# Digital Wings Report to Donors to 31 March 2022

Digital Wings thanks all our donor partners, businesses, local and central government agencies for contributing to the charitable sector and keeping e-waste out of the landfill by decommissioning your equipment with us.

- 96% of surveyed donors report the highest level of satisfaction with our pickup and customer services
- 72% of donor businesses sent laptops and monitors home for staff to work remotely during Covid-19
- 56% sent 1-50 laptops home and 16% sent 51-500+ laptops home

• This affected Digital Wings stock levels as charities needed increasingly more laptops to work remotely too **TOGETHER WE HAVE POSITIVELY IMPACTED DIGITAL INCLUSION OF OVER 1.5 MILLION NEW ZEALANDERS.** 





\*Full data collected only from April 2019. (2016-2018 saw 602 devices gifted across 78 charities)

## **Digital Wings Community Stories and Case Studies**



**Big Brothers Big Sisters** of **North Canterbury, Manawatū and Bay of Plenty** make a positive difference in the lives of rangatahi through professionally supported, mentoring relationships. New staff member Olivia is responsible for creating and supporting new matches between volunteers and rangatahi across North Canterbury, so her Digital Wings laptop means she can work on the road - recording notes at supervision sessions, training evenings, social services gatherings and other meetings off-site. Coordinators typically cover a lot of kilometres with matches located throughout their region, so the support received from Digital Wings donor companies through the provision of tech for BBBS has allowed them to increase in efficiency and productivity,

resulting in an increased capacity to impact the lives

of children across their regions. Like Cieran whose father passed away from cancer and his mum felt he would benefit from having a trustworthy adult male in his life. Seeing Matt once a week now means he gets to do all the boys' stuff so important to a child his age. They go for hikes, bike rides, spend time cooking and have both recently got puppies. In 2021, Matt and Cieran spoke at The BIG Breakfast Fundraiser and told of their mentoring journey which brought tears to many. Despite his shyness, Cieran was able to portray his love and admiration of Matt, describing all the things they have in common. Cieran's Mum also shared the positive changes in her son since mentoring began.



Mentors give supportive feedback to parents too, like Charli's Big Sister: "Hi J, I wanted to pass on how impressed I am with Charli's maturity, confidence, and sense of humour! She met my partner and flatmate yesterday and she was so polite and funny, she had them cracking up laughing. She is such an engaging and delightful young woman; you have raised her well!!"

Digital Wings helps 22 **sports and outdoor organisations**, most of them actively supporting youth involvement. *"Bike Manawatū* are extremely grateful for our donation received especially while wading through these unprecedented times. Our Digital Wings donation has enabled me to work from home, which was extremely handy when our shared office space was split into bubbles to avoid staff in the building all having to potentially isolate if one of us was to become a close contact. Without this setup we wouldn't be in the position to continue to effectively work, It has been amazing. We really appreciate your organisation."



Digital Wings computers enabled North Canterbury Alpine Trust to modernise and streamline their Digital Safety Management System; ensure security and reliability of their information technology; improve workflow and productivity in the office and ensure reliable



digital systems to operate digitally. They say despite Covid 19 Pandemic their social, educational and environmental outcomes include:

-Quality outdoor learning and recreational experiences for 1448 young people from 37 different schools -Students earned 333 credits towards their NCEA and NZQA student record of learning through Boyle Programmes -A 22 day journey from coast to coast mountain biking, hiking and rafting

-Multi-day journeys within the Boyle environs and greater Lewis Pass

-Senior Leadership Courses, Peer Mentor Programmes & STAR courses (Secondary Tertiary Alignment Resource) -Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award Adventurous Journeys & 3-5 day Adventure Based Learning programmes -Gateway and Cadet Programme & Rotary Sponsored Leadership programmes

-Leave No Trace principles, planting natives to reclaim old

pastoral land and pest control trapping programme.



Bail Support and Prisoner Rehabilitation We support 8 organisations embracing digital literacy and inclusion as part of their rehabilitation pathway and employment support goals for past offenders. It is important for those on bail to have a secure place to stay



which supports them not reoffending while awaiting court dates. Fit-for-purpose accommodation and specialist support is provided by these amazing charities across Auckland, Hastings and Tauranga.

**Te Tuinga Whānau** kaimahi have used their computers for rangatahi video calls with the Courts and this has been ideal for the rangatahi that are out of region by not having to travel for their court hearings and being able to apply for their Learners' Licenses online.

