

Give the Gift of a Meaningful Life

**A gift in your Will will bring meaning,
purpose and joy to the lives of people
with intellectual disabilities.**



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Kapa Haka is an opportunity to be seen and heard. For people with an intellectual disability, performing has built confidence and connections with people and their community. Through their performance they show their joy, pride and a sense of whānau.

Kapa Haka is such an important way many people with intellectual disabilities find a sense of belonging.

IHC has always been about **community, compassion, and fairness.**

It's one of New Zealand's oldest and largest charities, helping people with intellectual disabilities live rich, full lives – where they can be a part of their communities, experience what makes them happy, and be safe from unjust treatment.

By including IHC in your Will, you can give this wonderful gift to many more New Zealanders into the future.

You will support their families, so they can give their loved ones the best care and opportunities. You'll bring families the comfort of knowing the care of their IHC whānau is always there.

When IHC started out more than 70 years ago, children born with an intellectual disability were put in an institution and kept apart from society.

We've come so far from those dark days, thanks to the work of IHC and the support of kind New Zealanders like you.

Through a gift in your Will, you can help carry on IHC's long standing tradition of changing community attitudes and opening up possibilities for people with intellectual disabilities in this country.

You'll help IHC keep advocating for their rights and the services they need, as the world continues to change.

Your gift of any size can help make a big difference in the life of someone like Stefano, who you'll read about on the next page.

Anything you choose to give will help shape a future where people like him are included and supported to create lives they choose.

By including IHC in your Will, you will give the gift of a meaningful life to many more New Zealanders into the future.

I've left a gift in my Will, and would love you to join me.

- Janine Stewart, General Manager
IHC Programmes





Why I've left a gift in my Will

"Our son Stefano is an absolute delight.

To be sure, he needs a lot of support just to get out of bed in the morning but he always wakes up with a grin on his face. I say that he has his father's personality – he's very sociable and full of mischief.

However, Stefano didn't get off to a great start when he was born and had trouble breathing, which led to both intellectual and physical disability.

Luckily for us, IHC has been beside us throughout Stefano's life. We've had our ups and downs and they've helped us with information, practical support and above all a feeling of not being on our own.

Now that he's older, Stefano no longer lives at home with us, and IHC still plays an important role in our lives. We visit Stefano lots and see for ourselves the affection and care that he receives. He still has the grin on his face that we know so well.

IHC has been there for people with intellectual disabilities and their families for more than 70 years and we need to make sure IHC is around for another 70 years and beyond. That is why I've left a gift in my Will to IHC."

- Barbara Rocco



I love this photo of Stefano. He was about 7 years old and he loved us reading stories to him.

IHC was such an important part of our family life back then, as it still is for us and for so many families around New Zealand today.

Will you play a role in the future fight for fairness?

IHC began in 1949, when two passionate parents took action to give their child with intellectual disabilities the life he deserved.

When Margaret and Hal Anyon's son Keith was born with Down syndrome, there were few rights and no community services for people with intellectual disabilities.

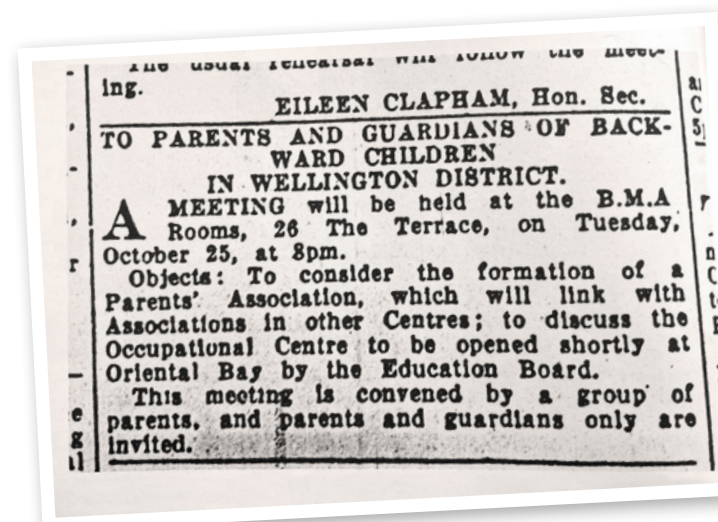
Families like Keith's were told to put their child in an institution, where they'd spend the rest of their lives hidden from view. Keith had no chance to learn, work, or be part of society.

