Kia ora koutou,

With Mahuru (September) and the arrival of spring (kōanga), we are pleased to bring you our second e-pānui (newsletter). Kōanga is the season of renewal and growth - a fitting theme for the stories we share this month.

We're proud to share that Anglican Family Care recently participated in the Dunedin City Council's Zero Carbon Business Community programme.
This experience gave us practical tools to assess our greenhouse gas emissions, and to connect with other local organisations committed to reducing emissions and making more sustainable choices. It's a small but important step in ensuring we care not only for people, but also for Papatūānuku – our earth.

One of the stories we're sharing in this issue speaks to the very heart of why our mahi matters. Izzy, a mother of two young daughters, faced the challenges of separation without extended whānau support in Aotearoa. Through our Home-based Family Support service, we walked alongside her, offering encouragement, guidance, and practical tools to create a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for her tamariki. Without personalised, in-home support, many whānau risk becoming more isolated, and challenges can quickly escalate.

Ngā mihi nui for your ongoing support. We are deeply grateful to all who have contributed to our recent campaigns and fundraising efforts. Your aroha and generosity help us continue to be there for whānau when they need us most.

Together, we can continue to build stronger, more resilient communities across Otago.

Ngā mihi nui,
Lynette Finnie
General Manager

Annual General Meeting

Nau mai, haere mai – everyone is warmly invited to Anglican Family Care's AGM on **Wednesday 17 September** at **5.30pm** at **Elim Christian Centre**, 67 Harrow Street, Dunedin.

Refreshments will be provided.

We're delighted to welcome guest speaker Carmen Batchelor, Social Sector Partnership Lead at A3 Kaitiaki, who brings over a decade of experience in the social sector.

Carmen is a proud New Zealand born Samoan who loves bridging between cultures and is dedicated to servant leadership.

Carmen is currently the Social Sector Partner Lead for Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke kī te Otepoti (multi-agency collaboration nurturing strong families and communities impacted by family harm).

Carmen has worked in the social sector for 30 years and holds professional qualifications in social work and psychology bringing a wide range of experience across community, social sector, voluntary, policy, education and the government sector. She has held a diversity of roles throughout her career starting in front-line social work, moving to management, training and supervision roles, coaching, management, specialist practice advisory roles and senior leadership positions including governance roles.

Carmen is passionate about tamariki, rangatahi and whanau and community centred ways of being and ensuring that everyone has a place and space in their village. Carmen is relentlessly committed to system level advocacy that places tamariki and whanau at the heart of all we do. She is deeply committed to championing social sector leadership and well-being, collectively working with the sector to achieve sustainability, social justice and equity.

RSVP to **Communication@FamilyCare.org.nz**

Izzy's Journey to a Stronger Family

Parenting through a separation left Izzy* feeling overwhelmed and alone. Her two daughters, aged 7 and 9, were struggling with anger and defiance, and Izzy didn't know how to cope.

With the support of Anglican Family Care's Home-based Family Support Service and the Circle of Security programme, Izzy learned to understand the needs behind her daughters' behaviour and rebuild their connection.

"**I've realised how much they need me — not just for boundaries, but for love and support,**" she reflects.

Read Izzy's full story on our website: www.anglicanfamilycare.org.nz/whanau-stories
*some names have been changed to protect privacy

Good News!

Spaces now available in our Dunedin Family Start programme

We're pleased to let you know that our Dunedin Family Start programme is now able to take on new referrals, with spaces available for clients who are ready to engage.

To support more families, we've updated our referral criteria. Referrals are now open for children up to 12 months old, bringing us back in line with our rural sites. This change follows a temporary limit to 6 months, which helped us manage demand while we built capacity – and we're excited to now be able to extend our reach again.

Referrals can be made directly through our website: Dunedin Services | Anglican Family Care, or by sending completed referral forms to FamilyStartDunedin@FamilyCare.org.nz.

We look forward to continuing to work alongside you to connect whānau with the support they need.

How Our Community Supported Us

Your aroha and generosity keep us walking alongside whānau when they need us most.

Partnering with Otago University

Last month, we partnered with Professors Stephen Knowles and Ronald Peeters from the University of Otago's School of Economics on a donor matching research project exploring what motivates people to give.

