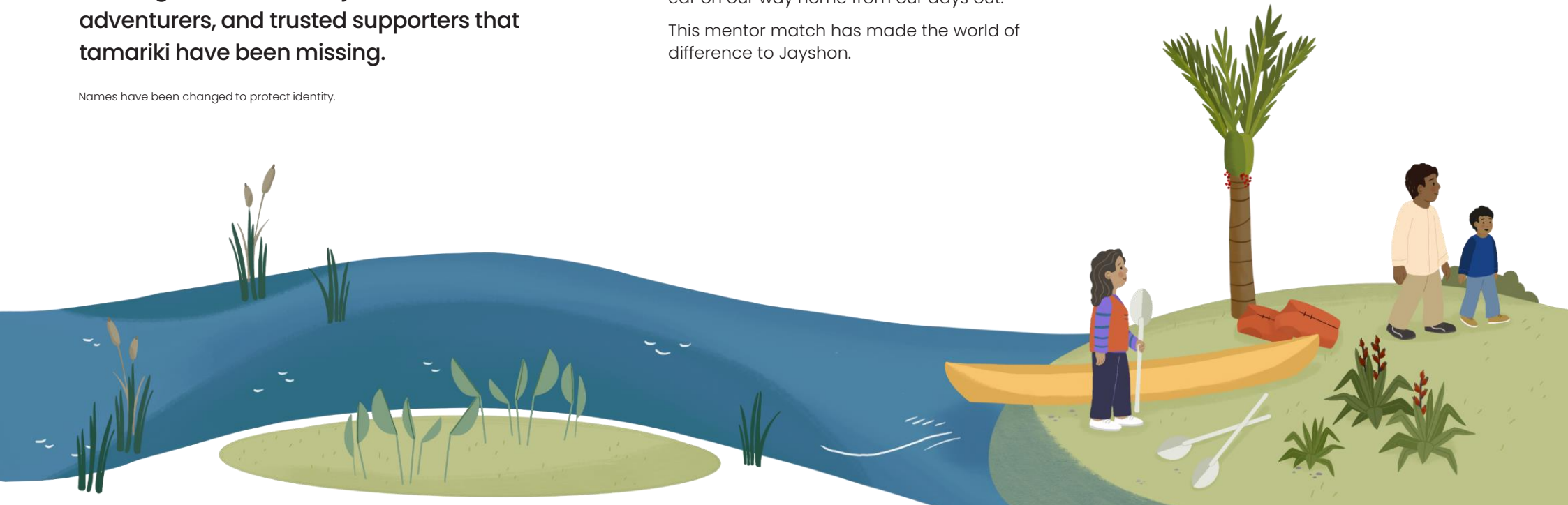
As soon as the pair met, they instantly hit it off. Connecting over a love of cars, they bonded over rallies and dirt bike racing. His mentor recently said, "Jayshon is so full of beans, always at 100%, I feel like I'm doing something right when he falls asleep in the car on our way home from our days out."

This mentor match has made the world of difference to Jayshon.

Liam (9) is the oldest of seven siblings. With their whare quite chaotic at times, he often fades into the background.

Having a mentor has completely brought him out of his shell.

His mentor is a positive male role model in his life, having both dad and stepdad in prison. Through their mutual love of a good joke and a good burger, the two have formed an incredible bond. Offering gentle support with school and helping with reading, Liam's mentor is keeping him engaged in education: an important and vital pathway to positive futures.



From suffering with severe anxiety to being an absolute chatterbox. That is the difference mentoring can make.

Amaia (14) struggled with her father's arrest, dealing with stigma and feelings of grief, and shame.

It has been very difficult for Amaia to leave the house or be in crowded places. Enter her mentor, who is warm, kind, empathetic and highly intuitive. Because of her mentor, Amaia can enjoy being a teenager again, talking non-stop when they are together; showing how safe and comfortable she is in her mentor's company. They even took a massive step together, attending Pillars big annual Christmas party. They chose a comfortable spot under a tree to watch the activities, but her attendance was a huge step forward.



