# Building a Future at Hohepa

Our new homes to enable every life to be fully lived



Everyone deserves to have a place they call home – a secure foundation is one of the most important aspects of achieving personal success.

## Every Life, Fully Lived

For the people we support, Hohepa is home. It is where they feel safe to build a vision for their life and are empowered to make it happen. At Hohepa we nurture the body, soul and spirit of people with an intellectual disability to enable their dreams and aspirations to come to fruition. Our kaupapa is to ensure every person we support has the opportunity to have a life fully lived.

Everyone deserves to have a place they call home – a secure foundation is one of the most important aspects of achieving personal success. Hohepa is committed to providing people with inspiring and fit-forpurpose housing to ensure they are in an environment that supports and adapts to their unique needs and aspirations over their lifetime.

This is why we are embarking on a journey to build two new homes at Hohepa. These buildings are designed to be light, creative, and thoughtful. They will encourage a sense of ownership and pride for the people we support and in our wider community.

This is an exciting and vital project and we invite you to come on this journey with us as we work to foster an environment that supports our people at Hohepa to create their best possible lives.

### Who We Are

At Hohepa we support people with an intellectual disability to celebrate their diverse ways of being human. We do this through providing a supportive community that validates who they are. Through living, working and taking an active part in community life, the people we support grow to experience satisfying lives with as much independence as possible.

#### At the heart of Hohepa's ethos is the freedom and dignity of the individual.

Our role is to positively influence people's lives by helping them develop life skills and social connection, not simply deliver a system of care. We believe that the people we support should not just participate in life, but contribute – for social inclusion, self-esteem, independence, and even the possibility of earning an income; these are universal human values. We foster as much autonomy as possible. Our Hohepa community grows strong through participation, enthusiasm, respect, co-operation and mutual support among its members.

Hohepa Canterbury, although part of the wider Hohepa Homes Trust Board, is semi autonomous, undertakes its own strategic planning and delivers its programme independently. Currently we support more than 125 people at our main sites in Somerfield and Halswell, as well as in the wider community. Each person has an individual support plan mapping out their dreams, goals and ambitions. We do our utmost to ensure they are fulfilled and that the people we support can become everything they are capable of becoming.

We do this by supporting the entire person through our holistic approach. The body, soul and spirit must *all* be nourished in order for people to thrive and achieve their personal goals and aspirations.

We work alongside the people we support, to empower them in all areas of their lives every day, through physical care, artistic and rhythmic therapies, the food we grow and eat, our sense of community, the beautiful spaces we inhabit, and the sense of home Hohepa provides.







# How We Support Our People

#### Spirit, body, soul

Our work is inspired by the teachings of Dr Rudolf Steiner. His principles of anthroposophy, 'wisdom of the human', ensure the whole person is cared for in their personal journey through life.

From this philosophy we understand that there is not a fixed set of answers; a 'one size fits all' approach. Rather, we approach each individual at their stage of being, and encourage lifelong learning paced to their physical, mental and emotional needs. Hohepa staff are passionate professionals committed to encouraging the people we support to become the best version of themselves and lead a life fully lived.

We are not only a care provider, we are committed to ensuring people are valued, contributing and included members of the community. We support each person through focusing on the following areas:

### Taha Wairua: Spirit

#### Spiritual Wellbeing

- Freedom, autonomy, identity, and resilience are built and nurtured at home. It is where our hopes and goals are constructed and begin from. Everyone needs and deserves a home they cherish and from where they can dream, be and do. Our homes provide the solid foundations to enable personal success.
- Developing skills and capacities in an environment that enables people to build and maintain relationships and love themselves and one another.

### Taha Tinana: Body

#### **Physical Wellbeing**

- The external environment enables people to stand strong and be strong. This can be in both their own body, and also the environs.
- Physical wellbeing encompasses what people require to be healthy, including nutritious meals, movement, and self-care.

### Taha Hinegaro: Soul

#### Mental and Emotional wellbeing

- Like the body, the soul also needs nourishment, received through our senses.
- Mental and emotional wellbeing is developed through art, colour and music, through anthroposophical therapies.
- Nourishing the senses through human interactions and creating an environment that helps us build and maintain relationships.

People develop best when they feel grounded and safe in their surroundings. At Hohepa, we provide a home for our people to be peaceful, active, and imaginative, and live their lives in a way that brings them joy.



#### What is intellectual disability?

At Hohepa, we support people who have been diagnosed as having an intellectual disability. This term encompasses a range of lifelong conditions present since birth, often due to genetic or chromosomal factors, which have no cure. The people we support may have Down's Syndrome or Global Development Delay, or some other form of intellectual disability. They may also have related conditions outside of the diagnosed intellectual disability, which have additional social

or physical implications, such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, epilepsy, or mobility issues.

