

Our Community Matters.....

What an industrious start to the year we have had, there are some exciting opportunities on the horizon to help build resources in our communities, thanks to those with generous hearts and a long-term vision.

Changing the world on our doorstep.

We have the knowledge and capacity to help donors make decisions about important community causes.

Every year we are able to award grants to charities in the Eastern Bay of Plenty through funds gifted by generous local people.



Give before March 31st and get your tax back this year

Right now, many people will be working on their financial plans for the end of the fiscal year. Most of us have a cause that we are passionate about and having the capacity to claim back a 33.3% tax credit this year provides a nice incentive to act before 31st March. It's a smart way to make your giving go further through our local Community Foundation.

When you give through our local community foundation, your donation becomes a double win – a powerful gesture of community support and a smart financial decision.

Top tip – claiming tax credits for your charitable donations is easy via the convenient digital service Supergenerous.(<u>Eastern Bay Community Foundation | Supergenerous Superpartner</u>) Join us in building a stronger, more vibrant community and make your giving go further.

Mountain View Endowment Fund

'The Mountain View Endowment Fund supported by Adrienne Lukes' – is set to enable residents to live their best lives at Mountain View Care Facility in Kawerau





Adrienne Patricia (Morgan) Lukes was an only child, born in Liverpool, England during the depression years. With the outbreak of the second World War, Adrienne was sent with her mother to live in North Wales- this was deemed to be much 'safer' than living in the vicinity of a working port, which was a serious target for air strikes and bombardment by the Nazi's. Upon completion of her schooling in 1945, Adrienne trained as a primary school teacher, at a college near Wimbledon, south of London, just after the war ended in the late 1940's. She taught

in several London schools, until she married Dennis Lukes in 1957. They moved to Sao Paulo in Brazil to take up a work contract and that spelled the end of Adrienne's teaching career. They returned to London to begin their family; living in the garden county of Kent, first Bexley and then Chislehurst, and finally Wendover in Buckinghamshire.

Adrienne was very fond of cats, nurturing many, many cats over the years, she loved going to the 'movies'- her favourite being- the suspenseful thrillers of Alfred Hitchcock. Adrienne was fortunate enough to have a photographic memory and she also volunteered with church activities, and the flower roster. She had a keen sense of fashion and was 'well turned out'. She also had a great sense of humour!

Her first visit to New Zealand was in 2004, to attend the marriage of her second daughter Corinne, in Dunedin, where she stayed for six months before returning to the UK. Five years later she returned with her eldest daughter Stephanie and resided in Whakatane until poor health saw her move to Mountain View in 2019.

Adrienne's life was marred by severe bouts of depression, exacerbated by the birth of her two daughters. The care she required in her last years was quite specialized. One of the bright spots in her dark days was her ginger cat- and later, the Ginger Cat story written by Marnie Anstis.

The **Mountain View Endowment Fund** will also accept donations from others who wish to appreciate this facility in Kawerau, serving well the needs and care of aged residents of the region. The funds main focus will be on enhancing daily life, adding value to care through occupational therapy and support counselling for residents and their families facing an uncertain future.

2024 Eastern Bay Womens Impact Fund

The Womens Impact Fund has supported causes that are important to women and children in our region. Women like to help other women to get through --- whatever that might look like. The generous women who are connected to the Womens Impact Fund are empowered, engaged, and connected women making a real difference in our local communities.

Over the past two years this fund has made an impactful difference to these groups-.

Whānau Āwhina Plunket towards a pilot programme connecting mothers in rural areas to lift and improve their mental health and wellbeing.

EBOP Riding for the Disabled, received funds towards a fully accessible ablution block at the Awatapu training arena, and the SOZO project, a partnership project involving local Rotary Clubs to purchase specialist equipment for the early screening of Lymphoedema in the Eastern Bay of Plenty to be domiciled at Whakatāne Hospital.

This fund is now open for 2024 and we are requesting donations towards the Eastern Bay Women's Impact Fund.

This year we aim to raise \$100,000 to make a significant difference to women and children right here... the needs are high in our communities, and members/partners in this fund will be involved in the decision making to ensure the best community project is supported. Your donation can help us achieve this goal together.

Look out for more information or if you have any queries, please feel free to contact the Eastern Bay Community Foundation office on 021 336 226 or support@easternbaycommunityfoundation.nz



At our Annual Foundation Dinner in September 2023 two fortunate people with deep pockets were the successful bidders for the '**Guided Fishing Day**' and '**Girls Big Day Out**' Doug Brown enjoyed a magical day on the Waioeka River with generous guide and supporter of our Foundation: Robbie Ellison.

The Girls Big Day Out - A creative morning under the generous tutelage of *Creative Artist Robyn Watchorn*, a gourmet picnic lunch on the edge of Ohiwa Harbour courtesy of sober driver Rosemary Sloman, and a bespoke Gin making lesson with Dean Smith and Stuart Clarke of The Gentleman Farmers at Wainui.



A big thank you from the Eastern Bay Community Foundation to Robyn Watchorn, Robbie Ellison, Rosemary Sloman, Stuart Clarke and Dean Smith - The Gentleman Gin Farmers and Goose Haddock.- who has 6 very willing anglers booked on Plan B on St Patricks Day- let's hope they are not too green on the briny!







Round Table Reporting Sessions

We love hearing about the incredible work our charity partners are doing in the community. Each year, we run a series of **Round Table Reporting sessions**, where grant recipients are invited to share their successes and challenges over the past 12 months.

In February, we held 2 sessions with 15 participants who received funding from our generous donors in 2023. One session held in Whakatane and one held in Opotiki.

Eastern Bay Community Foundation Staff and Trustees heard inspiring stories about the great work charities/services are doing in the community. As many not-for-profit organisations work in isolation, this also provides a great forum for understanding the true depth of the charity work that is happening right here and creates new alliances within the not-for-profit sector.

The challenges faced by our communities are not reducing, and some of the key themes from this year's sessions included food and housing insecurity, drugs, alcohol, mental health, and poverty. However we also heard of some important successes that have been achieved through the grants received.

Many of the charities are also struggling with increased costs and compliance requirements and challenges attracting and retaining staff and volunteers.

Thank you to all the charities/services who took time out of their busy schedules to attend one of our Round Table sessions.

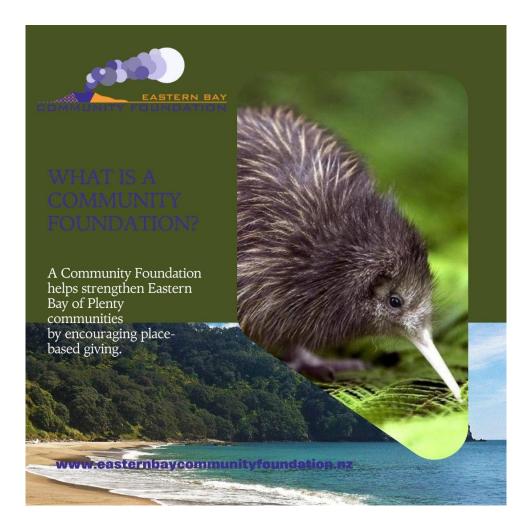


Community Foundations are local, independent, and not-for-profit.

The Eastern Bay Community Foundation focuses on our Eastern Bay of Planty communities and its people, strengthening our communities from within and enabling your aspirations for the community to take shape.

We are governed by a passionate and skilled local volunteer Board of Trustees representative of our widespread region..

To find out more about the Eastern Bay Community Foundation, your local community foundation, visit https://www.easternbaycommunityfoundation.nz/about-us



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