



# *Annual Report*

*1st April 2015 > 31st March 2016*

*Wellington Women's Refuge*

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## Organisational Overview

**This is our 38<sup>th</sup> year providing services to women and children in the Wellington Community. We work alongside our sister Māori Women's Refuge, Te Whare Rokioki who provide services to Maori women and children. Our services are confidential and we support women whether they choose to leave or stay in a relationship. We work in a holistic way with survivors of domestic violence; advocating in all areas that affect a woman's situation, referring as needed to other specialist organisations and walking alongside and empowering her to make safe decisions for the future.**

**Vision:** *All women & children living free from fear and violence.*

**Mission:** *Intervention, Prevention and Advocacy for all women and children experiencing domestic violence.*

**Who:** We work with women and their children who have experienced or who are experiencing domestic violence. Domestic violence involves one person dominating and controlling another person in a relationship.

This can include a range of power and control tactics and may not always involve physical violence; the abuse does not have to be physical violence for someone to access our service. The women we work with are from a range of ages, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and socio-economic backgrounds.

**Where:** The area we cover is Wellington city and surrounding suburbs up to but not including; Newlands/Johnsonville which is covered by Porirua Refuges and Petone which is covered by Hutt Refuges.

**How:** Wellington Women's Refuge provides support, information and advocacy to survivors of domestic violence; walking alongside and empowering them to make safe decisions for their future. We believe in women making their own decisions and don't put pressure on them to take steps they are not ready to or don't want to take. We will refer to other agencies as required and advocate with services such as police, lawyers, courts, housing, CYFS or Work & Income. We provide women and their children with the option of a safe place to stay, and also support

women and their children in the community. We operate a community office and a 24 hour crisis telephone line assisted by a roster of volunteers responding to the crisis line outside working hours.

**Structure:** We operate under a governance board, currently made up of six members; some who were already experienced volunteers with our organisation and others new to the organisation who were invited on for their skills and experience. Day-to-day operations are coordinated by our manager; we have a team of seven paid staff ensuring comprehensive services are available to clients and around 20 dedicated volunteers who support the organisation including filling the crucial role of answering the crisis-line outside of working hours.

**How to refer:** We are a free and accessible service; we don't have waiting lists for our crisis and social work support services. We take self-referrals as well as those that come from other people such as agencies, police, family and friends. A referral is as simple as a call to the crisis line or office.

## Manager's Report

Reflecting over another busy year, Wellington Women's Refuge can be proud of the work we do to support women and children to live free from domestic violence. Our positive achievements have been progressed through the dedicated work of our staff, volunteers and the support of our governing group.

A priority is providing day-to-day support for our team of staff to ensure we continue to provide a holistic and responsive service to women and children experiencing domestic violence. A strong focus is on building a supportive team environment, along with opportunities for professional development and stress management to ensure ongoing quality service to clients.

I am privileged to see first-hand many positive outcomes for women and children coming through our services and to hear excellent feedback about the work we do. I am proud of the skilled team we have at Wellington Women's Refuge. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each member of the team for their ongoing passion and commitment to the work that we do with limited resources.

Highlights this year have included a range of successful fundraising events supported by our community including a well organised Annual Appeal which is a great opportunity for engagement with our community as well as a source of much needed funding.

This year we have trialled and transitioned to a new national database which has required

significant staff time adapting to the new system & inputting data.

Two new services are Whanau Protect, which implements safety and security measures within the home this is a national contract offered via our National Office and also Strengthening Safety Services which is a Safety Planning Service via MOJ. We appreciate the opportunity to increase the options available to victims of domestic violence via these funded services.

As we look towards the year ahead we are committed to meeting challenges head-on and continuing to build on our innovative specialist services to support women and children to live lives free from fear and violence.

*Philippa McAtee, Manager.*



## **Chairs Report**



The year has flown by and here we are reflecting on another busy year for Wellington Women's Refuge with nearly 300 women receiving support as community or safe-house clients. We acknowledge that it is our staff and

volunteers who continue to provide a seamless service to women and children experiencing domestic violence.

