





"The House of Grace has shown me how life should and can, be lived. Because of this place, my baby girl has a real chance at a better future. I've learned how to love her fully, and how to show her what it means to treat others with kindness and respect. I've grown not just as a mum, but as a person. In the short term, my goal is to finish school. As for the future—well, you'll see me somewhere, someday, doing something big."

WELCOME

Welcome to our 2025 Annual Report.

We're proud to share with you this snapshot of the past year at The House of Grace Trust. A year filled with growth, impact, and unwavering support for young mothers across Aotearoa.

At the heart of our mahi is a deep commitment to walking alongside pregnant teens and young mums as they navigate one of the most life-changing seasons of their lives. The ripple effects of this support are far-reaching - strengthening families, uplifting communities, and shaping brighter futures for the next generation.

To our donors, volunteers, partners, and supporters - thank you. Your compassion, generosity, and belief in our kaupapa continue to change lives. We couldn't do this without you.



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1. ABOUT US

The House of Grace Trust was established in December 2001 as a non-profit organisation. We are predominantly funded and supported by financial donations, grants, private sponsorship, fundraising activities and donated goods and services.

OUR VISION

For every young mum and baby to thrive and have hope for the future.

OUR MISSION

To support and equip young mums in a whānau filled with love and grace.

WHĀNAU

We value family and community connections.

FAITH

We believe God created us all with a great plan and purpose.

MANAAKITANGA

We come alongside, encourage and support every young person.

GROWTH

We facilitate learning and development with a future focus.

OUR VALUES

PROTECTION

Helping to provide a safe and supportive living environment



2. 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

A year of practical love, dignity, and community support.

- We gifted laptops to young mums pursuing study and job readiness, helping them re-engage with education and plan for a brighter future.
- We helped cover urgent medical costs for a young mum and her pēpi, relieving financial pressure during a critical time.
- From nappies and clothing to cots and baby monitors—our community helped us deliver essential items to dozens of families.
- We created and delivered 23 beautiful gift bags to young mums—celebrating the strength and love they give every day.
- We delivered custom care packages full of love and essentials for young mums in need, reminding them they are not forgotten.
- We covered transport costs so mums could attend evening parenting programmes—giving them access to crucial learning without the added burden of travel expenses.
- We walked alongside mums moving into their own homes—offering budgeting help, donated furniture, and support for the transition.
- A brand new initiative! We distributed financial grants to young mums across New Zealand to equip, empower and encourage.
- We celebrated the safe arrival of six pēpi born into the care of their brave, young māmā in our community—each birth a precious milestone.

We're proud to share with you this snapshot of the past year at The House of Grace Trust—a year filled with growth, impact, and unwavering support for young mothers across Aotearoa.



3. CHAIRPERSON'S REVIEW

Kia ora whānau,

It is my privilege to present the 2024/25 Annual Report for The House of Grace Trust. This year has been one of significant change and growth, deeper impact, and new beginnings.

At our heart, The House of Grace exists to walk alongside pregnant teens and young mums—offering a safe place, hope for the future, and the tools to thrive. That mission remains unchanged. But this year, we have been able to expand our reach beyond the walls of our home and extend our support into the wider community in meaningful new ways.

One of the most exciting developments was the launch of our new grants programme, designed to support young mums across Aotearoa. Already, we have approved our first round of grants, providing practical support such as groceries, baby essentials, winter pyjamas, and funding for courses like first aid, driver's licensing, and Outward Bound. These seemingly small gifts are making a massive difference in helping young women regain control of their futures.

We also remain committed to supporting our young mums beyond their time in our residence. This year, we have continued to walk with them as they transition into safe and stable homes in the community.

Whether it's helping with furniture, referrals, or emotional encouragement, our care doesn't end when they leave the house. In fact, for many, that's just the beginning of their next chapter.

Financially, this year marked a major milestone with the sale of our Newlands property, which freed up equity for long-term sustainability. The Board has been actively investigating responsible investment opportunities that align with our mission and values, while ensuring our operating needs continue to be met.

