





Words from a former resident:

"Thank you all so much and thanks for all the support from The House Grace and all the volunteers. You all are wonderful people with big hearts. Where would I be without you. I'm glad I turned my life around and made these big changes for myself. You will forever be in my heart and I'll always class you as my family. I didn't know you would open arms wide for me to all extremes, be a shoulder to cry on and a warm hug with open ears to listen and great advice to help me on my journey. Me and my baby love you so much and I'm so thankful for everything you do for us and all the joy you have brought into my life."

WELCOME

Welcome to our 2022 Annual Report. Through this document we hope to give you some insight into the heart and workings of The House of Grace Trust.

We're a team with a passion to see young mums loved and supported through one of their most challenging and important seasons of life. The impact of what we do cannot be fully measured through statistics or graphs.

For us, success includes young mums and babies staying together and living lives that contribute to society rather than depend on it. It's about young mum's engaging in education, active in the workforce and surrounded by a healthy community.

The House of Grace provides a safe place to live and the opportunity to learn life skills and become a great mum capable of handling the responsibilities of parenthood, free from negative social influences.

Thank you to all who partner with us to help change young lives and impact generations to come.



CONTENTS

1. About us
2. Highlights
3. Organisational structure
4. Chairperson's review
5. There is hope
6. Family life
7. Simple is powerful
8. Volunteers
9. Aftercare
10. Treasurer's report
11. Thank you
12. Income and expenses summary

1. ABOUT US

The House of Grace Trust was established in December 2001 as a non-profit organisation. The Wellington home opened first with the home in Hamilton opening in 2015. We are predominantly funded and supported by financial donations, grants, corporate sponsorship, fundraising activities and donated goods and services.

OUR MISSION

To help create a stronger New Zealand by equipping and empowering pregnant teens to flourish and make a positive difference in their communities.

We believe in the potential of every young woman and provide a place for them to live, learn, prepare for childbirth and plan for a bright future.

OUR OBJECTIVES

1. Equip each resident with the information and skills they need to be a successful parent.
2. Empower every resident to set life goals and instil in them a confidence and motivation to achieve them.
3. Create a safe and nurturing family environment that residents can learn from and replicate in their home and local community.
4. Provide a high standard of care and service to residents, staff and volunteers.
5. Be recognised for making a tangible difference in the lives of disadvantaged pregnant young women in New Zealand.
6. Be vigilant and transparent in managing resources to ensure sustainable growth of our organisation.



2. HIGHLIGHTS

- Young mum's receiving the opportunity to parent where they otherwise wouldn't have - and are succeeding!
- Young mum's breaking free from abusive relationships, addictions, unhealthy behaviours and are now flourishing.
- Our homes have continued to operate and be a safe haven for pregnant teens throughout the pandemic.
- Residents engaging in secondary and tertiary education both while living in the homes and afterwards.
- Being able to purchase gifts for residents for Christmas, birthdays and Mother's Day thanks to generous donations.
- Watching residents learn from the natural role modeling that happens in each home with houseparents children.
- Replacement vans purchased for both homes.
- Much needed bathroom renovations underway in Wellington.
- Our office has moved to a space in Porirua - where the whole team can work together.



3. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Board of Trustees

Provide strategic direction and advice on major funding and policy decisions.

Chairperson: Treena van Rijssel

Secretary: Craig Ell

Treasurer: Michael Bangma

Trustee: Natalie Joyce

Trustee: Wayne Collins

Director

Focused on general management, growth and ongoing health of the organisation. Responsible for staff recruitment, training, overseeing policy and strategic funding decisions.

Accounts Manager

Responsible for accounts receivable/ payable, tactical fundraising activities and securing grants for operating costs.

Facilities Manager

Management of office, properties, vehicles and assets. Other duties include project funding.

Area Supervisor

Resident intake, volunteer recruitment and training. Houseparent support and developing relationships with community stakeholders.

Aftercare Coordinator

Supports residents moving out of the home, allocates donations, facilitates access to ongoing courses and community connections.

Houseparents

As live-in volunteers, houseparents co-ordinate the day-to-day running of the home. Provide support and teaching to residents, including parenting skills and household management.