Margaret and Hal fought for seven long years for Keith to have an education. In 1949, tired of the government's broken promises, they called a meeting of parents of children with intellectual disabilities.

The first meeting was attended by 22 parents, equally determined to change the unjust attitudes towards their children.

At the second meeting less than a month later, 50 parents attended, and the Intellectually Handicapped Children's Parent's Association was formed. That was the start of the pioneering New Zealand charity that has worked tirelessly ever since.

If you choose to include IHC in your Will, you can continue to give people with intellectual disabilities in our country the meaning, choice and inclusion we all deserve in life.



Newspaper notice of IHC's first meeting, 1949

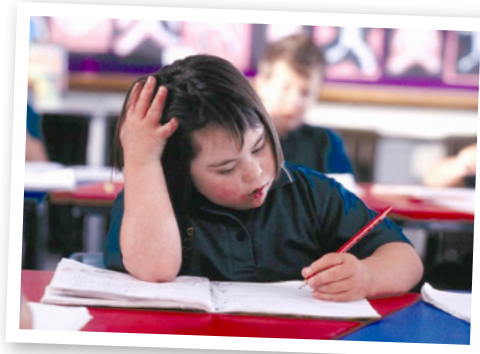


Keith Anyon learning shoe cobbling in the early 1950s

70 years *of powerful change*

1949 Intellectually Handicapped Children's Parent's Association formed to fight for the rights and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.

Name changed to **IHC New Zealand Incorporated** in 1994.



1980 IHC commits to a policy that all children with intellectual disabilities should be educated in the New Zealand local school system.



2011 IHC staff respond to the Christchurch earthquake, protecting and caring for hundreds of people with intellectual disabilities and their families across the region.



2020 In the face of COVID-19, IHC mobilises 350 volunteers to assist people with intellectual disabilities living independently. Through regular phone contact they help with things like online shopping, paying bills online and video calling. Parents of children with intellectual disabilities connect online to support each other and people in IHC homes are kept safe and busy.

1974 After years of lobbying by IHC, the government ends the growth of institutional care for people with disabilities. People with mild and moderate disabilities are discharged.

2006 Kimberley, New Zealand's last institution for people with intellectual disabilities, closes.



1957 IHC is licensed to provide permanent homes for the care and training of intellectually disabled people over the age of 15.

2008 IHC lodges Education Complaint under the Human Rights Act arguing that education policy results in disabled children and young people experiencing discrimination at their local schools.



2021 After 13 years, IHC's legal fight for children with disabilities to have a proper education goes before the Human Rights Review Tribunal.

IHC is New Zealand's largest and longest-running disability charity.

With your support, that incredible legacy can and will continue.



What your gift means to Sarah

Sarah's life would be very different if New Zealanders like you hadn't stood up to create a better society for people with intellectual disabilities.

Here's Sarah's message for you.

"If I'd been born 50 years ago my parents would have been told to put me in an institution.

People with intellectual disabilities were separated from their families and hidden from their community.

The parents who set up IHC fought so their children didn't have to live in institutions and could have an education.

I want my future to be independent, living in the community with all my friends and family around me.

It is important IHC is there for me and other people with intellectual disabilities so we get treated fairly and get the support we need.

Please think about leaving a gift to IHC. It will mean so much to me."

Give a gift that will change the future

In the past 70 years, thanks to big-hearted people like you, IHC has driven wonderful progress for people with intellectual disabilities in this country.

But we still have a long way to go.