To our donors, volunteers, staff, church partners, and broader community: your generosity, time, and belief in our kaupapa make this all possible. Together, we are building a legacy of love, transformation, and practical hope for young mums and their pēpi.

Ngā mihi nui,

Treena van Rijssel, Chairperson



4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Kia ora e te whānau,

This year has been a beautiful blend of continuing our core work—providing a safe and nurturing home for pregnant teens—and stepping into new territory with open hands and hearts.

At the centre of our mahi, we have continued to house and support young mums through one of the most vulnerable seasons of their lives. The girls who entered our homes were welcomed not just with practical resources, but with genuine care, a sense of belonging, and belief in her future. It's an honour to see the transformation that unfolds when someone is given a chance to breathe, rest, and be seen.

But the need extends far beyond the few young women we can assist with safe, supportive housing. That's why I'm delighted to share that this year we launched The House of Grace Grants Programme. For the first time in our 20+ year history, we've been able to offer financial assistance to young mums in the community—those referred by Teen Parent Units, midwives, and social workers around New Zealand.

From supplying warm winter pyjamas and sleep sacks to funding transport for parenting courses and grocery vouchers, our grants are already meeting urgent needs in real-time. We've had applications from as far north as Whangārei and as far south as Dunedin—reminding us that the need is widespread, but so is the opportunity to help.

We've also remained deeply connected with our past residents, continuing to support them as they move into homes of their own. Transitioning from the structure of a supportive environment into the community can be daunting, but we've helped make that easier by assisting with furniture, budgeting support, wraparound referrals, and relational mentoring.

Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to respond to over 20 urgent needs, provide individualised support, and celebrate the arrival of healthy babies born into love and stability.

I want to take a moment to honour our incredible volunteers, and Board—people who consistently show up with humility, wisdom, and heart. You inspire me every day.

As we look ahead, we are excited to grow our reach, strengthen our partnerships, and keep saying “yes” to the mums who need us most.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Rebecca Bangma, General Manager



5. PERSONAL STORIES

We're always deeply moved by the stories shared by our young mums. Each one brings her own journey, her own voice, and her own strength. Many have faced incredibly tough challenges, and we're constantly inspired by their courage, maturity, and resilience.

"Receiving a laptop through The House of Grace grants has been life changing. As a young mum, getting back into study felt overwhelming, especially without the right tools. But with this laptop, I've been able to enrol in tertiary study and actually keep up with my coursework from home while still caring for my baby.

Having the support of The House of Grace behind me has reminded me that I'm capable and worth investing in. This grant didn't just give me a laptop—it gave me confidence, opportunity, and hope."

"I just wanted to say the biggest thank you to the people who made The House of Grace happen. I have no clue what I would've done if I didn't have the support of this place when I was pregnant with my son. Contacting them was honestly the best decision I ever made. My life was probably going to end up really awful if I didn't have this support.

I'm so grateful, I got to be part of the story here. My life would've looked very different but now my world has hope and love in it. My life is full and I'm doing a job I love now. I'm a working mum and I live in community with the best people in the world. I lead kids church on Sunday and have purpose and hope."



6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Last year's report opened with reflections on the significant challenges our nation was facing—an economy weighed down by high living costs, rising unemployment, and widespread uncertainty. While there are now glimmers of recovery, the past year remained deeply challenging for many charities, including ours. Fundraising efforts continued to be tough in an increasingly competitive landscape, all while we worked to support young mothers navigating the early stages of parenthood with little or no whānau support. Sadly, much of this reality remained unchanged over the past year.

Yet, thanks to the unwavering generosity of our supporters and partners—and the strategic sale of one of our properties—we are now in a strong position to serve some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

As previously mentioned, The House of Grace made the difficult but necessary decision to move away from its traditional in-home model. This led to the sale of our Wellington home and marked a broader shift in our approach—from property ownership to a more agile, needs-based support model. In line with this transition, we've redesigned our website to enable both individuals and organisations to apply for funding that directly benefits pregnant teens and young mums.