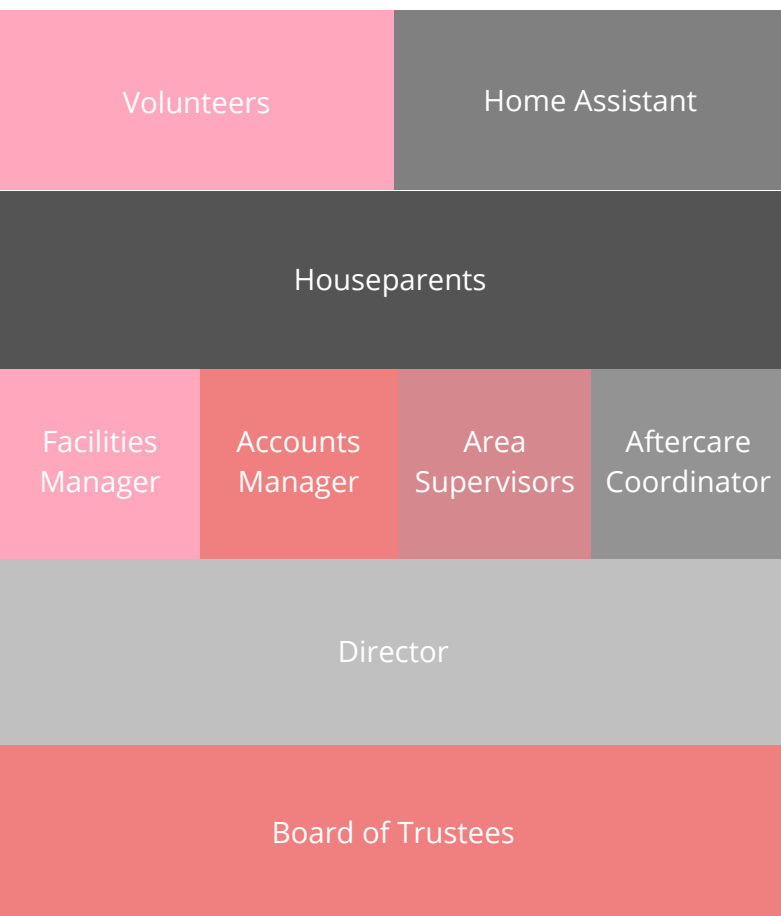
Home Assistant

Provides practical support to the running of the home through cleaning, childcare, resident room set up, meal preparation, resident support and donation sorting.

Volunteers

Provide relief and support to houseparents on a regular basis. Includes weekend relief, resident support, donations management and property maintenance.

Note: All paid staff work part time, totaling less than 3 FTE.



4. CHAIRPERSON'S REVIEW

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank every person and organisation for their valued contribution to a milestone year at The House of Grace. Together we celebrate 20 years of operation and reflect on the lives changed and communities impacted by our committed and passionate team.

Thank you to our wonderful houseparents who continue to serve tirelessly in each home. It takes great courage and love for others to consistently share family time and build others up in the way you do. The passion and dedication you display is inspiring and makes a real difference in the lives of many.

Behind our houseparents is a team of amazing volunteers. I'm grateful for the many hours of time and resource that is poured into supporting our houseparents and residents alike. The work you do enables us to function efficiently and care for young mums and their children to the best of our ability. Thank you for your servant hearts.



I'd also like to recognise our dedicated staff. With just a small team of part-time employees, we've made huge strides forward as an organisation. From policy improvements, raising public awareness, sourcing funds and administering the daily operations, all in the midst of an on-going pandemic. Working for a charitable organisation is often more than just a job. It is part of who you are and I am truly thankful we can journey this together.

Last December we farewelled Marcus van Rijssel who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Marcus co-founded The House of Grace with his wife Treena and has always been a key part of the vision. He carried great wisdom, inspired many, gave generously and we miss him dearly.

After some time away, I'm pleased to announce that Treena will now return to help lead the organisation as Chairperson on the Board of Trustees. Thank you Treena for your passion and commitment to the vision you were given over 20 years ago. A vision to see young mums supported and lives changed in Aotearoa.

Natalie Joyce, Acting Chairperson



5. THERE IS HOPE

At The House of Grace we get to see incredible changes in the lives of young people on a regular basis. For confidentiality reasons, we keep these stories pretty close to our hearts. Here is an account from a staff member about a young mum who has inspired us recently with her determination and commitment...