Hohepa provides a range of support catering to these varied needs, for those requiring greater support, and those who are able to live more independently. The people we support are unique individuals, in their personalities, their likes and dislikes, and their abilities and disabilities. Currently, the youngest person we support is 17, while the oldest is aged 82.

### **A History of Hohepa Canterbury**

The first Hohepa community was founded at Poraiti in Hawke's Bay in 1957, by the joint initiative of Marjorie Allan MBE and Lewis 'Lew' Harris (subsequently Sir), a local farmer and benefactor who had a daughter with a disability. The name Hohepa is Māori for Joseph and is named after Sir Lew's father. Harris and the Hohepa Homes Trust Board backed what was a forward-thinking and enlightened vision of supported inclusion in a time of institutionalised, psychiatric-oriented health care, gifting the original 21 hectare site at Poraiti and the funds to make it happen. They saw a desperate need and created a solution.



THE HOHEPA CANTERBURY BARRINGTON STREET SITE.

Arthur and Cynthia van Asch were the visionaries who brought the dream of a Canterbury centre of caring for people with disabilities to life. Arthur had sat with Sir Lew on the Hohepa Trust Board, and he and Cynthia were both passionate about providing a safe and productive home for people with intellectual disability. In 1965, through their determined efforts, they secured a property with the proceeds from capping day donations, a record total at the time of £5,355! This stunning generosity resulted in the establishment of Hohepa Canterbury, and the home at 141 Hackthorne Road in Cashmere became known as Grace and Shirley after the previous owner's wife and daughter.

Nine young children with disability were overseen by visionary Principal Margaret Farrow at this home school. In 1967 the Barrington Street site of 2.5 acres was bought along with its original 1910 two storey family home.

Several homes and a day centre were built on the site over the following years, and in 1984 a small farm near Halswell was purchased, largely financed by the late Sir Lew and Lady Harris.

A new complex with a tutorial kitchen and biocraft shop was opened in Halswell in 1999 and a new recreation centre opened at Barrington street in 2001. Rose Cottage was reborn as an energy

#### The name Hohepa is Māori for Joseph and is named after Sir Lew's father.

efficient, low maintenance, purposed home in this time too.

In 2008, a major fundraising campaign was undertaken to ensure Hohepa facilities could cater for their ageing residents and so it was planned to upgrade Kowhai Cottage, which was renamed Lamar, and to build a new house, later named Bev Morrisey.

The Artemis Activity Centre, the Hohepa Hall and Hohepa's administration all operate from the Birchfield campus in Somerfield. Nine kilometres away at Halswell, the campus supports the Gaia Activity





Centre and a mini farm garden called Maara Hua Whenua (fruit from the soil). This offers a holistic social therapy environment, where people can enjoy hobby activities such as planting vegetables in the wheelchair-accessible raised garden beds and potting up native trees.

Today, thanks to this incredible legacy of giving, Hohepa's community has grown to support more than 125 people, and we are again on a journey to ensure our places continue to best serve the needs of our people, now and into the future.

## Anna's Story

Anna Freeman is a spirited 25-year-old with a penchant for languages, music and reading. She has been at Hohepa since 2014 and says it feels like home to her. "It's a lovely home, the best," she says. "Now that I am here I have been learning to make more decisions and I feel comfortable."

For Anna, a big part of feeling at home at Hohepa is her environment; she shares a house with three other people and loves that she is flatting with her friends and has opportunities to do things she enjoys. "I like that I have choices every day about what I would like to do," she says. "I am able to do lots of things that make me happy."

Anna says that another big part of what has helped her grow since being at Hohepa is the support she has to set and achieve goals. "I wanted to be and act as a young woman," says Anna. "I have learned about using my inside voice and patience."

She also credits having opportunities to fill her days with activities that nourish her passions as part of her personal successes. Anna has a sharp memory and has taught herself to speak German, Spanish, Māori and French, languages she loves to share with those around her. "Hohepa has taught me to be more social," says Anna. "I like Café Review where we visit a local café for hot chocolates and to chat. I also like card-making, choir, mosaics and yoga." Anna has also grown in confidence and nearly every Saturday she can be found at the local library sharing one of her greatest loves with others, reading. "I sit down and read with the kids there," says Anna. "I like that I can share books with people."

Anna has also made lots of strides in her practical daily life, something she credits to being proud of her home. When Anna arrived at Hohepa she needed lots of support with daily tasks like getting ready, tidying up and going to bed at night. Now she is the master of her own routine and gets herself ready, helps with meals and clean up and happily goes to bed at night on her own, finishing her day by closing doors and turning off lights.