**Porirua Kapiti Community Law Centre** offers free legal advice to those on low or no incomes, where 22 staff and volunteers use all our Digital Wings equipment daily. Due to the Covid restrictions, having laptops proved to be

valuable in allowing staff to work from home during the lockdowns. The laptops helped with their day-to-day work offering free legal services to the community, especially during lockdown. 100% of our charities surveyed reported access to digital technologies as essential to delivering their services. 65% needed more equipment and noted stress on staff and clients during Covid.



Recipients of the Creative Communities Scheme through Foto iwi, Happy Bay News creatives, Lena Ormsby and Chris Proctor.

#### Creative and STEM Education for Youth

Digital Wings supports 24 charities in this category. **Foto Iwi** inspires creativity for young people aged 15-24 through photography and video. Their workshops range from basic photography to more advanced, developing youth to be able to sell their work. Like young Archer who won their summer photo competition, "I just saw my dog poking their face out the window and I just thought that'd make a really good picture." Digital Wings laptops are coming into fruition as they bring youth onto



the FOTO IWI media team, with their Happy Bay News publication. They combine cameras and laptops together for illustrations, photographs, graphics

and text. The publication provides 2000 free copies across Hawkes Bay, showcasing information to the wider community through a youth lens.

**Kiwibots** helps students learn science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in a fun and engaging way, using tools like VEX Robotics, who are a global leader in robotics education, supporting many robotics programmes and initiatives across Aotearoa. Kiwibots run New Zealand's only large-scale robotics education and competition programme covering all levels of schooling from primary to university, and Digital Wings provides their teaching pod of laptops to support Kiwibots' mobile classrooms. Kiwibots believes early engagement with STEM education ensures young kiwis are equipped for a technological work future. Kiwibots has worked with over 10,000 NZ students aged 8yrs and up through the VEX competitions, and even more with their education programmes. More than 1,000 young kiwis have represented NZ at the VEX World Championships, being Tournament Champions at international level 9 times - a feat no other country has yet achieved. https://www.kiwibots.co.nz/





**The Raukatauri Music Therapy Centre** (Appendix Thank you letter) was established in March 2004 by singer and songwriter Hinewehi Mohi, who named it after her daughter Hineraukatauri who has severe cerebral palsy. Thousands of New Zealanders have found a way to express themselves through music therapy via the Centre. Each week, Registered Music Therapist Tori travelled to Te Ākonga Early Learning Centre in Pukekohe to facilitate music therapy groups for preschoolers with autism and developmental delays. During the sessions, Tori used dancing, singing, and instrument playing activities to promote turn-taking, peer interaction, sharing, choice-making and musical fun. <u>https://www.rmtc.org.nz/</u>

Digital Wings computer equipment meant Raukatauri Music Centre could Zoom their therapy out online during Covid lockdowns. <u>https://www.facebook.com/raukataurimusictherapycentre/videos/1611683195675975/</u>

**Crescendo Trust Auckland** was founded in 2012 by Marcus Powell following the success of his award-winning band Blindspott. Over the past decade, Crescendo Trust has mentored over 3,000 rangatahi and supported their pathways into further education, employment or internships. Crescendo has a vision of empowered NZ youth with a strong sense of self and the courage to make positive decisions for their future. Through their mentoring programmes in music, radio, film and photography, young people are able to directly engage and connect with people working in the creative industries and Digital Wings has gifted technology to support them. Rangatahi benefit from exposure to real-world industry experience and training connecting them to employment opportunities and access to further education pathways. <u>https://www.crescendo.org.nz/the-collective-documentary/</u>



FREE 9 WEEK INTRO TO SONGWRITING AND RECORDING COURSE YOUTH 15-24 YEARS STARTS FEBRUARY 14TH 2022

#### Environmental, Maara Kai and Food Recovery

There are 17 charities and ropū in this group, ranging from the Far North Hokianga forests to the Far South cities.



**Te Roroa Iwi Te Toa Whenua** programme works on native tree planting, Kauri die-back, pest and predator control, and Kaitiaki Kiwi in native forests near famous Tāne Mahuta. They are organising a wānanga on solar panels, irrigation and developing a living seed bank as part of their Horticulture Hub and Maara Kai gardens. Digital Wings has supplied laptops for the management team and smart phones for rangatahi to use in the field during their training in all these areas. They are establishing more tracks and assisting in bait fills across the existing area focused around the Waipoua River, using the devices to record data and take photos.