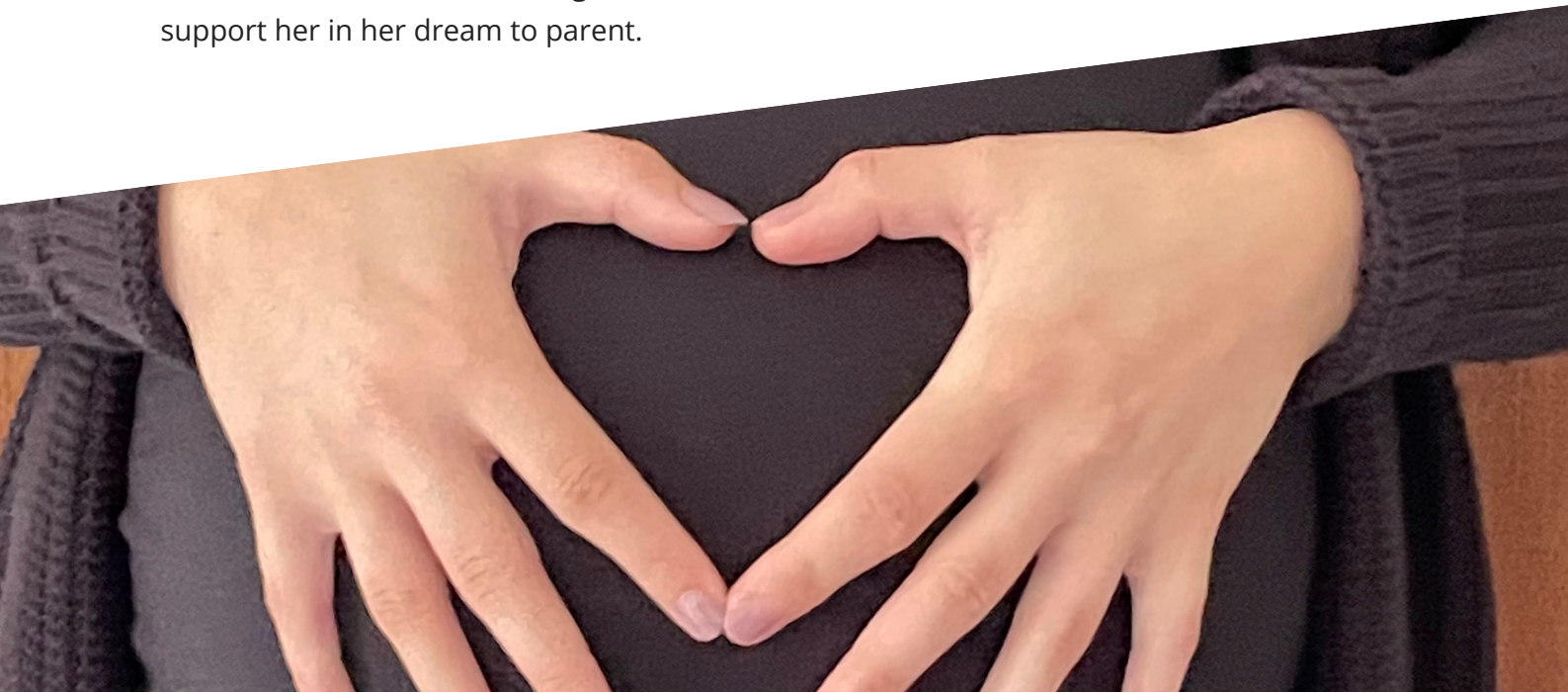
"When we first received Heather's application for residency, we had some reservations around her history of drug use. Her other children had been removed from her care, but she was desperate to prove she could parent her newborn.

Heather's family had given up hope of her getting things together. It was evident in the Family Group Conference that they believed it was only a matter of time before she would drop the ball again. However, with regular drug testing and engagement with specialist counselling services, The House of Grace agreed to support her in her dream to parent.

It was a bit of a bumpy start and it took Heather some time to adjust to a new routine. But after the first drug-free test result, Heather quickly settled in and began enjoying life with the house family. She learned how to interact with love and kindness and began to thrive.

Heather made a plan for her future and enrolled in a number of courses. During her time at the home, she kept that first clean drug test stick on the pinboard above her bed to remind her of how far she had come. She is proud of her achievements.

It has been a pleasure to support Heather in her journey and we're so proud of what she has achieved. And perhaps in time, Heather may also have the opportunity to parent all of her children. An amazing future is there for the taking".



6. FAMILY LIFE

Each home at The House of Grace is run by a family who lives onsite. Residents are simply included in their everyday life. Houseparents encourage goal-setting, they teach life skills and journey through the individual ups and downs of life with each resident.

Katie and Jacob Rikihana and their two children make up our Wellington house family. They love people and are passionate about seeing young Mum's and their babies thrive.



