



DRAFT Annual Report 2025 – Tairawhiti Community Voice Inc.



Karen Whitehead, TCV Chair and MS Field Officer

Message from the outgoing Chair

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa – Let us keep close together, not far apart

This beautiful whakatauki reminds us of the importance of fostering unity and whanaungatanga. Keeping connected and valuing our collective strengths.

The purpose of the Tairawhiti Community Voice Network (TCV) is to keep community organisations ‘close together’. To maintain and strengthen a network of social service providers and community organisations. We keep people connected by delivering monthly network meetings where people working in the community can connect, share and learn. We also send out regular newsletters and share the important notices from our member groups across the network. We believe this is a very worthwhile purpose and

we truly appreciate all our members and the great korero they share at each monthly meeting.

Tairawhiti Community Voice Network has had a very exciting year. We have realised a long-held vision of creating a warm, vibrant shared space for our network members, and wider community to use at no or low cost to each individual group. In this way, we have extended our reach and usefulness to the providers (and their clients) that we are here to support. Securing the lease of the Hall at Arohaina Village at 396 Aberdeen Road, Gisborne has been a significant milestone for us.

As a concept first promoted by our network decades ago, and championed by Nona Aston, a shared space with shared resources was seen as an important vehicle for increasing collaboration and cooperation between community organisations. We also acknowledge that it is important to funders that their investment into the community sector reaches as far and wide as possible to have the biggest impact. With one investment into TCV, our funders are supporting multiple organisations all at once. We are grateful for their continued support.

As rising costs continue to impact our community, it is increasingly important that we find practical ways to share the resources needed to best serve the people of Tairawhiti. Over the past 12 months, Tairawhiti has again felt the effects of a constrained funding environment resulting in reduced programmes and less services being available. This impact includes the closure of some services.

Establishing the Tairawhiti Community Voice Hall has taken significant time and effort from our coordinator Tracy Bacon and we recognise and appreciate her efforts to make the hall not just a reality, but a real success story. It is now a welcoming and inclusive place that all groups have access to. Bookings of the Hall are increasing and the facility is being well utilised.

The experience of being the Chair of our network has given me an opportunity to grow in confidence and knowledge. I am now excited to hand over the reigns to a new Chairperson for 2026 and I give my warm welcome to Leslynne Jackson who steps into the role in March 2026. I will be remaining on the Executive Committee and turning my focus to the wider work programme of the group. Read on, to learn more about what we are doing next.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at our next monthly Network meeting, and hearing about the great work that you and your organisation are doing too.

Nga mihi,

Karen Whitehead

Tairawhiti Community Voice - What we do

Our purpose is to add value to social services and community organisations in our community. This year, our coordinator Tracy Bacon has been working hard to achieve;

- Sourcing furniture and equipment to set up the Hall
- Setting up a booking system for use of the hall
- Ensuring all health and safety requirements for use of the hall are met
- Moving the TCV office from Palmerston Road into the TCV Hall
- Supporting groups to access and make use of the hall
- Working with Jan to redecorate and refresh the hall with a fresh coat of paint
- Encouraging new groups to join
- Keeping the network abreast of key issues affecting our sector and securing guest speakers to keep us all informed of topical issues
- Setting up a new TCV accounting system using Xero, which will enable us to better report on our financial and other accountabilities.
- Completing all tasks of her role, including network meetings, updating social media and sharing information to member groups.

Our executive committee members

Our executive committee members are volunteers who work on behalf of our network. The committee members are;

- Karen Whitehead (Chair), Barbara Clarke, Michelle Duley, and Leslynn Jackson
- At our last AGM, we thanked Angela Bull (Brain Injury) for her service to our network as she stepped down from the committee after two years.
- We are delighted to welcome Karen Newman (Police) to our committee. We know Karen brings a wealth of knowledge and skills to the group – welcome Karen!

We are recruiting! We are actively seeking expressions of interest from network members who would like to join our executive committee. Being part of our committee is interesting work, and we make it as much fun as we can. Being involved is a great opportunity to give back to the community or to gain new skills in governance and decision-making. If you are interested, please get in touch. We would love to hear from you.