Licence Workshop Allows Rangatahi to Prepare for the Future

Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou 4-day workshop 'Tohu 6' provides rangatahi with support to acquire what they need to enter the workforce and further education.

All attendees leave 'Tohu 6' with a learner driver licence, bank account, birth certificate, IRD number and create CVs for themselves, dream boards as well as attend workshops for job interview techniques and a workshop of self-protection and intuition awareness.

This strengths-based environment connects our rangatahi back to their community, opening doors and opportunities.



Driving convictions have been identified by Police as the number one pathway into the justice system for teenage youth. Road accidents are also a high-risk factor for youth in Aotearoa.

All seven attendees passed their learner licence test. These key points are at the crux of the prevention strategy of Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou mahi.

We added a workshop on self-protection and intuition awareness strategies, to strengthen this kaupapa of prevention.

Beyond the key documents and skills the youth acquired, they also built a strong network of friendships, in addition to a newfound connection and understanding of their local Police.



Our mentors get to walk side by side with young people, helping them navigate the world towards positive futures.

This not only positively impacts the tamariki and rangatahi but is transformational for our mentors.

Our volunteer mentors make our mahi possible, dedicating their weekends and always going above and beyond for our young people, transforming their lives by being present, fun and trustworthy.

At every event with tamariki and rangatahi they are there at every step, kicking a ball, having a laugh and providing an escape for young people who have often experienced significant harm. We cannot thank our incredible mentors enough.

"I have noticed a change in his confidence and how he is always willing to give anything a go!"



Encouraging healthy and happy lifestyles is also key to our mahi and mentoring programme.

Pillars Counties Manukau Rugby event took our mentors and mentees through well organised and highly engaging games and activities. The activities had the tamariki and mentors working as a team, challenging themselves and each other, enjoying the fresh air, sunshine, and practicing footwork and fitness skills.

Events like this allow our Pillars young people to connect with their wider community. It encouraged them to grow in confidence by trying new skills and making new friends.

"I feel like I get the same out of mentoring that my mentee does. Over the years she's become a really close friend and someone that I've grown with since nineteen."

"Mentoring is the highlight of my week. Being a stable person in a child's life is so rewarding."





Ahakoā he iti he pounamu
Although it is small, it is precious
and given from the heart



Meri Kirihimete video, and photos of
koha from our friends at Give a Kid a Blanket

**He taonga rongonui te
aroha ki te tangata.**
Goodwill towards others is
a precious treasure.

**Pillars involves a
community of
support services to
wrap around the
whānau we serve.**

This year has seen heightened complexity within our caseloads. We have had an incredible amount of support, with multiple organisations and donors giving generously and sharing koha with our community. Ngā mihi nui to our partners, donors and funders who share in our belief that children of people in prison are children or promise and potential.

Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Revenue

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue | \$1,353,376 |
| Revenue from providing goods or services | \$616,309 |
| Interest, dividends and other investment revenue | \$60,023 |
| Other revenue | \$888 |

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Total Revenue | \$2,030,596 |
|----------------------|--------------------|

Expenses

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Volunteer and employee related costs | \$1,230,946 |
| Grants and donations made | \$1,219 |
| Costs related to providing goods or service | \$375,378 |
| Other expenses | \$114,737 |

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Total Expenses | \$1,722,280 |
|-----------------------|--------------------|

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Surplus/(Deficit for the Year) | \$308,316 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|

Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Assets

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Current Assets | \$1,455,245 |
|----------------|-------------|

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Non-Current Assets | \$688,996 |
|--------------------|-----------|

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Total Assets | \$2,144,241 |
|---------------------|--------------------|

Liabilities

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Current Liabilities | \$601,879 |
|---------------------|-----------|

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Total Liabilities | \$601,879 |
|--------------------------|------------------|

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Total Assets less total Liabilities (Net Assets) | \$1,542,361 |
|---|--------------------|

Trust Capital

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Trust Capital | \$1,234,045 |
|---------------|-------------|

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Accumulated Funds | \$308,316 |
|-------------------|-----------|

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Total Trust Capital | \$1,542,361 |
|----------------------------|--------------------|

He Kupu Whakamiha
Acknowledgments

Thank you to the following sponsors, donors and funding organisations for your valued support during the year, and to the many other contributors who have supported Pillars Ka Pou Whakahou.