We would like to thank the manager, Philippa McAtee for her dedication and leadership and the

staff who have continued to work tirelessly which is reflected in the statistics. The ongoing high demand for services can be challenging but they have demonstrated only commitment and compassion. Well done. We thank all of you.

As the governing group we have the privilege of overseeing and guiding the work of the organisation. This year a focus has been review and updating of policies and implementation of our strategic plan. Community engagement has been a strength; through uptake of our preventative education and also community fundraising events organised by supporters. Membership of the Governing Group has changed slightly over the year. We farewelled Lisa Matthews, Jo Douglas and Julie Bukutu their

contribution to our organisation during their time with us is gratefully acknowledged. We have welcomed on Julia Campbell, Elodie Berthe and Shelly Reet. We are pleased to have on board skilled women with a wide range of experience committed to working towards a violence free future for women and children.

I am delighted to be able to say that Wellington Women's Refuge is in very good health going forward and we look forward with enthusiasm to continued progress in the upcoming year.

**Governing Group Chair, Liana Shortland-Eruera**



## Support & Advocacy: Community Services

*Our community office based at level 1, 264 Cuba Street is open 9-5 weekdays. The office is easily accessible to clients and is a base for enquiries from the public, support work with clients, meetings, education and programme work.*

Over the past year, Wellington Women's Refuge has supported **245 women and 240 children** as community clients. This is on a par with the previous year showing the need for support from women and children in our community has remained steady. Our community clients may still be in an abusive relationship, have somewhere safe to stay, have come out of the safe-house, or the focus may be on remaining safe in their homes. Community clients are still very much in need of crucial ongoing support and advocacy.

The service provided to these clients includes a nonjudgmental and confidential listening ear, information, referrals and safety planning. Also provided is support and advocacy with other agencies such as police, lawyers, housing, Work & Income, CYFs and support through the court process.

The families we work with represent a diverse group of women and children from a variety of socio-economic and cultural backgrounds. These families show immense bravery and strength during a stressful and often traumatic time in their lives. The majority of families who access Wellington Women's Refuge do so through self-referrals and many are reaching out for the first time.



**Our three Community Social Workers Sahra, Sheena & Rita displaying onesies donated for our client by Friends of Refuge**

### **Community Client feedback forms 2015/16:**

*“I came away feeling calm and supported ”*

*“ They were able to refer me to other resources and support services ”*

*“No strings attached, I was able to contact them anytime”*

*“Lovely caring women who were incredibly supportive and well informed”*

*“ I feel comfortable contacting Refuge more than any other service as you have been the most supportive and consistent’*

*“Attended both a lawyer & police station with someone from Refuge, it was good having someone there with me”*

*“They are amazing! So supportive, helpful, patient & calming!”*

## Safe-house Support



*Kay Flude our Safe-house Coordinator has worked diligently over the last year to provide a welcoming atmosphere along with on-going support to all women and children staying in the safe-house.*

The Wellington Women's Refuge safe-house is a residential home at a confidential location where women and their children who are escaping domestic violence can be safe while they plan for their future. Coming into the safe-house is a huge and often frightening step and women can feel safe in the knowledge that their safety is our top priority and that their choices regarding their future will be listened to and respected.

During the year 2015/2014 we supported **51 women and 43 children** in our safe-house. These statistics show a 4% increase in women needing safe-house support and reflects the ongoing high need for our residential services. This has meant we at times struggled to provide beds to meet demand; on occasion we used a sofa bed in our lounge as an emergency bed. We also relied on our sister Refuge Te Whare Rokiropi to provide safe-house accommodation for our families when they had space. Despite the extra pressures at times

throughout the year we maintained our commitment to not turning away women needing safe-house accommodation for safety from domestic violence.

The average stay was **30 nights per family** this average includes women who may stay for one or two nights during a crisis and those who may stay a few months due to the need to ensure ongoing safety and also waiting for housing to become available.