Thanks to the share of $5,000 to support dollar-for-dollar matching (up to $50) to every donor who participated, we were able to better understand how generosity grows.

Midwinter LEGO® Appeal

A huge mihi to everyone who has donated Lego since our last pānui. Our Social Workers in Schools are thrilled – these gifts are not just toys, but tools for creativity, connection, and emotional expression.

We are still accepting donations of LEGO.

You can:
- Drop off donations at any Anglican Family Care office
- Or get in touch to arrange collection: Communication@FamilyCare.org.nz

Ongoing Fundraising Support

A special mihi to The Dunedin Cathedral – Dim Lights Youth Group, who raised over $1,000 through a three-hour Dance-a-thon – an incredible effort! Ngā mihi nui for every gift and gesture of support.

Pictured: Members of the St Paul's Cathedral Dim Lights Youth Group and musicians from the Pacific Lutheran College from the Sunshine Coast perform together at their fundraising dance-a-thon

Shout Out To...

A special thank you to Baker Brothers Dunedin and Jeremy and his team at GummyBear, we won $150 of yummy treats through their recent promo.

Pictured: Stacey (FMC team), Sarah (FMC team), Donna (FMC Manager), Jeremy (GummyBear General Manager), Lynette (AFC GM), Ivanna (GummyBear), Ness (GummyBear)

Ngā mihi nui to our generous community for your incredible support

- **Central Lakes Trust**
  – Three-year grant supporting Family Start, Home-based Family Support, and outsourced counselling to help build a resilient community.

- **Kingston Sedgfield Charitable Trust**
  – Supporting our mahi delivering intensive home-based social work.

- **Molly Fulton Family Fund**
  – Helping parents build confidence and create safe, nurturing spaces for their pēpi and tamariki.

- **Otago Community Trust**
  – Funding Home-based Family Support across Otago, the OCEANS Grief & Loss Programme in North Otago, and Central Otago services.

- **ACE Shacklock Charitable Trust**
  – Ensuring tamariki and their whānau receive sustained support when harm occurs within the family.

Kaimahi Spotlight

This month we're celebrating some very special work anniversaries in our Dunedin office!

💙 Jane Hutton, our Practice Manager, has reached an incredible 15 years of service with Anglican Family Care,
💙 Ngarangi Matthews, Family Start Team Leader, is also celebrating 15 years of service and
💙 Cathy Donald, Family Start Whānau Worker, is celebrating an amazing 25 years of service.

We are so grateful for the dedication, skills, and heart each of these kaimahi bring to our organisation. Congratulations Jane, Ngarangi and Cathy — what a wonderful achievement!

How You Can Help

Want to do some #GoodInTheHood?

Want to do some #GoodInTheHood?
Vote for us at Z Energy Andy Bay between 26 August and 22 September for us to receive a share of $5,000!

Grab a token with any purchase and pop it in the voting stand!
You are directly supporting our Social Workers in Schools service, which provides support for tamariki in five local Dunedin schools

Dunedin Brick Show

We were thrilled to be chosen as this year's recipient charity for the Dunedin Brick Show.

This will support the work we do across five low-decile schools in Dunedin and our Social Workers in Schools service. We look forward to seeing you at the More FM Stadium on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th October

September is Wills Month

Leave a Lasting Legacy

This September, we invite you to consider leaving a gift in your will to Anglican Family Care. Your legacy can help ensure future generations grow up in a community that is happy, healthy, nurtured, and safe – where tamariki are mentored and whānau feel supported through life's challenges.

For a confidential conversation about leaving a bequest, please contact Lynette Finnie.

How Does My Donation Help?

$20

provides a supermarket voucher towards a family's grocery bill

$50

helps provide a respite caregiver for a night

$100

contributes towards a whānau or social worker visiting a family in their home

Make a difference to Otago whānau
Donate today
www.anglicanfamilycare.org.nz/donate

How You Can Help

If you would like to support our mahi, you could:

- make a one-off or monthly donation direct to our bank account (02-0912-0018828-07) or via our website Anglican Family Care,
- share our Facebook or Instagram posts,
- nominate us for your workplace giving,
- refer a local business who might support our vehicle sponsorship goal,
- host or attend a fundraising event.

If you would like more information about how you can help, get in touch with one of our team by emailing us at Communication@FamilyCare.org.nz.