In Hamilton we're blessed to have the Vercoe family. Danii and Jarrod together with their three young children are an amazing support and source of encouragement for our residents.

When Mia moved out of The House of Grace recently, we asked her 'what impact The House of Grace has had on her?' She responded with, "Being a family".

This blew us away! She said that her experience of being in a family has not been like this at all so this has taught her how to be a family and what she wants for her own little family.

We thought that was pretty special!



7. SIMPLE IS POWERFUL

In every resident application, our team experience a sense of heartache for those in difficult circumstances. But there is an even stronger sense of hope that life can be better!

Each situation is unique, but we do observe some common themes. Themes of loneliness, abuse, mental health struggles, gaps in education and lack of safety and security.

Navigating The House of Grace through the COVID pandemic has been an interesting and challenging time. We've experienced many new challenges and yet managed to stay operational and strong throughout.

We've been purposeful in making sure the simple, yet important, things remained present. Being home together every night. Eating family meals together. Laughing together. Movie nights. Board games. Birthday celebrations. Family outings. Picnics. Trips to the beach. The safe arrival of new babies. Establishing routines. Residents participating in education. Mashing potatoes. Chats on the couch with a cup of tea. Learning to resolve conflict in a safe and respectful way. Keeping warm in winter. Having access to healthy food, toiletries and clothing.

All of these things, among others, continue to be part of our everyday.

The key is in the engagement. The willingness to give it a go, take the steps and keep moving forward. For us and for our residents.

The House of Grace does not undertake the journey with each resident in isolation. We always aim to connect with community agencies, extended whanau and education providers to support our residents and babies.

As the saying goes... It takes a village to raise a child. That could not be more true with vulnerable young mums and babies. We thank every donor, funder, staff member and volunteer for partnering with The House of Grace and the part we play in the creation of a healthy village around each and every mum and baby.

Ngā mihi nui,

Fiona Collins, Director



8. VOLUNTEERS

The House of Grace homes are run primarily through volunteers. Many are surprised to learn that our live-in houseparents are actually full time volunteers also.

Houseparents are supported by volunteers who help with things such as supporting residents, sorting donations, gardening, home maintenance tasks, childcare, cleaning, teaching life skills and helping with transport.

Volunteers provide houseparents with relief to have evenings and weekends off from time to time.

We currently have 26 volunteers across both homes and are incredibly grateful for every person who invests in The House of Grace in this way. It takes an estimated 18,000 volunteer hours per year to run both of our homes.

We simply would not be able to operate in the way that we do without volunteers.



We have seen a decline in volunteer applications and availability since the pandemic began. The need to recruit and retain our volunteer team is more important than ever.

Some words from a volunteer's perspective...

"It has been a joy to have different roles with The House of Grace, and most especially to interact with the residents both before and after the birth of their precious children.

I love the intention of The House of Grace - and what it achieves by, in essence, being a family home with invited guests.

So much effort goes into ensuring that each house, in Wellington and Hamilton, can be a place of peace, sanctuary, learning, wholeness, support, nurture and growth for all who live there.

Everyone involved, however much or little, contributes to the wonderful outcomes we see."

Kirsty, Volunteering Superstar



9. AFTERCARE

Living in one of our homes is just the start of the journey for our young mums. For those who want it, an ongoing relationship of support and encouragement is also available. This typically happens through relationship with the houseparents and is different for each resident.

For some, it's returning 'home' every week for a family meal. For others, it's about celebrating key moments together or simply a phone call to receive support in a moment of crisis.

We recently appointed Emma Harbour as the Aftercare Coordinator for The House of Grace. Emma is able to support residents who have lived at The House of Grace by coordinating the allocation of donations, providing access to ongoing courses (such as parenting, first aid and personal development courses) and making sure our former houseparents receive the support they need too.

Some of our former houseparents have continued to have young mums live with them long after leaving The House of Grace. Forming deep relationships and being part of a supportive community can last a lifetime.

This year we have celebrated mums completing tertiary educational programmes and starting new career pathways. We've been to graduation ceremonies, birthday parties and celebrated the births of more babies. We have been a part of providing care parcels during lockdowns and COVID isolation periods.

The community that is created through The House of Grace is precious and helps our young mums flourish in their wider communities long after leaving our homes.



10. TREASURER'S REPORT

Like many charitable trusts in New Zealand, The House of Grace continues to navigate these ever-changing financial times. With a strong asset base, no debt and well managed overheads we continue to provide stable, excellent service to our communities.