We provide information, support, and advocacy to all families during their stay with us and this support carries on once the family returns to the community for as long as it is required. Thanks to generous donations from the public we are often able to assist families with furniture, bedding and other household items for their new home. This can make a significant difference to a family that may have had to leave their home with few of their belongings.

### Safe-house client feedback forms 2015/16:

*"I didn't feel like I had to do everything by myself, the house had everything I needed"*

*"I felt very well cared for, me and my daughter. When I first arrived I didn't have any money, Women's Refuge took me to the supermarket to buy food. On other occasions we used to regularly get food brought to the house in boxes. That meant a lot for us at the time."*

*"I had no idea the amount of different areas I would need help in getting set up and starting a new life"*

*"Very welcoming and warm, awesome place to reflect and a great and safe environment."*

*"We always had help with extra food and even lifts to appointments when I couldn't afford it."*

*"They were sympathetic and helpful with getting me out of the situation I was in, very helpful with moving and following up on my process of getting a house"*

## 24/7 Crisis Line

***Wellington Women's Refuge operates a 24/7 crisis line which received 1561 calls in the last year. This is a vital service as accessibility is a must for women experiencing domestic violence who may have limited opportunity to ring or need crisis support outside of our office hours.***

Our after-hours volunteers work from their homes, with an answering service connecting the phone calls through to their own phone. We are dependent on the huge number of hours donated by voluntary staff. Our crisis line offers a 'non-judgmental ear' for women experiencing domestic violence and also offers support, information & advocacy when requested. Sometimes a friend or family member of a woman experiencing family violence may call our crisis line for information.

***"without you guys I have no idea where women who need this support would go"***

***"Every person I have had the fortune to meet through Women's Refuge has been professional, clear in their knowledge and basically bloody amazing"***

***"Always contactable and available. I never felt I was a burden or problem to whomever I spoke to."***

## Volunteers

Wellington Women's Refuge is privileged to have a dedicated team of volunteers who are passionate about our Kaupapa of supporting women and children to live free from domestic violence. Volunteers' primary role is responding to the shared after-hours crisis-line for Wellington Women's Refuge and Te Whare Rokiropi, Maori Women's Refuge which they do after an initial intensive 62 hour training. From here they take on around 4 rosters a month providing support over the phone, and if needed going out to meet women at places such as hospital, police station, the safe-house or



**Ready to take calls on our shared crisis line! Trainers & Trainees from our 2015 "Women's Refuge Advocacy" Training. All new staff and volunteers complete the 51 hour, 8 week training for Wellington Women's Refuge and Te Whare Rokiropi.**

safe places close to where women are calling from. At the end of this financial year, Wellington Women's Refuge had 20 crisis-line volunteers.

In addition to their initial training our volunteers attend monthly supervision, occasional training opportunities and get-togethers. As members of our organisation volunteers contribute to the organisation with their skills and talents in other areas, including: spending time with women and children in the safe-house, strategic planning and collecting for our annual appeal.

***We like to take this opportunity to express how much Women's Refuge and the women and children of Wellington benefit from the time, energy and dedication of volunteers and their families and friends, who inevitably get roped in to supporting the cause as well, a big thank you to you all.***

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

— Margaret Mead



## Counselling



*Counsellor: Rachel Kiel-Taylor*

We contract a counsellor to provide an in-house counselling service. This service is made available to those clients who need, in addition to our social work services, some professional counselling to provide therapy and extra emotional support at a difficult time in their lives.

We are privileged to have Rachel providing this service she comes to this role as a registered counsellor with a counselling degree, as a qualified teacher and with 20 years' experience working in the domestic violence field.

Since initiating this service in the previous year we have found huge benefits for our clients to be able to access a specialist domestic violence counselling

service with no wait list and available in our community office which they are already familiar with and comfortable in.

