

Annual • Report • 2020

Vision:

To see a generation of young people empowered to reach their maximum potential, physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually so they can be contributors to a healthy community.



DIRECTOR REPORT:

2020 has been a year of disruption, change and adapting....

Through all of this Epic has remained a constant presence for the young people both online and in person. Due to this we have focused on what it means to maintain CONNECTION with young people through all the changes going on around us. Part of our strategy for this was to increase our presence in our local schools and set a goal of gathering and investing into the stories of young people.

We created an intentional tool for this process that helped us share our story and learn the story of youth. This was a powerful process that showed us the foundation of CONNECTION comes through the reciprocating process of sharing our stories.

Youth work has the wonderful ability to teach young people the skills that will increase their wellbeing and resilience as well as their skills and capabilities.

This starts and grows out of:

CONNECTION

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

EXPERIENCES THAT INVEST INTO INDIVIDUALS

AND

THE SHARING OF OUR STORIES

Thankyou for your continued support and may these stories that are shared through this report give you further insight into the importance of consistent youth work in our community.

Over the last 16 years of developing Epic I have gained many rich stories that fill my memories. They go with me as we prepare to move on from this journey and they have helped shape a deeper understanding of:

FRIENDSHIP AND CONNECTION – BELONGING IN COMMUNITY – WAIRUA

GENEROSITY – WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA – MANA



Welcome to the team Pepi Tama

When we share our stories with each other we strengthen relationships, we invite people to speak into our journey and in turn they help shape our stories – it grows us. We have found that all our stories contain common elements and it is through modelling and learning how to share these things that we grow. **The basic elements are:**

Each of these areas creates your unique story. It is our teams aim that by working through activities with young people on each of these areas we help to increase their wellbeing and resilient factors:

CONNECTEDNESS, SELF-ESTEEM, CARE, SELF-AWARENESS, POTENTIAL

As well as help young people develop the following skills:

CRITICALLY THINKING, DECISION MAKING, COMMUNICATION, CARING FOR OTHERS AND PARTICIPATING AND CONTRIBUTING.

The team have created their own version of these which they use to share with young people and these will feature first as part of this report.

We have a dedicated team that continue to work consistently across a number of areas to be able to then sit down with groups of youth and share in this way. This year that has included

In school, After school and Camp initiatives being maintained even though slightly interrupted by lockdown. These platforms continue to build the experiences required to see young people be part of community experiences that grow and develop them.

We celebrate another two students graduating with a diploma in youth and community studies that have come out of these initiatives and are now working to give back to other young people. This is our vision in action and is a real honor to have seen them come right through the process.

This report will expand on what the team have been up to across the three areas and share some of the stories gathered from young people.