With support from local groups and generous individuals, we have been able to ensure our homes are open and operating and that young people cannot just find a warm house to live in, but a family for them and their child to be a part of.

We are incredibly grateful for the people who partner with us and donate throughout the year, whether that is through a regular automatic payment, donations through Givealittle, leaving a bequest, payroll giving, or another way.

This long-term, consistent support makes a huge difference and allows us to do so much in communities across the nation.

Thank you!



There are a number of key businesses, Trusts and Foundations that generously give grants to The House of Grace throughout the year. We simply couldn't do what we do without these contributions, so a special thanks goes to these groups. Please see the 'Thank you' page for a list of our key supporters from this year.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you, our whanau of supporters, for your commitment to those who are in need, and for your grace throughout the last year. We look forward to continuing to partner with you as we strive to make a real and lasting difference in communities throughout New Zealand.

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi.

Nga mihi

Michael Bangma, Treasurer

11. THANK YOU

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

Funders

Common Good Foundation - COGS - Community Waikato - D V Bryant - Eastern & Central Community Trust - EM Parazyn Trust - FH Muter Charitable Trust - Four Winds Foundation - Gallagher Trust - Gaynor Charitable Trust - Grassroots Trust - Hutt Mana Charitable Trust - John Illot Charitable Trust - Len Reynolds Trust - The Lion Foundation - Lions Club East Hamilton - Nikau Foundation - NZ Lotteries Grants Board - Page Trust - Sky City Hamilton - The Trusts Community Foundation - Trust House Foundation - Trust Waikato - Upper Hutt City Council - Vavasour Trust - The Wallis Trust - Wel Energy Trust - Wellington Children's Foundation - Wellington Community Trust - Wellington Methodist Trust - Winton & Margaret Bear Trust

Organisations

Faisandier Group - Infoodle - Inner Wheel Wellington - Integrated Property Services Ltd - Jumble Tree - MARDAG Holdings - Marlborough Christian Aid Trust - Max Architecture - Momentum Waikato - Prodigy Hair Upper Hutt - Rotary Club of Port Nicholson - Switch Your Spend - Voice for Life Waikato - Waikato Regional Council - Wellington City Council

Churches

Elim Church Wellington - The Hope Centre Miramar - Kings Church - Massey Presbyterian Church - Methodist Church of NZ - Newlands Baptist Church - Northern Hills Church - Onslow Community Church - Plimmerton Presbyterian Church - Reverence for Life Group - St Michaels Church Newlands - Te Awamutu Baptist Church - The Village Church - Wellington Reformed Church

Donated goods or services

Beanies For Babies - Bear & Moo - The Collective Hub Johnsonville - Dobbins Furniture - EcoRoll - Good Bitches Baking - Jet Electrical Solutions - Kiwi Community Assistance - Mane Build - MediTrain First Aid - Milkbar Maternity & Brestfeeding - Moana Road - The Nest Collective NZ - Newlands Mary Potter Hospice Store - North City Motors - Oxted Resources - Plumb 2 Please - Sanitarium - St Aidans Op Shop - Tickadeeboo Insideout Design

Thank you!

The House of Grace is so grateful to all those that made additional financial contributions during the COVID-19 season. We appreciate the support in these unprecedented times and value your ongoing commitment to the young mums and babies in our care.