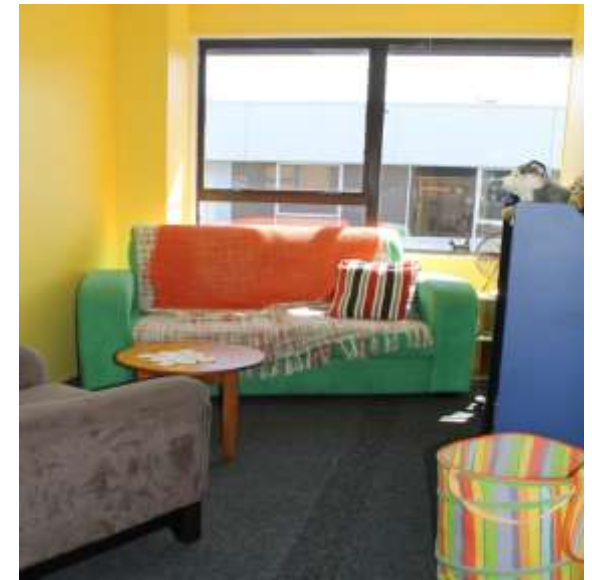
In this financial year 18 clients have completed counselling with Rachel. Counselling is usually for around 10 sessions however this can be flexible to meet need.

Outcomes for clients include; support with healing trauma, gaining clarity, enabling them with making choices, opening up new ways of thinking about things and relating to people, understanding, trusting, and valuing themselves.

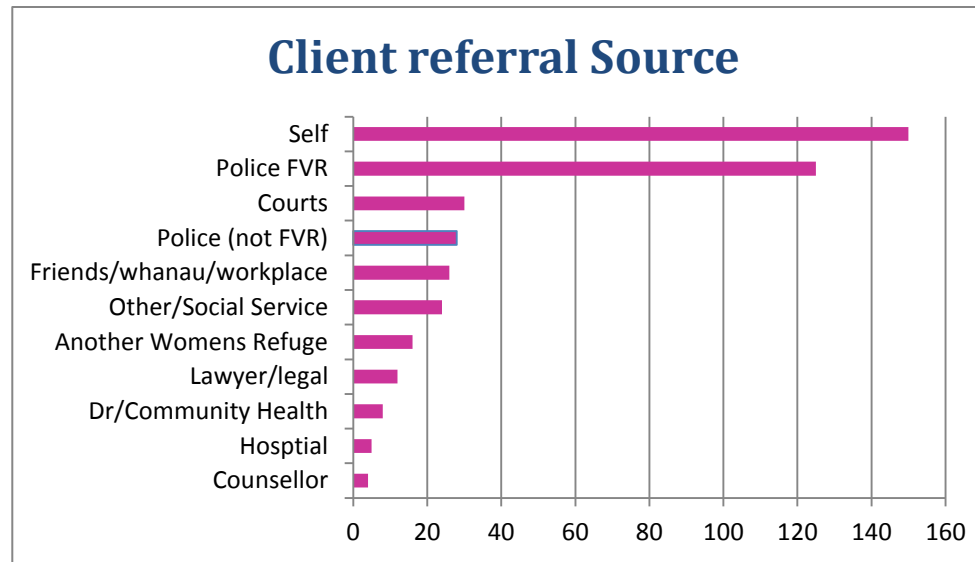
To ensure this service is able to be provided free to our clients we have managed to secure some grants and are committed to seeking ongoing funding to ensure this service continues.

*“I got the support & help I needed especially the counselling that I needed in order to recover & move on”*