Our executive committee has also worked tirelessly to build the strength and capability of our network. Over the past two years, we've completed several key actions including:

- Completion of a business case and funding applications for establishing the TCV Hall at Arohaina
- Entering Lease arrangements with Riversaint Villages

- Connecting our network to opportunities to engage with groups such as Office of the Children’s Commissioner and Manaaki Tairāwhiti
- Refreshing our strategic plan and other key documents

TCV is looking ahead

This is no time to rest on our laurels. We have an even busier schedule of work planned for our committee and coordinator, including;

- Introducing a new Network meeting specifically for Managers. We know that Managers handle a unique set of challenges and we’d like to help them share their knowledge and experiences with one another.
- Reviewing all TCV policies and procedures to ensure they are robust and up to date
- Seeking ongoing sustainable funding to keep the TCV Hall available at low or no cost to our network and the wider community
- Expanding opportunities for volunteers to be involved with TCV, recruiting and training new volunteers
- Building the strength of our network and encouraging new members to join
- Ensuring the mix of guest speakers and topics for discussion at our network meetings are relevant, interesting and of value to our network
- Making sure we hear your issues and concerns and can be responsive to the needs of the network.
- In Partnership with Gizzy Kai Rescue, we are soft launching a project to make kai more available to users of the hall and older people living in the neighbourhood.

A special project we are facilitating over the next 12 months is in partnership with the **New Zealand Stroke Foundation**. We are excited to be supporting the delivery of the Stroke education programme, connecting our network and wider community to the very effective F.A.S.T Training sessions. Our trainer can come to your workplace and deliver the training as part of your regular staff meetings, or tailor a session that is convenient for your staff or service users. Please reach out to us to find out more.

2025 At a Glance

Jan – no meeting held in January

Feb - Network meeting

March - Network meeting

April- Network meeting

May- Network meeting

June - Network meeting

July - Network meeting

August – Network meeting

Sept – AGM and Presentation of Nan Evans Award. Services Expo at the Hospital

Oct - Network meeting

Nov – Combined VFTN and TCV Network meeting with Presentation from Manaaki Tairāwhiti

Dec – Christmas get together

Nan Evans Award – 2025

At our AGM in October, we celebrated dedicated volunteer manicurist Wendy Carstens as this year’s winner of the Nan Evans Award. Wendy was nominated by MS Society Gisborne East Coast. Carstens gives free manicures and hand massages to the clients of MS Society Gisborne East Coast who enjoy being pampered and the social contact. She drives around Gisborne using her own petrol and her own wide array of nail polishes and hand creams. Carstens, upon receiving the award, said her MS clients “are the heroes”.



Wendy Carstens (left) receives the Tairāwhiti Community Voice's Nan Evans Award from MS Society Gisborne East Coast field officer Karen Whitehead.

Feedback from our network

We are always looking for new ways to get feedback from our network. Feedback from groups who have used the TCV Hall have told us;

- **“Great venue”** Ali Gibson
- **“(The hall) Feels like home to a lot of people now”** Barbara Clarke



Image: TCV Hall before it was furnished and decorated

And now...





TCV Facebook Page

We have an active social media presence through our TCV Facebook page which has 766 followers. We use the Facebook page to share information from our member groups and connect them to a wider audience. If you have any feedback for us, or messages you would like us to share, please get in touch with Tracy or Karen.

If you are not yet following us – please do and share our posts to help us reach more people in Tairāwhiti.

Funders and Partnerships

Our sincere thanks to our funders, TCV is reliant on grant funding to keep our network going. This year we were grateful to receive funding from the following organisations;

- Trust Tairāwhiti
- Lotteries New Zealand
- Eastern & Central Community Trust (ECCT)
- Community Organisations Grants Scheme (COGS)

This valuable funding enables TCV to have our paid network Coordinator, who keeps our network alive, or to lease the Hall premises which is available for use by our network, or wider groups in the community.

Key Stakeholders

- Arohaina Village – thank you to our landlord and neighbours, we appreciate working alongside you.
- Gizzy Kai Rescue
- Care and Craft
- Resene Paint Store
- Violence Free Tairāwhiti – we are scheduling regular combined meetings with VFTN to connect the family violence network with our TCV members. This is a great way to cross pollinate and strengthen our knowledge of who is working in our community.

Annual Financial Statement - Below is our annual financial statement.