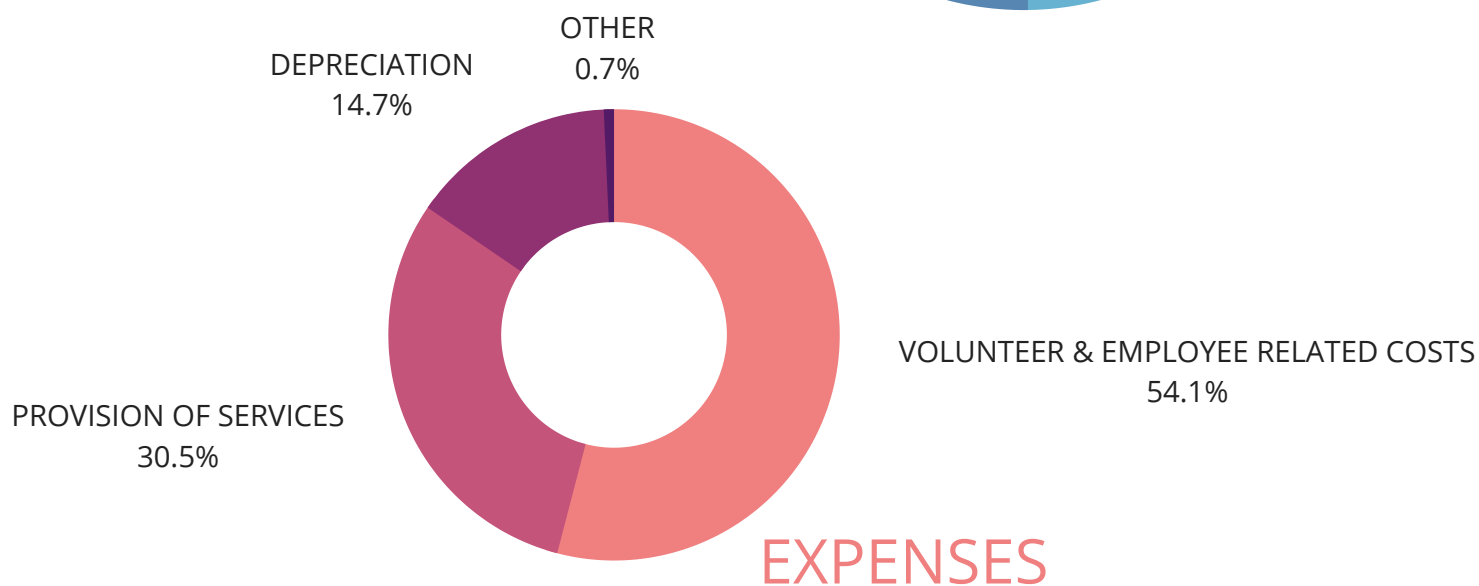
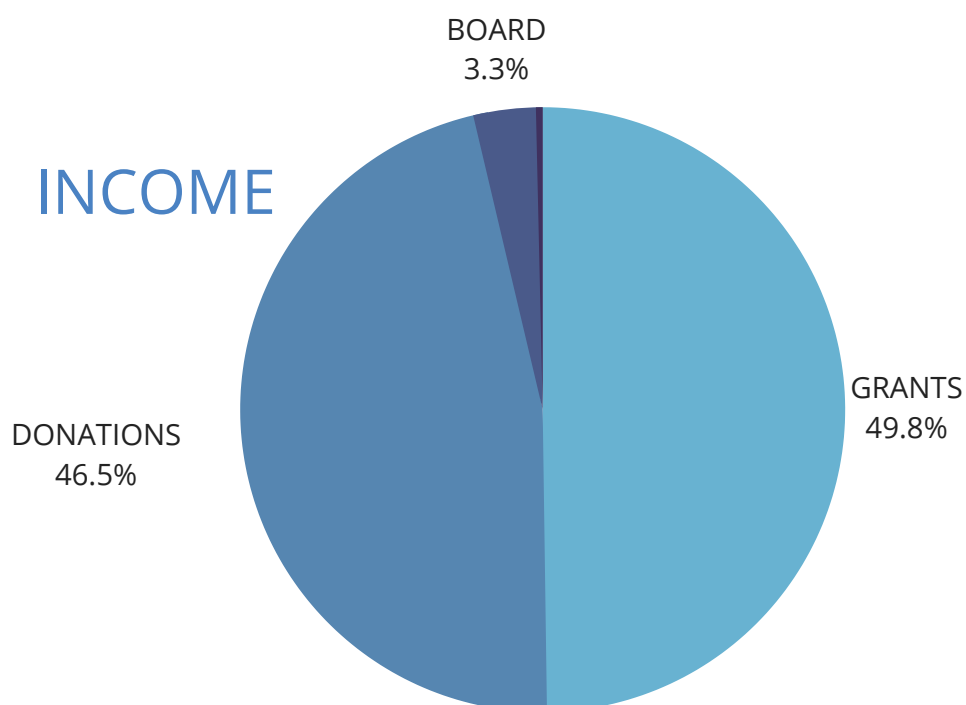


12. INCOME AND EXPENSES SUMMARY

Our key income sources include grants, donations, accommodation board from residents and fundraising. With the exception of the COVID-19 Leave Support Scheme, The House of Grace does not receive any government funding.

Here's a snapshot of our income and expenses performance for the year ending 31 March 2022. For full details, please refer to our financial statements which are available on request.

INCOME



Legal Name of Entity

The House of Grace Trust Incorporated

Charities Registration Number

CC10642

Postal Address

PO Box 50033, Porirua 5240, New Zealand

Contact

04 920 5667

info@thehouseofgrace.org.nz

www.thehouseofgrace.org.nz