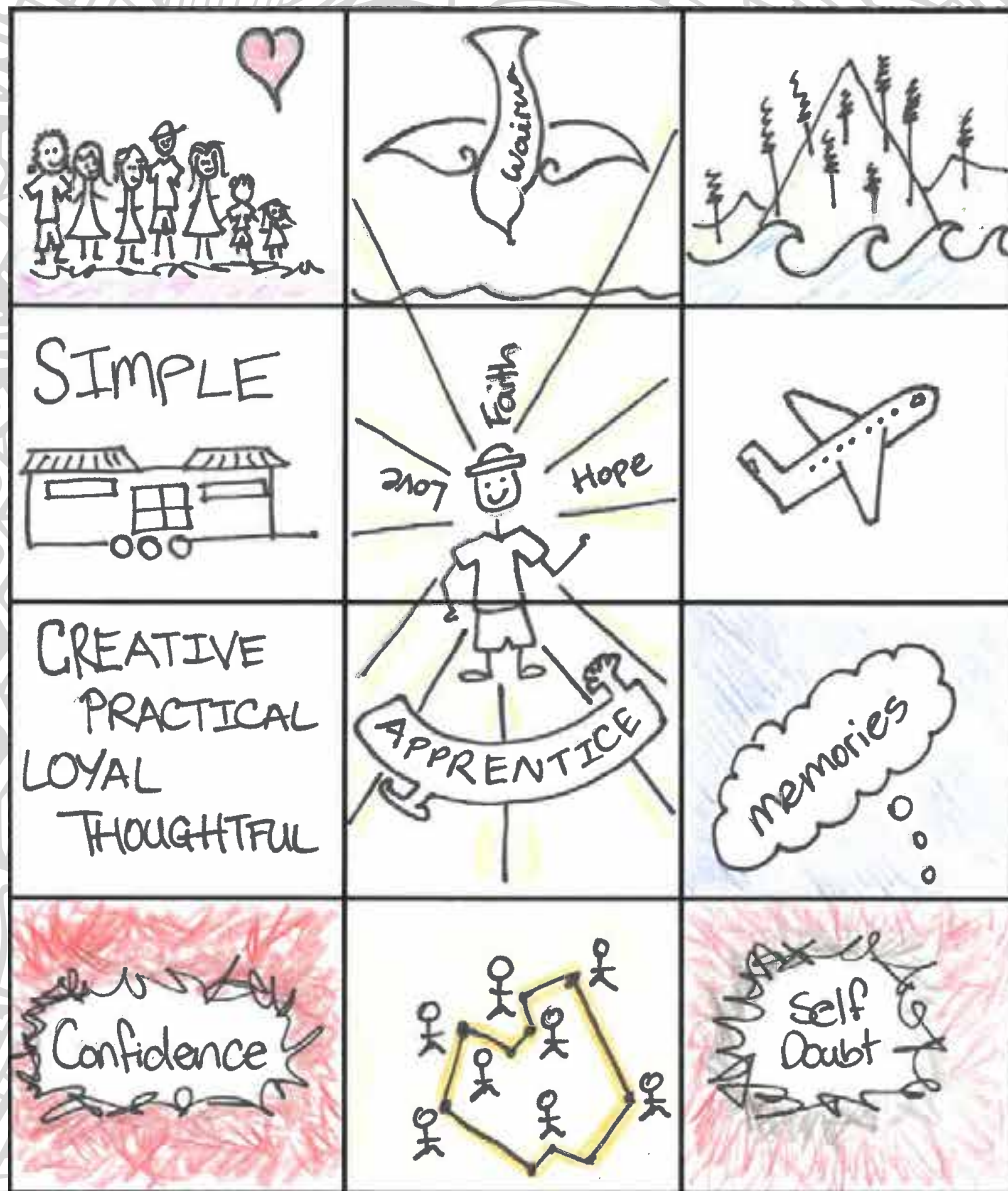
Nga mihi nui

Tama Bucknell

Epic Director

Experiences that IMPACTED US	have	
Whanau	Friends	Qualities
HOPE	How we see Ourselves	DREAM
Weakness FEARS	STRENGTHS	Struggles

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



As I reflected on my story I looked for the key ideas, thoughts, beliefs that had been passed down to me and influenced how I want to live my life. They have been placed in the centre as they flow into all areas of my life.

This is like being an 'apprentice' and refers to the commitment to lifelong learning.

At the foundation of my story card are the areas I have always struggled with and an image of community that has helped me continue to find my way.