Friendship is something Anna values strongly too, and she has made particular friends with Shaylene, who used to be her next door neighbour at Hohepa. Though Shaylene has moved, Hohepa recognised there was a strong bond between her and



Anna, so now each week they have a 'girls' night' so they can catch up. This too, helps Anna with her goal of being a strong, mature young woman. "I get excited about planning girls' night and doing things other people my age do," says Anna. We will do things like go to the movies or go out for dinner."

For Anna, Hohepa has given her a strong sense of who she is and she thinks she is 'really growing up'. "I like that I have been able to make good changes," says Anna. "It makes me proud when other people are proud of me."

"I am an adult and being here has meant I can do things other young women do," she adds. "I like my home and I am independent."

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## **Our Vision**

We are experiencing an ever-increasing demand for Hohepa's services, with a waiting list of people with an intellectual disability looking for a place to call home. Our anthroposophical foundations make us an exceptional service provider for young adults transitioning to living independently, through to older people looking for a home that they can age in while being fully supported. We want to offer the opportunity to those in need to experience satisfying lives, with as much independence as possible, as part of our Hohepa community.

In order to continue to do this, we must have facilities that are fit-forpurpose to ensure the people we support are in an environment that enables them to live fulfilling lives. This is why we have decided, after careful consideration, to undertake a build project. The project has been informed by the people we currently support around their needs and preferences, according to our anthroposophical approach:

- **Spirit:** These homes will accentuate the rhythms of daily life and nature – the communal spaces for sharing hopes, goals and dreams, the design allowing for natural light and ventilation, the shelter that provides warmth and solace, and the outside areas for communing with nature, and each other.
- Physical: The homes will nourish physical wellbeing

through the use of considered architecture and landscaping to promote sustainability and respect for the Earth.

**Soul:** These homes will create spaces for social engagement, with large and snug spaces for people to inhabit in addition to their bedrooms. The outside areas will form a social hub, as it fronts onto Barrington Street, and has a covered atrium towards the main campus.

These homes will allow us to purposefully serve our current community and further develop services to include more people. Hohepa is guided by a long-term strategy crafted by our Board, who have carefully considered the scope and impact of this project on our future operations.

We want our facilities to always instil a sense of home, purpose, trust and success in the people we support. Our new homes will be bright, light, creative, and thoughtful. They will be places where residents can dream, be and do. Hohepa's future is one where every person can live their best possible life with dignity and joy.







### John's Story

For John Pike, living at Hohepa means he gets to spend each day doing things he loves. He has been empowered by the Hohepa community to grow into his own person; one who relishes every opportunity that is given to him. Hohepa has been home for John since 2010 and in that time he has grown and flourished in an environment that fosters his interests and provides a place where he feels comfortable to take on new challenges.

Though John came to Hohepa later in his life, he identifies Hohepa as his place. When he comes back to Hohepa after time with his family, he carefully checks his surroundings to make sure everything is in order at his house. "I have two homes," says John. "One with my parents, and a special one at Hohepa with my friends and lots of things I enjoy."

Described as a go-getter, 38-yearold John says he is happy to be living in a space where he can enjoy and share his passions. In his time at Hohepa, he has achieved many milestones, including becoming a special Olympics champion, gaining paid employment as part of the Hohepa maintenance team and blossoming into a social butterfly with a wide circle of friends. "I enjoy doing things like train modelling, playing the drums and going out with the adventure group," says John.

As a keen sportsman, it is also important to John that he is surrounded by like-minded people, and he has found just that with his Hohepa flatmates, who share his "When John transitioned to Hohepa, I was worried as any parent would be when their child moves out of home, but seeing how far he has come gives me comfort every day." ANNE-MARIE PIKE



love of rugby and cricket. The four friends, dubbed 'the likely lads', have a very special bond and share responsibility around their home, which John says helps him with things like initiative, caring and being respectful. "I like to help people and it's good to live with people who like the same things as me," John adds.

The likely lads also share a love of community. They are active members of the Cashmere Club and visit regularly to share the company of those who live around them. "It's nice to be included and share," says John. John's parents, Roger and Anne-Marie, say that since he has been at Hohepa, he has truly flourished. "It has been wonderful to see how John has developed and grown," says Anne-Marie. "When John transitioned to Hohepa, I was worried as any parent would be when their child moves out of home, but seeing how far he has come gives me comfort every day."

John too, shares that sentiment. "I feel happy at Hohepa," he says. "It's my home and I get to live in the moment and do all the things that I enjoy."



### **Project Details**

Home isn't just bricks and mortar. Home is a feeling. A feeling of safety, of pride, tranquility and happiness. Two new homes will be built on our Somerfield site. These will be purpose-built to support 12 members of our Hohepa community. Each building will be fit-for-purpose and cater to the unique needs of the people we support, and all the changes that occur over a lifetime.