		
Opening Balance	\$41,926.26	27 June 2024
Closing Balance	\$56,560.89	30 June 2025
	June 2025	June 2024
Term Deposit	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lotteries	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
ECCT	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Trust Tairawhiti	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00
COGs	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Membership	\$840.00	\$510.00
Grassroots Central Trust	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Interest Received	\$805.07	\$709.68
Donations	\$0.00	
Amount Received	\$56,645.07	\$47,219.68
Payroll	\$30,775.33	\$26,797.85
Cellphone	\$110.00	\$117.00
Groceries/Catering	\$401.53	\$185.02
CNA Membership	\$57.50	\$57.50
TCV Mtg	\$270.00	\$300.00
Website renewal	\$340.93	\$202.50
Miscellaneous	\$150.41	\$0.40
Office Space (Rent)	\$4,983.24	\$4,446.45
Advertising	\$148.09	\$407.54
Community Events	\$4,806.19	\$400.00
Expense Total	\$42,043.22	\$32,914.26
Income-Expense Total	\$14,601.85	\$14,305.42

We are very grateful to Rosie Douglas, our independent auditor. Her report signed and dated 20 July 2025 is below.

Monday 20th July 2025

To: Tairawhiti Community Voice Incorporated


Dear Tracy

I have reviewed the Balance Sheet Report and Bank Statements for the Year 1st July 2024 to 30th June 2025.

I am satisfied that the Accounts present a true and fair record of the transactions made during the 2024/2025 Financial year.

No payment is required for my time.

Yours faithfully



Rosie Douglas
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Inner Kaiti
Gisborne 4010

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Our network

As always we are proud of all our network members and the incredibly important work they do in service of our community. Adults, children and families are reliant on the support that you provide, and we are here to help you to connect, learn and share. Our network members are;

Organisation	Phone	Website
Alzheimers Gisborne Tairawhiti	06 8670752	facebook.com/alzheimers gisborne
Anglican Care Waiapu	06-927 7070	https://tehaparafamilyservices.acw.org.nz/
Barnardos	068691340	https://barnardos.org.nz/our-work
Brain Injury Association Gisborne	0273275499	https://www.facebook.com/biag.officer
Care and Craft Gisborne	021 111 5551	https://www.facebook.com/GisCareandCraftCentre/
CCS Disability Action Group	068671249	https://www.ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz/
Deaf Aotearoa	021459005 text only	https://www.deaf.org.nz/
Epilepsy Association	0800 EPILEPSY	https://epilepsy.org.nz/
Geneva Healthcare	0800 436 382	https://www.genevahealth.com/
Gisborne Budget Moni Ora	068677173	www.moniora.org.nz
Gisborne Citizens Advice Bureau	068672606	www.cab.co.nz
Gisborne East Coast Cancer Society	068671795	https://www.cancer.org.nz/
Gisborne East Coast Multiple Sclerosis	068688842	https://www.facebook.com/MS.Gisborne
Gisborne Presbyterian Parish	068685513	www.standrewgis.org.nz
Gisborne Volunteer Centre	068684522	gisbornevolunteercentre.org.nz
Heart Foundation	06-868 5890	www.heartfoundation.org.nz

HB Williams Library	06-867 6709	https://www.facebook.com/GisborneLibrary
Hospice Tairawhiti	068690552	hospicetairawhiti.org.nz
Idea Services	068726600	idea.org.nz
Your Way Kia Roha	0800008011	https://www.yourwaykiaroha.nz/
Poverty Bay Wairoa Federation of Womens Institute	06 868 9586	
Gisborne St John	06-868 5640	https://www.facebook.com/stjohngisborne
Stroke Foundation Tairawhiti	068632716	www.stroke.org.nz/tairawhiti
Sunshine Services	068672905	sunshineservice@xtra.co.nz
Manaaki Tairawhiti	0224366770	leslynne@manaakitairawhiti.nz
Tairawhiti Environment Centre	06 867 4708	http://tairawhitienviro.nz/
Tairawhiti Technology Trust	021 2582474	barnzandpolly@gmail.com
Te Kupenga Net Trust - Te Waharoa	068683550	admin@tekupenga.co.nz
The Salvation Army	(06) 868 9468	gisborne.corps@salvationarmy.org.nz
Workbridge	0508 858 858	workbridge.co.nz
YMCA Gisborne	06 867 9259	info@ymcagisborne.org.nz