Achieving Change for Children Charitable Trust

Alex Lampen-Smith

Andre Russ-Kite

Ara Moana Adventures Ltd

Argosy Property No.1 Limited

Auckland Airport Community Trust

Bay of Islands Uniting Church

Beth Gillis

Blake Carey

Blogg Charitable Trust

Body Rhythm Fitness

Bridget Robinson

C & C Strategic Limited

Catalytic Foundation

Catholic Caring Foundation

Christchurch Casino Charitable Community Trust

Christchurch City Council

Christianna Yu

Clothe our Kids

COGS Manukau

Dale Gray

Daniel and Maria Hirschi

David Clendon

David Ellison Charitable Trust

David Neild

David Woodhams

Dirk van den Eykel

Due Drop Foundation

E G Read

Elaine Butterworth

Emerge Aotearoa

Estate Ernest Hyam Davis & The Ted and Mollie Carr Endowment Trust

First Security Guard Services Ltd

Foodstuffs North Island

Foundation North

Four Winds Foundation

Francine Burling-Claridge

Frank Phillips

Gallagher Charitable Trust

Gary Cockram Ltd

Glenice & John Gallagher Foundation

Grant Thornton New Zealand Limited

Guy Davis

Harriet Priddey

Helen Price

Holy Trinity Anglican Community Shop

Howick Presbyterian Church

Ian & Ruth Connor Woodley

Ian Viney

Inside Executive Recruitment Ltd
Iona Holsted
J I Urquhart Family Trust
Jan Walker
JDF Morrison
Jeff Wogen
Jennifer Harper
Jim Du Rose
Jim Haines & Alison Hume
John Ilott Charitable Trust
Jonathan Holden
Justine Stevens Clark
Kate Ridley
Kay Lindsay
KidsinNeed
Kimpton Foundation Trust
King Family Trust
Kiwi Gaming Foundation
Krissy Christensen
Laura King
Les Mills
Lion Foundation
Liz Anstey
M R Harrison
Manu Sione
Margaret Scrymgeour

Mark Taylor
Marshall Clark
Maryville Courts Retirement Villas
Matthew Finlay
Maurice Carter Charitable Trust
Milestone Foundation Limited
Milford Foundation
Monkeytoe Group Ltd
Nadine Hill
Nicole & Julian Greendale
Nicola Parsons
Nicolas Short
Nur Mohd Lutfi
NZ Lottery Grants Board
Olivia Toebes
Patrick & Barbara Keane
Pip Hughes
Pillars Friends
Pub Charity Limited
Quaker Peace & Service Aotearoa
Rata Foundation
Rebecca Scott
Rebekah Murphy
RGL Trust
Riccarton Rotary Youth Trust
Robert Van Der Linde

Robin & Sue McNeill
Rodney Walshe
Rosemary Levesque
S J Charitable Trust
Share my Super
SkyCity Community Trust Auckland
Snell Packaging and Safety Ltd
South Auckland Christian Food Bank
St Andrew's College
Steve and Katherine Jones
Steven Delport
Stratos Technology Partners
Stuart Family Trust
Sutherland Self Help Trust
Te Hui Amorangi Maori Anglican Church
Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ) – Youth Wellbeing Fund
The Catholic Caring Foundation
The Impact Fund
The Kindness Collective
The Molly Fulton Family Fund
The Period Place
The Warehouse (Auckland Airport)
Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul
Totara Jones
Watermark Employment Law Limited
Westchurch Charitable Trust

Ngā mihi nui



Closing Karakia

**Kia hora te marino
Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana
Hei Huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei
Aroha atu aroha mai
Tātou i a tātou katoa
Hui e Tāiki e**

May the peace be widespread
May the sea glisten like greenstone
A pathway for us all this day
Let us show respect for each other
For one another
Bind us all together as one

**Northern Region
(Head office)**

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