I'm pleased to report that the Trust is in a strong financial position, thanks to the strategic decisions made by the Board, the sale of our property, and the bold new direction we've embraced. While the way in which we support young women has evolved, our vision remains unchanged.

We are deeply grateful to the individuals and organisations who have stood by us over the years, and especially in recent months as we transitioned to a new model of care. Your generosity and belief in our mission have made this journey possible.

On behalf of the Board, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers, donors, and supporters in their many forms. We look forward to continuing this vital work together in the years ahead.

God Bless.

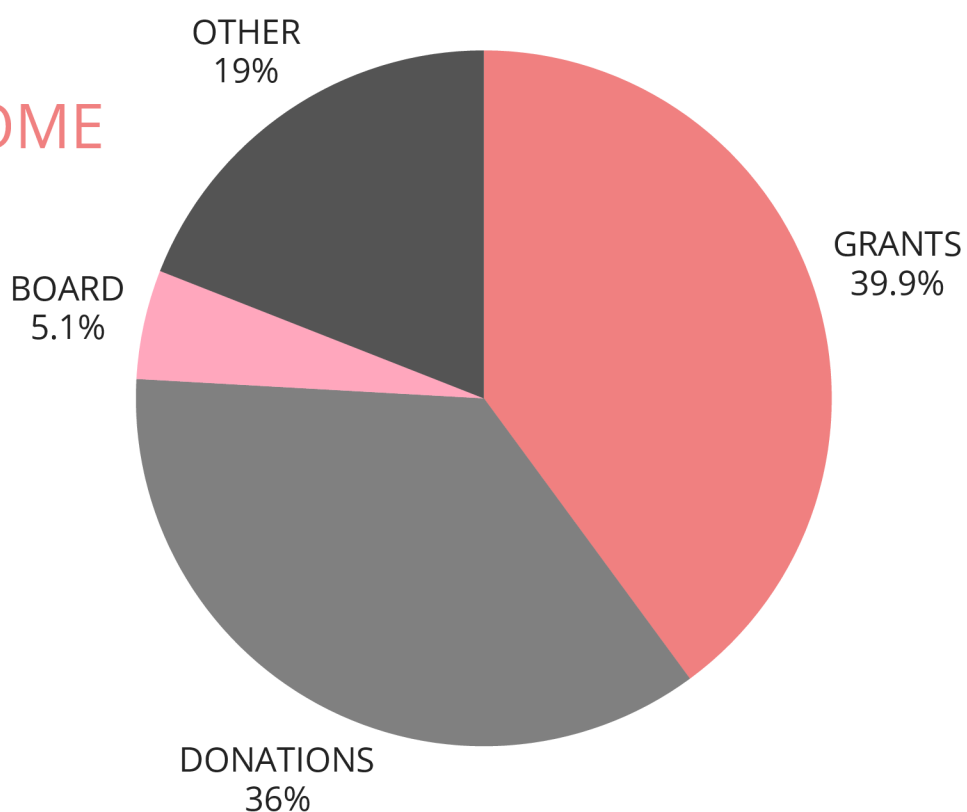
Craig Ell, Treasurer

7. SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

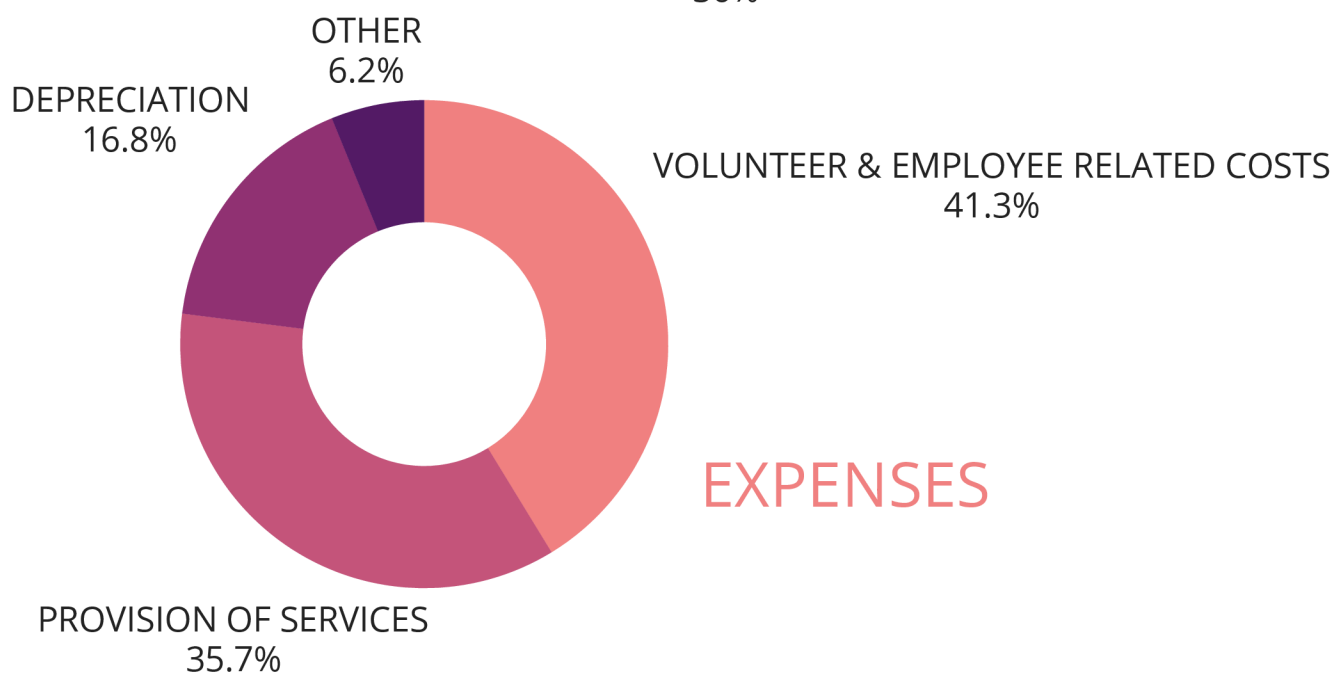
Our key income sources for the year ending 31 March 2025 include grants, donations and accommodation board from residents.

Here's a snapshot of our income and expenses performance. For full details, please refer to our financial statements which are available on request.

INCOME



EXPENSES



8. THANK YOU

A huge thank you to every individual and organisation that has supported The House of Grace Trust this year, including those who may have been inadvertently left off this list. We appreciate you all so much.

Funders