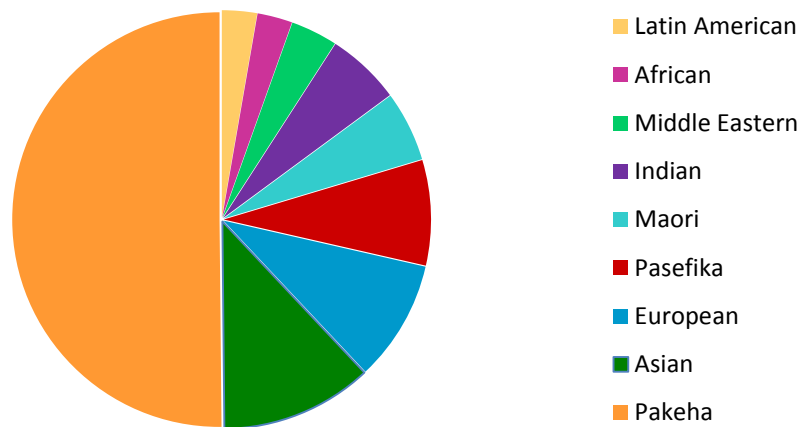
*Counselling Room >*



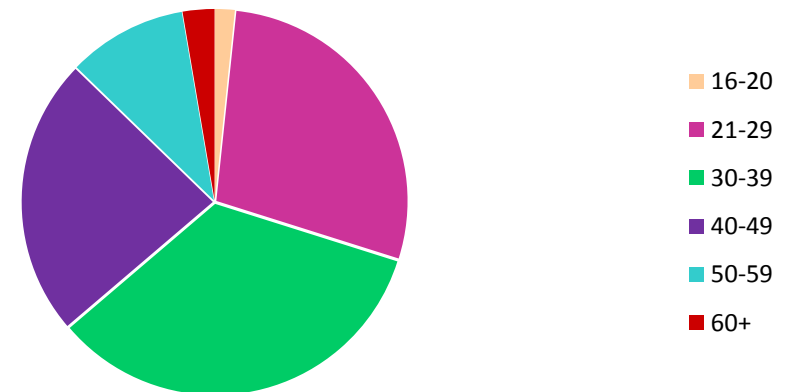
## Graphs 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016



### Ethnicity: Community & Safehouse



### Age of clients :Community & Safehouse



## Community Education

*Wellington Women's Refuge runs two streams of education: therapeutic education for women and children who have survived abuse and education focused on prevention and intervention for the wider community.*



**Kyla Rayner, Education & Programme Coordinator**

This year we held six full day workshops at our community office for any practitioners wanting to enhance their understanding and response to domestic violence and these were attended by 109 individuals. We have also built up a reputation for delivering practical and robust trainings and as a result were approached by some workplaces to deliver domestic violence trainings specific to their workplace or group. We delivered this to 11 different groups, reaching over 230 people. Some of the groups we delivered to were Evolve Youth Services, CCDHB Mental health Nurses, Boys and Girls Institute mentors and the Whitireira first year nursing students.

We also continue to attend speaking engagements, using every opportunity to educate our community about our services and how to support victims of domestic violence.

We have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from all of the attendees and community education continues to be a focus for Wellington Women's Refuge as part of our commitment to preventative as well as crisis work in the field of domestic violence.

## Women's Programme:

Our women's programme Hope, Revive, Flourish continues to go from strength to strength. This programme is facilitated by our Education and Programme Coordinator Kyla Rayner and Ange Chaney from Te Whare Rokioki, Māori Women's Refuge. We currently have facilitators who identify as

Maori, Pasefika and Pakeha and our commitment to considering the needs of diversity means that the programme is responsive to a wide range of women and it continues to evolve to meet the needs of women coming through the program.

This year in order to meet demand and best fit the lives of our clients we made the decision to offer an evening program and ran three programs over the course of the year with 34 women accessing the group.

***"My confidence improved I got stronger and therefore my baby girls wellbeing improved"***

***"The Women's Programme helped me significantly. When I started the programme I was still with my partner, he assaulted me .....the skills I learnt help me ensure it didn't escalate to be even more serious than it was. I called the police and he was arrested.....previously I might not have been strong enough to follow through with the process."***

## Tamariki Programme

The Tamariki Programme is a 10-session programme for 5-8 year olds, coordinated by Kyla Rayner, focusing on what abuse looks and feels like, keeping safe, and involving parents in developing positive communication skills for understanding and sharing feelings. In order to be responsive to the Tamariki we work with, a decision was made to employ a male co facilitator and we are incredibly happy to welcome Dylan Sofa to the team. Dylan is of Maori and Samoan descent and brings a range of skills to his Tamariki program work. It has been a great opportunity to role model co gender respect and partnership in this space and the children and parents have welcomed this change.