#### Similar programmes are run by Pirongia Te Aroaro o Kahu

**Restoration Society**, to bring the maunga and ngahere back to life, see kokakō and other key native species re-introduced to Mt Pirongia, and get the community on board to help make it happen. Volunteers are the heart and soul of the organisation, so they encourage new people to get out on the mountain to restore the natural environment. Digital Wings has supplied laptops for their management team to coordinate activities.

Maniapoto Maara Kai Trust began in 2020 when many in Te Kuiti

#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svzkjkYf-zo&t=3s

lost their jobs with the area highly dependent on tourism. They teach people to grow their own food, be selfsustaining, and connect with the land. Workshops include exploring Matariki, rainwater harvesting, soil conservation and improvement, enhancing water quality, and composting. They supply vegetables to the community, eggs from their chickens, garden tours and advice, outreach to schools, and opportunities for disadvantaged youth and Department of Corrections. Education includes traditional methods for planting by the lunar calendar, weaving, growing and using medicinal herbs. *"Our vision is to feed the community in mind, body, and spirit. Our dream is to provide a model for other communities, demonstrating the benefits of serving the community and the people. Your donation has helped us realise our vision and our dream. With the donation from Digital Wings, sharing information* 

is easier, our accounting processes are now digital instead of paperbased, and several volunteers have improved their computer skills. Anything that makes our processes more efficient means more time to grow food to fill empty tummies."

**KiwiHarvest** is also in the business of filling empty pantries across **Dunedin, Invercargill, Rotorua and Auckland,** retrieving and



redistributing surplus and dated foodstuffs to families and



organisations. The Dunedin team alone has 45 active food donors and supports up to 30 recipient organisations consisting of social service agencies, community groups, church groups and primary schools. A dedicated and passionate team of 4 has been supported by Digital Wings technology. A typical day for them is a bakery run collecting unsold cabinet items like sandwiches, muffins and scones, and delivering to a different food bank or

kindergarten each day. Other food deliveries go to recipient agencies of the day followed by the supermarket run, collecting good, nutritious food that the supermarkets save. Then this is sorted for the next day's deliveries to ensure nothing goes to waste.

With 54 Playcentres on our books they are the most prolific of Digital Wings charities, but modest in their requests,

mostly 1-2 devices per centre. **Amberley** Playcentre is enjoying their iPad. *"It's* made a huge difference! It's now super easy for Juliette to take photos of all the children & capture their learning." **Avonhead** Playcentre has downloaded a library APP on their iPad and their laptop provides "huge storage" for resources and meetings. **Belmont** Playcentre say the laptop onsite has meant



parents can document their child's Learning Stories as they occur. It has



given them a location for centralised storage for planning and data and means parents who are unable to attend meetings in person can remain engaged in centre management through attending virtual meetings. **Wharepuhunga** Playcentre thanks Digital Wings for supplying a laptop when they most needed it. *"Our computer had just died and with many other expenses we needed to cover we were worried how to cover a new laptop. It is appreciated more than you can imagine and was a very welcome relief from our families."* 

Effective and reliable technology makes a huge





difference to the education sector. **Hataitai** Playcentre lists: \*filling in session forms is now problem-free; faulty technology no longer interferes with focus \*moved our documentation onto OneDrive, so anyone can do admin jobs easily \*reliably connects to printer via cable and touch screen for selecting print options \*maintains charge for 2h at meetings \*Helped communicate Covid developments to families and keep Health and Safety requirements and policies up to date \*parents can attend business meetings via Zoom/Skype. "Provided a tool that does what it is supposed to and makes our jobs easy, rather than itself making more work for us to do." **Okato, Pokeno,** 

Weston and Taurika Playcentres reflect similar benefits including appreciation for the MS Office software already installed and ready to use, and personal support as well!



*"We received fantastic communication from Di at Digital Wings."* 



Digital Wings serves 29 Health Charities and 68 Social Services, many of which also deliver health outcomes like



hospice, addiction, mental health, birthing, and trauma support.