People like Sarah still face huge challenges in their lives - and huge disadvantages in our society.

They are more likely to grow up in poverty and less likely to work as adults. Most depend solely on government support throughout their lives.

Sadly, despite our breakthroughs, children with an intellectual disability continue to be excluded from the education system. Many schools don't have the resources to support their needs or to train their teachers in inclusive education practices.

It's a tragedy that children with an intellectual disability are three times more likely to be abused or neglected than other children.

Women with an intellectual disability are at a higher risk of violence than any other group of adults.

If you have an intellectual disability, you're more likely to suffer poor health and to die from a preventable illness. You'll probably live around 20 years less than other New Zealanders.

Through a gift in your Will, you can help IHC tackle these challenges.

You'll carry on IHC's powerful work, so New Zealanders with an intellectual disability can live with more safety, support, health and happiness in the years to come.



Your gift makes so much possible

A gift in your Will is a beautiful way to continue supporting the rights of people with intellectual disabilities and helping them live more meaningful lives.

Here are some of the services your gift will help continue into the future.

A community of care

IHC has more than 30 local associations, which work in most communities around the country. Fully funded by donations, they provide local activities, events, advice and support for people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

A treasured library

When her one-year-old daughter Saryn was diagnosed with Koolen-de Vries syndrome, her mum Kerry didn't know where to turn for information.

Her local library had no resources on Saryn's condition, but thankfully the IHC Library did. The IHC Library provides information on intellectual disabilities to more than 5,000 Kiwis each year, including parents like Kerry, teachers and health professionals.



Tailored support

IHC's Family-Whānau Liaison Service help families of young people and children with intellectual disabilities access funding and local support services. Because it's not funded by the government, IHC can adapt the service

for each region – whether parents need afterschool care or support for undiagnosed intellectual disabilities.

An online family

Awahi Ngā Mātua is a welcoming online community where parents of disabled children support and learn from each other.

It also has practical advice from experts, to help parents and families stay positive and resilient throughout their child's disability journey.

Life-changing connections

Research shows the most important factors in a long, healthy life are social integration and close relationships. For many reasons, people with intellectual disabilities often lack these life-enhancing friendships and connections.

That's why IHC matches people with intellectual disabilities with a volunteer buddy: someone who they can talk to, laugh with and who they know cares for them and who isn't a family member or paid to be there.

Services in your community

IHC is New Zealand's largest provider of residential home and day services & support for adults with intellectual disabilities.



How to leave a gift in your Will

Deciding on who will benefit from your Will is one of the most important and personal decisions you will make.

But the steps are very simple.

1. Speak to your loved ones

We encourage you to talk to your loved ones about your decision to leave a gift to IHC so they understand the importance of this gift to you and the difference you can make in so many lives.

It's important to remember you can provide for the people you love – and still leave a life-changing gift to IHC.

2. Visit your solicitor

Most Wills are prepared by a solicitor or trustee company, who will advise you on what you need to consider when making your Will.

You'll need to tell them who you want to benefit from your Will and who will act as your executors.

Here is some wording your lawyer may wish to use:

*"I give the gift of _____
(your lawyer will complete this) to
IHC New Zealand Incorporated
(registered charity number
CC22478), for its general purposes,
and I declare that a receipt given
by the Chief Executive or other
authorised officer shall be an
absolute discharge to my Trustees."*



Common questions about Gifts in Wills – and our answers!

Is it expensive or difficult to include IHC in my Will?

Not at all. We strongly recommend that you use the services of a solicitor to make your arrangements so that your Will accurately reflects what your wishes are. A solicitor will usually want to meet you, or have a discussion over the phone before drafting up a Will.

You'll have a chance to review and amend drafts of your will until you are completely happy and a final version of your will is created.

Can I change my existing Will to include IHC?

Absolutely. If you already have a Will, you simply need to get in touch with your solicitor to update your will to include a gift to IHC.

Can I look after my family and still include a gift to IHC?