**Dylan Sofa: Tamariki Programme Co-Facilitator**

It is incredibly rewarding to see children flourish in the programme and the success of the programme is evident in the positive changes reported by parents. Fourteen children completed the Tamariki programme in the 2015/16 year.

We are privileged to receive external supervision for this programme by Dr Ruth Gammon, director of the Massey University Wellington Psychology Clinic. This brings a depth of analysis and support to our Tamariki work and provided opportunities to some of our families to access further family therapy through the Massey clinic.

### **Quotes from Evaluations for Children's Programme 2015/16:**

*"My kids now know that none of the bad things that might happen between the parents – that this is not their fault, my kids are not the reason for the abuse"*

*"He has enjoyed coming along to group and has started talking about what is happening for him"*

*"She is much more able to express her feelings and identify behaviours at home that make her sad/uncomfortable/worried".*

*"she is more assertive and confident. Better able to deal with difficult situations and emotions."*



## Collaboration

***We endeavour to establish strong working relationships with relevant agencies and organisations to ensure the best possible outcomes for the women and children we work with. Some of the collaborative work we do is explained below.***

### Police

Our collaboration with the police enables us to contact women after police call-outs to family violence incidents to offer support from Wellington Women's Refuge. For many women this is a time of crisis - when they are looking at their options and are in need of information, support and a confidential listening ear. Next to self-referrals, our largest numbers of referrals come from the police. Over the past year we have received **732 family violence reports (polFVR) from police**, this is a similar level to the previous year. We attend weekly case management meetings with police, courts, probation, CYFS and others to ensure that families are receiving appropriate follow up and support and to identify when further support may be needed.

**Feedback from women contacted by us after being referred by police following a 111 domestic violence call out:**

*"I felt very loved and supported with such a horrible thing to go through, being contacted was a blessing because I knew I wouldn't be alone to face the situation"*

*"was very nice being able to have the Women's Refuge and police working together and supporting me and my kids"*

**Te Rito Wellington Family Violence Network:** This network comprises a diverse group of government and non-government organisations that meet monthly for support and sharing of family violence agency issues. Members are committed to mobilise projects to raise awareness and collaborate in the area of family violence. Wellington Women's Refuge is on the strategic group, attends the monthly meetings for those working in family violence prevention and service provision, and also supports this network to provide family violence training to the community.

**Strengthening Families:** We have continued to be a partner agency with the Strengthening Families network. This initiative brings together a family and all the organisations supporting that family to together develop an action plan that meets family's needs. We believe we bring an understanding of domestic violence to this collaborative work.

**National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges:** We feel privileged to be an affiliated member of our national collective giving us the benefit of a national voice, national contracting and participation in a movement with a shared kaupapa. We attend national and regional hui where we can spend time with our sister Refuges sharing support, resources, ideas, and working together on issues we are facing in our work. Our manager Philippa McAtee is currently Tauwi Chair on the national governing body: Te Taumata O Te Kowhai Core Group."

**Te Whare Rokiroki, Māori Women's Refuge:** We work alongside our sister Refuge in a mutually supportive and beneficial way. Over recent years we have continued to build on our partnership in practical ways collaborating to share resources and services such as shared annual appeal, donation van, after hours crisis line, training and delivery of women's and children's programmes. Since moving into shared side by side office space our collaborative relationship has further solidified.

## Treasurers Report



Treasurer, Olga Pleijte with son Byron

As the figures on the following 2 pages show Wellington Women's Refuge recorded a total income of \$516,392. for the financial year 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016. The total expenditure was \$564,169. Although the resulting balance is a net deficit of \$47,777, we do have funds to offset this which have come in under the following financial year.

Grant funding was successful this year due to the great work from our Funding Co-ordinator and Manager. We were able to fund our counselling service with two new grants – Four winds Foundation, and the Lion Foundation.

From Lotteries we received funding for two staff to attend the International Women's Shelter Conference.

Excellent work from our Education & Programme Coordinator has resulted in high

demand for Community Education with an increase in income for this service.