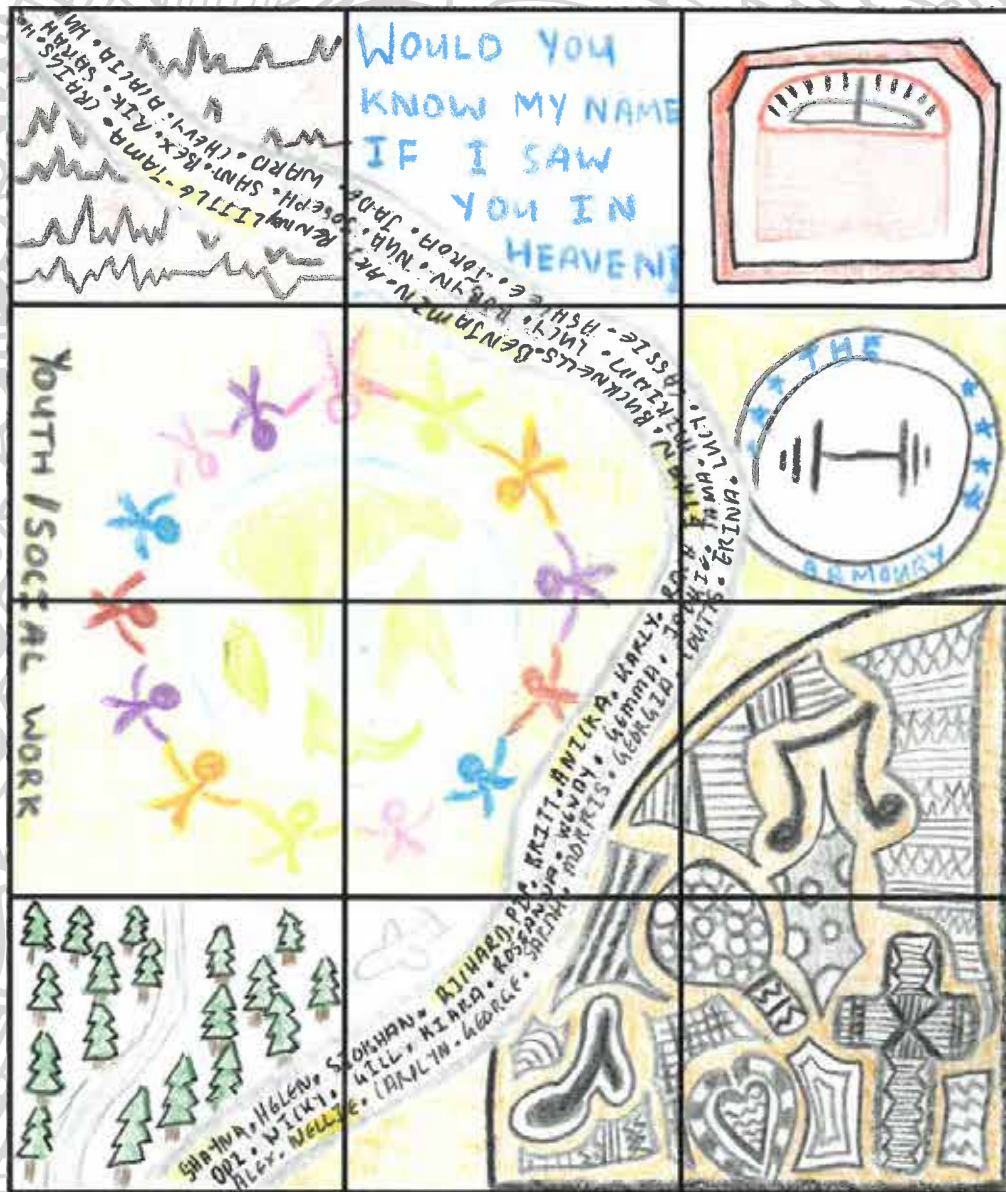
My strength continues to flow out of projects, being outdoors and my family. My hopes and dreams include further travel and simple living concepts that I hope to explore one day.

The things around me continue to grow and change but the core of who I am stays the same. My journey in this community is filled with people that have continued to speak into my life and have challenged me on how I can contribute to the lives of others.