**Diabetes NZ's** Digital Wings equipment was used in their Mobile Diabetes Awareness Service which removes the cost and accessibility barriers that prevent people from learning about diabetes by going to places where high-risk people gather and providing free, culturally appropriate education and testing to detect diabetes early and prevent diabetes and its complications. They were able to lodge testing results with Medtech promptly and follow up referrals to GPs and quit smoking programmes. It was also used in recording and showing videos of people who have made lifestyle changes to prevent and

manage diabetes and of people who recommend the service. Specialist Diabetes Nurse Rhonda promptly referred 535 clients with prediabetes or diabetes when tested using HbA1c test (3 month's average blood glucose) to their GP for follow up medical treatment. Here is a link to a news article on the service, with a person tested speaking at 1.04 mins: <a href="https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2020/11/world-diabetes-day-number-of-people-with-illness-to-increase-25-percent-by-2030.html">https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2020/11/world-diabetes-day-number-of-people-with-illness-to-increase-25-percent-by-2030.html</a>

Whangaroa Health Services work out of Kaeo in the Far North and were one of the first charities to receive our computers for marae-based healthcare in 2016.

Now they offer a wide range of services and Digital Wings has been proud to support each new level of their community work as it has diversified to include resthome and elderly care, Pā community fitness centre, rural health outreach nurse, advocacy support, teaching gardens, food hub and market days, holiday programmes and in 2022 the New Wellness Hub.



which supports recovery.



Also in Taitokerau is **Whakamana Tangata** in **Dargaville**, whose new solution moving forward specialises in the art of empathetic listening and whitiwhiti korero (sharing) from a background of lived experience. Prioritising methamphetamine recovery, their services and activities include recovery support groups, educational groups, advocacy and counselling. Digital Wings provides their centre with laptops for staff and desktops inhouse for kiritaki (client whānau) to access the extra services they need. Whakamana Tangata



aims to provide safe spaces and support earlier and closer to home in the Kaipara, where people in distress feel free to discuss what they are experiencing. The peer support relationship is underpinned by principles of tika, pono, aroha and manaaki

**Red Cross Whanganui** said having a Digital Wings' laptop meant they could run training for disaster welfare and support teams from anywhere and provide vital communications at disaster centres. "We use the PC's for teams' meetings with other teams around the country, throughout the year. Online meetings and training became the new normal and in the pandemic we set up a mini emergency control centre. Trade Me became our only form of fund-raising during lockdowns, the money raised at this time was enough to keep our bookshop afloat. Being able to use online selling platforms to sell our speciality books, meant raising more money for our programs and services by more than 60%. The desktops were where we could come and work on emails, emergency site reps and make the many phone calls needed. Having this central hub worked well for us as our team were helping at CBAC (community-

based assessment centre), so anyone of the team could come to the hub at any time and have everything at their fingertips. Having this separate from our homes helped to make that separation and it worked better for our mental health."

We have assisted 46 charities working with **Youth Education to Employment** in city, town, rural and remote settings.

Thanks to Digital Wings and **Thames Community Centre** Katie has been able to use computers to study the road code and practice mock tests to sit and pass her learner's license for free. Katie says, "My support worker brought me down to the centre. Initially the whole idea was exhausting; I had some complications in my life, but this was smooth and welcoming, easy and supported the whole way. I used the computer to do practice tests on a regular basis and could talk about it as well. When I was ready to sit, we went down to AA and I passed. It means freedom and independence and gave me back my confidence. I am proud of what I've achieved and want to get my restricted license and will join the mentor



programme soon. I've worked at the SPCA Op. shop and the animal shelter and its awesome being a volunteer, it's given me more confidence to work and I'm useful to the SPCA as I love kittens. It feels good to be in a trusted position and I'm learning heaps."



### **Kickstart Upper Hutt**

"The support from Digital Wings has been substantial for us as an organisation to impact vulnerable rangatahi. Our team grew from 3 to 14 staff in a matter of months, and we were struggling with access to PC's for our staff. On top of that, for a number of rangatahi, access to the Internet / devices is an issue, and hard for them to access for educational purposes. The supply of refurbished computers by Digital Wings enabled us to set up a large hub in our venue, purpose built as workstations. This means staff are no longer waiting for access to a computer or trying to work off a phone or laptop perched on a couch. This has a direct impact on our work - with staff having more time to

spend with rangatahi, as they can do their administration when it best suits rather than having to wait in line. The impact for us as an organisation is a large increase in productivity for our staff through overcoming the barrier to access. This also flows onto rangatahi - able to access and complete assessments, NCEA trainings through the PCs we now have onsite." <u>https://www.kickstart.org.nz/</u>