Our Womens Programme and Strengthening Safety Services funding streams have also increased due to increase in funded referrals from MOJ with whom we are contracted to provide these services. Alongside the contracts that come through our National Office it was a great boost for WWR.

We would like to extend our appreciation to the Margaret Ann Tibbles Trust for a bequest of \$5,860.

Thanks to Deloitte Chartered Accountants, particularly Audit Partner Trevor Deed who again completed our audit for the year ending 31 March 2016. Again, it was a qualified audit with no matters of concern arising.

## Wellington Women's Refuge Group Incorporated

### Statement of Financial Performance For the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

	<i>Note</i>	<i>2016</i> \$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Grants & Contracts	<b>1</b>	373,719
Project Income	<b>1</b>	55,864
Donation Income	<b>1</b>	68,670
Investment Income	<b>1</b>	18,139
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<u>516,392</u>
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Employment related	<b>2</b>	408,169
Costs related to activities providing products and services	<b>2</b>	48,662
Other expenses	<b>2</b>	107,338
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<u>564,169</u>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		<u>(47,777)</u>

## Wellington Women's Refuge Group Incorporated

### Statement of Movement In General Funds For the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

	<i>2016</i> \$
General Funds at Start of Year	392,175
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(47,777)
General Funds at End of Year	<u>344 398</u>

*This financial information is extracted from the full financial statements which are available on request*

# Wellington Women's Refuge Group Incorporated

## Statement of Financial Position As at 31 March 2016

		2016 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Current Bank Accounts	3	203,486
Accounts Receivable		2,045
Interest Accrual		4,024
Total Current Assets		209,555
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Fixed Assets per Schedule	4	13,357
G & K Day Trust Investment		225,599
Total Non-Current Assets		238,956
TOTAL ASSETS		448,511
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable & Accruals		32,695
Employee Entitlements		30,521
GST Payable		21,799
Funds belonging to another Organisation		13,750
Grants Received in Advance	5	5,348
Total Current Liabilities		104,113
NET ASSETS		344,398
Represented by:		
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings		344,398
TOTAL EQUITY		

*This financial information is extracted from the full financial statements which are available on request*



## Fundraising

*In the challenging economic environment we continue to put a lot of thought and energy into seeking funding. We face the challenge to meet not only the significant operating costs of our crisis and social work services but also find ways to expand our services to include a strong preventative element to our work, ensure quality services for both women and children, and be able to provide on-going support and training for staff and volunteers.*

**Annual Appeal:** this is run jointly with Te Whare Rokiroki, Maori Women's Refuge, with the total being shared between the two Refuges. This year our annual appeal achieved a **total of \$39,410**. This was a great total and we are very grateful for the wonderful support we receive from our community, without which could not continue the vital work we do in the Wellington community. We would like to thank the dedicated collectors and site managers who braved the cold weather to collect for us, and to Kyla Lyons who co-ordinated the joint appeal this year with the support of Jo Cattermole, together they put in a lot of effort and enthusiasm to help make the event a success.



## Fundraisers

**Show Some Love**, a variety Fundraiser, organised by Hadassah Grace in response to domestic violence stories in the media raised \$1810 for Wellington Women's Refuge & Te Whare Rokiropi



**Extraordinary Tales of Strength & Daring** with a talented line-up of performers was organised by Natasha and team raised \$1150 for Wellington Women's Refuge.



**Stages of Cheer** a Bats Theatre Production put on by the "Making Friends Collective" Raised \$1202. for Wellington Women's Refuge & Te Whare Rokiropi



**The Makers**, artesian Jewelry collective. Raised \$554 for Wellington Women's Refuge.



## Acknowledgements

**Funders and Supporters:** We are hugely appreciative of our funders who keep our service going by providing funds for salaries, rent and general operating costs. We also get a wonderful amount of support from our community in the form of bequests, regular donations, payroll giving and one- off cash donations from individuals, businesses, community organisations and education institutions. These make up a significant portion of our income and are vital to our operation.