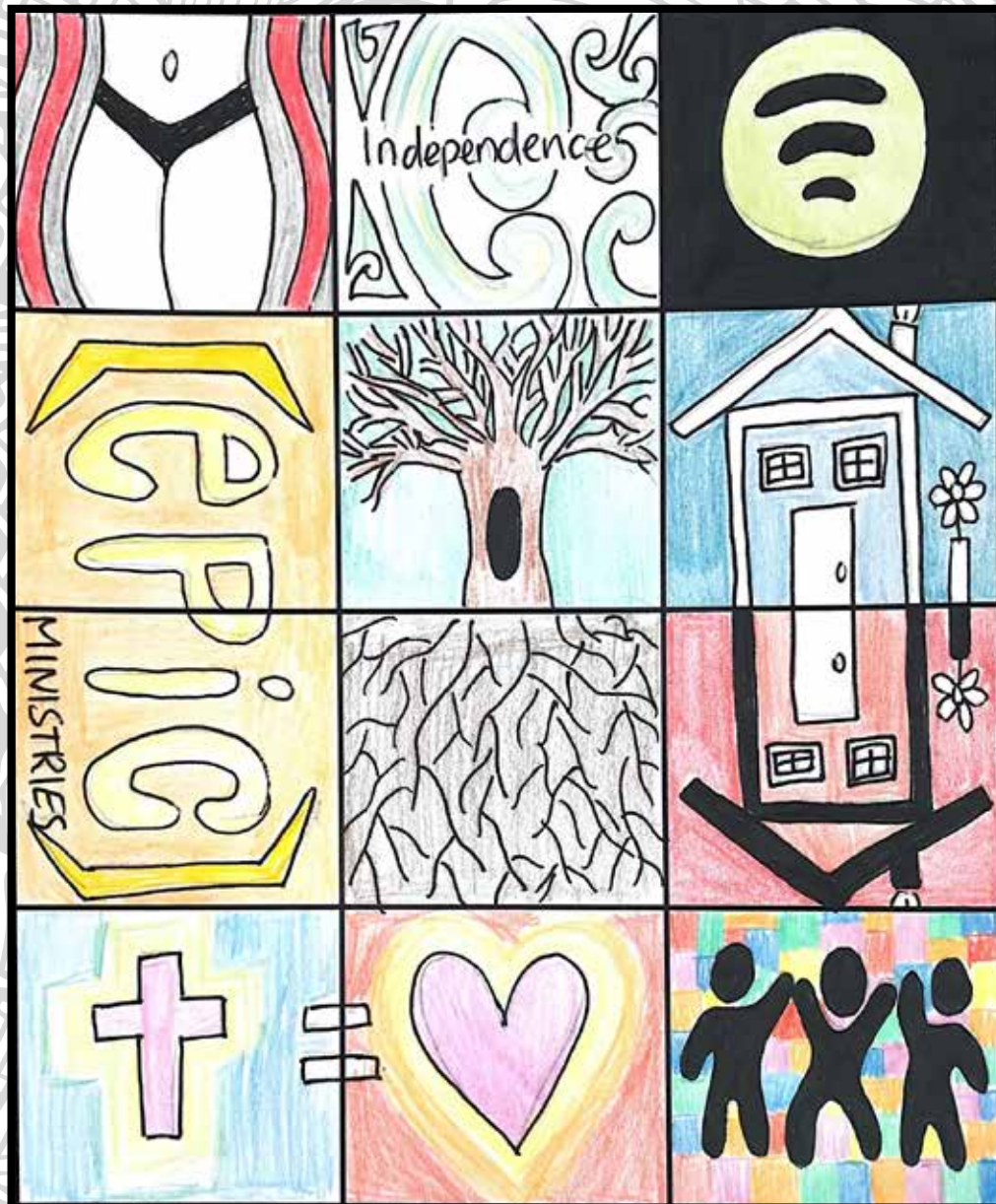
Youth Worker



WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



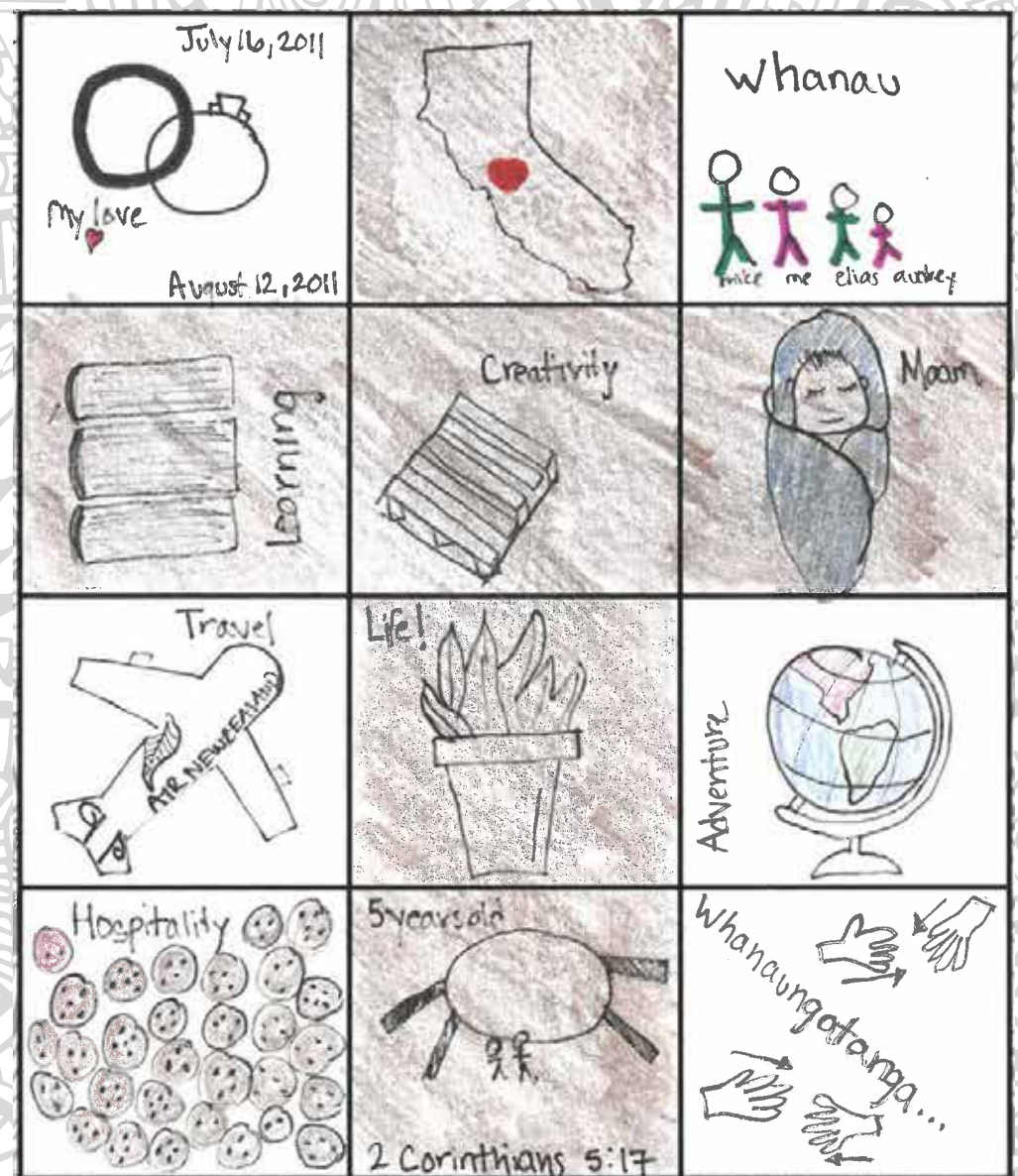
WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