These homes will do more than provide a physical home for people

with intellectual disability. They will be a safe, beautiful and peaceful place for people to settle, grow, and lead a life fully lived within a supportive community. We envision that the people who make these houses their homes will live out their lives, and thrive, in the comfort of these spaces.

Each house will contain a fourbedroom dwelling with a fully



self-contained two-bedroom flat adjoining it. The flats will enable people who can achieve more independence to do so in a safe and supported way that might not be confidently achieved in a flat in the wider community.

Hohepa and the architects recognise this as an important opportunity to create the homes Hohepa community members deserve to live and thrive in. We are working closely with award-winning architect David Hill from Wilson & Hill Architects to draw out what is special about the people we support, and how their abilities and needs are reflected in the design. The architectural design will deliver the social, economic and aesthetic considerations Hohepa's community values.

The corner site, positioned alongside the road and the main Hohepa driveway at 23 Barrington Street, will be a landmark building for Hohepa and our neighbourhood. Both buildings will be beautiful and be homes anyone would be proud to live in.

The buildings are designed with a scale and a form that fits in well with our residential neighbours, yet have their own identity. The strong angled roof form provides a unique element to the buildings, while the generous eaves overhang and provide a strong sense of shelter. The solid painted brick wall cladding anchors the buildings to the site, providing a feeling of permanence. The living areas have high ceilings and are orientated for sun, opening onto sheltered terraces surrounded by garden.

While the corner building site has an entrance to Barrington Street, the main entry for the community opens into a foyer between the two new buildings, providing a strong connection to the other Hohepa buildings in the Birchfield campus.

The spaces will be modern, clean, warm, spacious, light and bright. Along with usability, sustainability and energy efficiency are key considerations. These facilities will enable both independence and active participation in the community.



They will be healthy for those who live there, in terms of their physical, spiritual and mental wellbeing.

Working closely with experts and our Hohepa community, together we've considered all the disability-friendly features our people need in their homes to be empowered to live life as independently as possible. These are features such as: wider doorways and hallways; level access from inside to out; single level so there are no stairs to navigate; spacious and accessible bathrooms; bedrooms suited to adults and that allow space for mobility aids.

The simple layout has been designed to assist with wayfinding. Open plan living areas support the spirit of communal living, while the separate living space allows for privacy as a break away area. They will provide a sense of stability and tranquility.

Through the beautiful, thoughtful and practical aspects of the physical space and features, these homes will allow our people to flourish in body, spirit and soul, and experience a life fully lived. "These two new homes are crucial for us to be able to meet the ever increasing demand for our services in the South Island, and to continue providing the absolute highest level of support to people with an intellectual disability.

The people we support are wonderful individuals with considerable personal talents. They are entitled to the same levels of comfort and the same levels of enjoyment within their lives as we expect from our own.

We seek to provide this through engaging with our supportive community, in the latest technology, employing the very best trained staff and by continuing to operate our services to the very highest of standards.

Providing the people we support with fit-for-purpose accommodation is paramount and will add to the success of our Hohepa Canterbury community."

NICKY WRIGHT, HOHEPA CANTERBURY BOARD MEMBER



### Hohepa House No. 2 Floor Plan



### How You Can Be Part of this Important Project

Hohepa plays a special part in supporting people with an intellectual disability in a holistic way that empowers them to become everything they are capable of becoming. In order to do this, we must ensure the environment our people live in is a home where every life can be fully lived. We have goal to raise \$2.2M to complete this important project. The time to do this is now. As demand for our services grows, we must answer the need to provide spaces that are fit-for-purpose and account fully for the well-being of our people.

We invite you to contribute to our campaign to help us to best assist the hopes, dreams and aspirations of the people we support. Hohepa is home, and having a solid foundation is paramount to freedom, autonomy, identity, and resilience. You can be a part of ensuring our people are in an environment that allows their lives to be fully lived.

#### **Our Gift Chart**

The figures below indicate the value and number of contributions we are aiming to secure to ensure the success of this project. We have a series of special acknowledgements that have been built to recognise supporters to the project, which will be discussed personally with each donor.

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## The amount we need to raise to complete this project is \$2.2M

Our new facilities will be more than simply a place to live. They will be spaces that people will call home and from where they are supported to grow their unique qualities. Your contribution to this special project will allow much more than bricks and mortar to be built. You will also be helping to build lives by valuing individuality and celebrating what each person brings to the community.

We invite you to speak with us today about how you can help Hohepa be the best home it can be to our people now, and long into our future.

Donations made to this project may qualify for the 33.3% tax rebate, up to the taxable income of the donor. We invite you to talk to us about how you choose to give, and how that giving is affected by the rebate. For professional advice, we recommend contacting your financial advisor.

Some people prefer to manage their giving by making annual pledges over a specific period, for example three years. We welcome this approach.





For more information or to discuss ways to support our new homes, please get in touch.

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