Yes you can. As a very family-focused organisation, IHC suggests you put your family and loved ones first.

There are a number of ways you can also support IHC. The most common is to either leave a specific gift in your Will or, alternatively, some or all of your residuary estate, being the balance in your estate

after your gifts have been made and debts have been paid.

What about leaving property or other valuables?

You can certainly do this. We've had supporters who've left real estate, jewellery, shares and art – all items which tend to retain their value over time.

Is there a minimum amount I can leave?

Every gift will make a difference, and the amount you choose to leave is completely up to you. If you'd rather not commit to a dollar-amount, you can simply leave a gift of some or all of your residuary estate.

How can I ensure the impact of my gift to IHC into the future?

In 2007 IHC established the IHC Foundation, an endowment fund. Gifts to the IHC Foundation are invested and provide funding to support the lives and futures of people with intellectual disabilities and their families well into the future.

The cost of the IHC Foundation managing this fund long into the future are kept low to ensure the maximum ongoing impact for your legacy and wishes.

Two vital things to do when making or changing your Will:

1. Use a solicitor to make sure your Will is valid and accurately reflects your wishes
2. Include the correct details so your gift goes to: **IHC New Zealand Incorporated**

With a gift in your Will, you'll join wonderful New Zealanders like these.

They knew IHC's work aligned with their values – and wanted both to live on.

Like you, Colin cared deeply for people with intellectual disabilities.

"I have seen first-hand what a tremendous job IHC does in our rural communities.

The young and old with intellectual disabilities that we have helped live in their own communities, learning skills that will stand them in good stead, enjoying life with their friends and families.

Our country has come a long way from the institutions of a decade or two ago."

- Sir Colin Meads, KNZM MBE



For Sue, IHC has always been family.

"My sister Kathy was born with Down's Syndrome and a hole in the heart.

She was not expected to survive her first year, but defied the odds and lived until she was four, enjoying a reasonable quality of life.

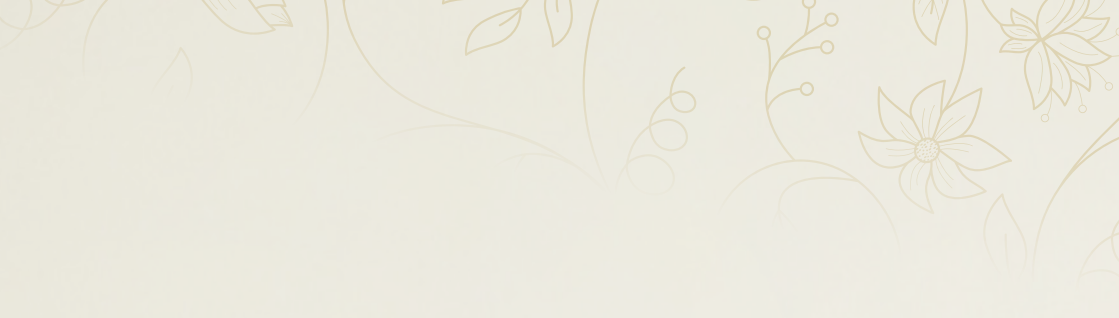
I would like to leave IHC a bequest in my will in memory of my sister Kathy, to support the work they do in our community for people with intellectual disabilities."

- Sue Lehman, IHC Supporter



Manukau City artist Charlize Wilson won the 2018 IHC Art Awards People's Choice Award for her work, Looking Out from the Inside.

Art is an important way many people with intellectual disabilities express themselves. The IHC Art Awards have been run annually since 2004, receiving hundreds of entries every year.



Help build a better future for people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Please get in touch if you would like to have a confidential, no obligation chat about leaving a gift in your Will to IHC.

We would love to answer any questions you have and talk to you about the meaningful impact you can make.

Phone: **0800 746 444**

Email: **bequest@ihc.org.nz**

Website: **ihc.org.nz/will**

Thank you for your consideration