COGS - Four Winds Foundation - Grassroots Trust - NZCT - Nikau Foundation - Pelorus Trust - Pub Charity - Thomas George Macarthy Trust - Trust House Foundation - Tui Flower Foundation - Vavasour Trust - Wellington Community Fund.

Organisations

Infoodle - Inner Wheel Wellington - Integrated Property Services Ltd - Johnsonville Op Shop - Jumble Tree - MARDAG - Marlborough Christian Aid Trust - Max Architecture - Switch Your Spend - Voice for Life Waikato - Waikato Regional Council - Wellington City Council.

The House of Grace Heroes

We are also particularly grateful to those who have personally given to The House of Grace through one-off donations or regular automatic payments. Lives are being changed through your generosity. You are our heroes.

Churches

Onslow Community Church - Plimmerton Presbyterian Church - The Village Church - Wellington Reformed Church

Donated goods or services

Beanies For Babies - The Collective Hub Johnsonville - Kiwi Community Assistance - Moana Road - Queen Margaret College - The Nest Collective NZ - Tickadeeboo.

We're here to support young mums. Especially those without strong family support during a difficult and life-changing time. When we help them, we're also helping to build stronger families, healthier communities, and brighter futures for their children.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us. Your kindness and belief in our mission make a real difference. We couldn't do this work without you.



Legal Name of Entity

The House of Grace Trust Incorporated

Charities Registration Number

CC10642

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