# **Refugee Orientation Centre (ROC) Trust Hamilton**

"Our study-support centres for children and youth have also benefited by having computers available for running educational aids on them, and letting the children use them. We were also able to refresh our office computers with reliable equipment with higher capacity, thus enabling our work to function much better. Our executive team of accountant, general manager operations and programme development manager did not have a company computer for home-use during our lockdown periods. Thanks to Digital Wings, they have been able to continue working from home during the lockdown. We used to have very old PCs in our computer lab, which took a long time to log in and caused many problems. These difficulties compounded the difficulties faced by refugee students. With your help, the

new computers functioned smoothly, and the programmes performed very well. Students used the new equipment during our computing courses and the road code courses to practice for the test. At least in the next 3 years, ROC is developing a digital platform and planning for a paperless environment. As a first step, we have implemented Salesforce software and all our information is in that database. With our old computers, we would not have been able to run the software effectively. We can achieve our longterm goals thanks to Digital Wings."



**Tolaga Bay Innovation** were one of the first recipients in our pilot projects in 2016 before we created Digital Wings. They support Maori empowerment through enterprise and technology, promoting grassroots entrepreneurship, upskilling local people in digital marketing and creation of revenue streams, and self-sustainable livelihoods. Over 5 years, Digital Wings provided a mobile laptop hub and desktop computers onsite for their rangatahi, kaumatua and community members to utilise for different purposes including, research, upskilling,



training modules, online shop creation. These supported grassroots businesses in their start-up phases and 3 new online shops created by local people. https://www.facebook.com/UawaFactoryRdNativeNursery https://www.facebook.com/harleysharvests www.tui-design.com https://www.facebook.com/lawa2021 www.theinnmarket.com https://www.facebook.com/Dirty-Mulle-100652158171573 Huiterangi Digitech established a code club with Te Ao Maori principles https://www.facebook.com/groups/huiterangiora Facebook group, supporting online business creations and social media guidance https://www.facebook.com/groups/tolagabayinnovation

Westpac Awards 2021 for Resilience Excellence (providing additional beneficial services to community)



Founder Lily Stender reports "so

much more impact in terms of social connectivity, well-being, networking, positive leadership, entrepreneurial creation to break the cycle of dependency and we are continually growing and developing our services. Our online tutorials and digital marketing are evolving, with new participants attending our courses. Di Daniels has been a huge advocate for our Tolaga Bay Innovation initiatives and we are truly appreciative of her tautoko. Thank you, Digital Wings and team, for believing in us and enhancing our capabilities in supporting our community."

Digital Wings has gifted 55 desktop computers, 222 Laptops and 4 projectors across 41 Literacy Aotearoa centres nationwide. Their Head Office expresses "thanks to Digital Wings, the quality and quantity of digital resources to our organisation was literally overwhelming and



greatly appreciated by our staff, volunteers and learners. The donation allowed us to work with more up-to-date operating systems and faster reacting machines. Teaching adults computer skills needs to be relevant and responsive and the quality of the machines helped us receive this. Many of our pcs and laptops were becoming slow and utilised outdated operating systems and this was not appropriate to the experiences our

learners deserved and was proving a challenge to our teaching staff. We also were able to use donations to cope better with the challenges faced during covid restrictions and are now actively looking at how to best deliver online provision for those who are unable to attend our learning centres. Access to improved digital resources has seen the successful delivery of work readiness classes across the country along with computer courses. We have been able to successfully work with MSD and other agencies to

support adults into gainful employment and in the workplace deliver computer awareness and communications interventions that has led to increased productivity for employers and enhanced promotion and development opportunities for participants."





**MyRIVR** run free training sessions in South Auckland and tweeted "In partnership with @akthompsonItd we are hugely grateful to Di and the team @digitalwings for the delivery of 6 free refurbished laptops for our students and community who don't have access to a device during our free community training workshops. If you would like to donate or sponsor a device please get in touch with the team or check them out here <u>www.digitalwings.nz</u> so that they can continue to support our communities via charitable organisations like @my.rivr."





Full list of charities https://www.digitalwings.nz/communities.html

#### THANKS TO ALL OUR DIGITAL WINGS BUSINESS DONORS WHO HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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