*As a charitable organisation we depend upon donations and grants to fund our work. We would like to acknowledge the following organisations for their support.*

<b>Funder</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>MSD via NCIWR</b>	Direct services to family and whanau.	<b>\$160,000</b>
<b>Lotteries Community Fund</b>	This grant went towards the salaries of our Manager and a Community Social Worker/Women's Advocate.	<b>\$60,000</b>
<b>Wellington City Council</b>	We have a 3 year partner contract with the WCC to deliver services to our community. This was put towards the salaries of our paid Social Workers/Community Advocates.	<b>\$35,630</b>
<b>Lion Foundation</b>	Counselling	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Wellington City Council Betty Campbell Grant</b>	Funding towards office rent costs	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>COGS - Community Organisation Grants</b>	This funding was granted towards a Community Social Worker/Women's Advocate salary.	<b>\$9,625</b>
<b>Graeme Eskrigge Trust</b>	Funding for in-house counselling	<b>\$1,075</b>
<b>Children's Foundation</b>	Fresh fruit, dairy, vegetable and general grocery supplies for women and children in our service.	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>John Illot Trust</b>	Funding for in-house counselling	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Margaret and Winton Bear Trust</b>	Funding for child advocate salary	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>John Mitchell McLachlan Fund</b>	For Farisha	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Ministers Discretionary Fund</b>		<b>\$10,454</b>
<b>Four Winds Foundation</b>	Counselling	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>CH Izard Bequest</b>	Counselling	<b>\$3,500</b>
<b>KPMG Business Women's Dinner</b>	Donations raised for Wellington Women's Refuge & Te Whare Rokioki	<b>\$2548.</b>

## **Businesses, Individuals & Community Organisations who Support Wellington Women's Refuge**

***We really appreciate the support we receive from our community. There are so many people who have assisted, supported, offered skills or resources or stood alongside us in our work. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our sincere admiration, respect and thanks to the following:***

- 👤 Our dedicated, motivated, wonderful volunteers, we ask so much from our volunteers and they give to this cause with so much energy and aroha. We are very grateful for everything you bring.
- 👤 Good Bitches Baking, for the delectable baking delivered on a weekly basis for our clients.
- 👤 Our inspiring and skilled lawyers at Cuba Family Law who are so dedicated to working in the area of domestic violence - Margaret Powell, Wendy Davis, Liz Lewes, Fiona Miller, and Team.
- 👤 The Wellington police force, particularly the domestic violence intervention team.
- 👤 Khandallah New World for hosting a food collection bin for our safe-house.
- 👤 Our sister Refuge Te Whare Rokiroki who provide a service for Maori women in the Wellington community and moral and collaborative support for Wellington Women's Refuge.
- 👤 Doctor Helen Rodenburg and colleagues for the generosity and understanding shown to our clients.
- 👤 IT guru Jethro Carr and who donated his time to give free I.T. support.
- 👤 Wellington Quilters Guild- for their continued donation of beautiful handmade quilts.
- 👤 Deloitte who once again completed our 2015/2016 financial audit pro-bono.
- 👤 We greatly appreciate the support we receive from the community of Wellington. The bequests, regular donations via automatic payment, payroll giving and the one off cash donations that we receive from individuals, businesses, community organisations and education institutions make up a significant portion of our income. In addition to cash donations, we receive many donations of clothing, toiletries, toys, food, furniture, and household goods, and other items which are of great benefit to our clients.

***Our final tribute goes to the women and children with whom we have worked with, and learnt from over the last year. Your strength, dignity and spirit are a constant source of courage and inspiration for us all.***



Check out our website at:

[www.wellingtonwomensrefuge.co.nz](http://www.wellingtonwomensrefuge.co.nz)

Check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wellington-Womens-Refuge/175339925905470>



***"I am so grateful, I would never have come though domestic violence without you, you are integral for women across New Zealand. Women's Refuge needs to be recognised as the Number 1 expert on domestic violence in New Zealand and get more funding from government!"***

- *Client feedback March 2016*