



Thank You Digital Wings
for helping to transform young lives in Wellington



Thank you!

Youth Development Trust Wellington (Graeme Dingle Foundation Wellington) has reached over **10,000 young New Zealanders as part of our youth development programmes since 1995!**
Digital Wings have played a part in this life changing work.

You should take great pride in knowing they have contributed to helping tamariki and rangatahi in our communities to reach their full potential in a year that challenged all of us. The support that we have received from Digital Wings has allowed us to continue to show young people in some of the most deprived communities in Porirua that **what they have inside is greater than any obstacle!**

Please enjoy reading about our 2020 programme highlights and a few stories from our young people – whose lives you help change every day.

Thank you for continuing to support Youth Development Trust Wellington, and helping to transform young lives in Aotearoa.



Empowering Tamariki At A Time Of Uncertainty

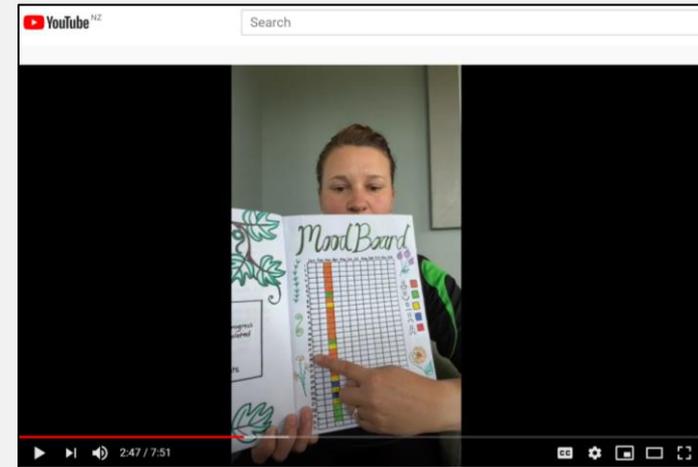
The underlying danger of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown period is that tamariki and rangatahi, specifically those in areas of high social deprivation, will undoubtedly be harbouring stress and anxiety around how their immediate and distant futures will be affected.

While schools were not operating in levels 3 and 4, our teams had not been able to connect with students on a face-to-face basis, as a result they went beyond the usual call of duty by reaching out virtually through online platforms. Our team worked hard to ensure our tamariki and rangatahi continue to practice resilience and feel supported.

"It's putting all the stuff we talk about into an actual scenario...You can talk about aspects of resilience...but they (the students) are living it now and it will be something they can reflect on as we move on."

– Kiwi Can Leader

The computer equipment provided by Digital Wings helped to streamline our youth development programme planning and delivery during a messy year.



2020 Programme Update – Kiwi Can

2020 was all about resilience and respecting themselves, their whanau and local community by practicing overcoming their obstacles through in-school lessons and at home during lockdown.

In October students from Tairangi School learnt and followed the Tikanga around harvesting Harakeke and Toi Toi in preparation for Matariki the Maori new year in our local community. Kiwi Can leaders facilitated and took part in this process engaging the students in the community project. **Students learned about respecting their environment and vibrant culture in their local community.**



2020 Programme Update - Stars

Term 1 saw students take part in four day Stars camp just before lockdown which involved a Marae and cultural activities day, a Surf Life Saving Beach Education programme activity day, and an Adrenaline Forest and Battle Hill Forest Park.

Following the lockdown period we were straight back into it and students took part in a Community Project which is designed to build appreciation for their local community and give something back. Students took part in community projects including making blankets for animals, presenting them to the SPCA Opportunity Shop in Johnsonville, and recording footage for an exercise circuit for the community.

During the Community Adventure students visited local organisations to learn more about how the community operates and what resources are available to them. Some of the organisations included Porirua City Council, the Ministry of Maori Development and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

These activities encouraged development of skills such as:

- **Teamwork and developing pro-social relationships.**
- **Gaining personal confidence and increased self-efficacy.**
- **Developing communication and problem solving.**
- **Setting and achieving short-term goals.**
- **Understanding environmental conservation and sustainability.**

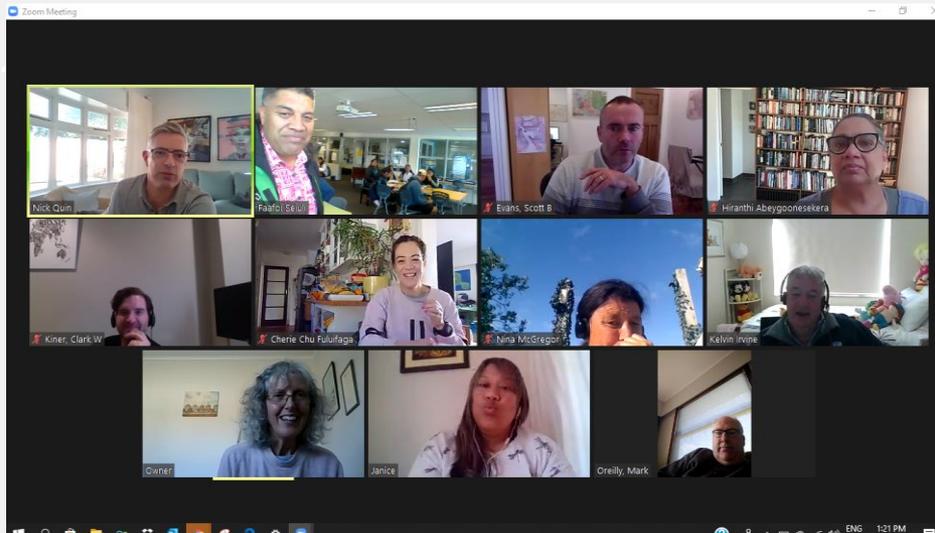


2020 Programme Update – Career Navigator

In 2020 students from Porirua College engaged in activities with an objective to help **expand their minds** on what opportunities are available to them after they finish school.

Career Navigator engages students with work place mentors, work experiences and job skill workshops which give them **real-world advice and ideas** around what they can expect from certain career opportunities once they are ready to leave school.

Relationship building was a huge part of the programme last year with students gaining **confidence** and **positive relationships** through their interactions with their professional mentors.



Career Navigator mentors connecting with students via zoom



Some of our 2020 Career Navigator students

The Year That Was

The contribution of computer equipment received from Digital Wings supported our ability to continue to deliver services to young people in Porirua throughout 2020.

Our teams worked tirelessly to ensure our students and schools were supported throughout the lockdown period and were able to transition back into life after lockdown. By reflecting on the experiences of 2020 students have been able to have confidence that they are capable of resilience and facing challenges that seem daunting at first. By continuing to acknowledge, reflect and practice life skills such as resilience through our programmes we are helping to build a stronger youth population in our community.



Graduates of the Stars programme from Bishop Viard College in September 2020



Thank you for your support in 2020.