This story card represents my life so far and what is significant to me. Top left corner represents body image and how I feel negative towards my body, the colour red I associate with anger, angry about my body and weight, which is a struggle I am still dealing with. Middle top is one of my skills which is independence, growing up I had to do everything by myself I felt as though I was the parent, moving out of home at 16 forced me to be more independent. I tied in the 2 colours green and blue, green represents peace and happiness. Blue is sad, I felt as though I had no one to help me even my parents. Top right is Spotify, music helped me a lot through being isolated and alone the green is peace and that is surrounding the black which is Loneliness. Next is epic, I choose to make epic big because it has had a huge impact in my life, helped me feel belonging like never before gave me a place to feel safe, so orange is joy and yellow is happy. Next to epic is a tree, the top half is my experiences positive and negative which weaves into each of the squares in my story it represent growth through everything I have been through, the roots connected is the memory that also weaves into everything I do, my past has helped me move forward into the future learning from past experience from my parents what not to do, knowing how I have been hurt and how I don't want anyone else to feel that pain. Next to the tree is 2 different house the blue house is sad and lonely, most nights I was left home alone sometimes even for weeks, I felt distant from my mum and never associated home as love, on the other side is a red house, an angry house, my emotions would turn into anger I didn't understand why no one cared and I would never go home because it triggered me. At the bottom I have a cross equal into a heart. When I found Jesus I was introduced by epic, through my journey I found that god is always there even through the sadness peacefulness and uncontrollable times which represent the cross and God is there in the hard angry times joy and happy times in my life, always present. My last square is me and my friends I am so grateful for friends I have made through epic and school still being connected to them today and having amazing memories being young and crazy without them I wouldn't have been able to cope with life.

Youth Worker

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



EPIC MINISTRIES 2020

Lead mentors employed through 2020: Robyn Coutts, Penny Single, Ariana Jean-Henson, Tayla Morris, Tama Bucknell, James SciaScia, Lydia Bucknell.

Volunteer youth mentors for 2020: Isaac Marshall, Isabella Cruickshank, Cove Lambert, Erina Scia Scia, Jade Sandford, Ruby Herimia, Zhane Crawford, Hayley Webster, Daniel Scott, Josh Ross, Ruairidh Anderson, Ihipera Rua, Rita Simiona, Tom Burne, William Bean, Gemma Pearce, Jessi Clarke, Johanna Nieuwenhuis, Anogu Anderson, Malachi Bucknell, Luke Posthumus.

Collaborative partners worked with: Bluelight, Connect youth development, Central Hawkes Bay College, Terrace, Waipawa, Waipukurau Primary, St Josephs, Sport Hawkes Bay, Central Hawkes Bay District Council, Resource Teachers Maori, Aqua Management, Mana Ora, Praxis.

REGULAR CORE INITIATIVES:

LEADERSHIP

EVENTS

CONNECT

MENTORING

This was applied across three identified areas in the community:

In School: Youth workers in our local schools.

Identified Primary schools worked with over 2 days per week:

The Terrace, Waipukurau Primary, Waipawa and supported the following: Attended leadership camps, Breakfast club, Terrace student council, Provided mentoring to students, Leap mentoring group, Shine course, Lunch time games. Also supported PCT competition, Sports academy and St Josephs Yr 8 retreat.

Youth hub @ Central Hawkes Bay College over 2 days per week: Mana Plus group who helped shape the hub, Breakfast club, Travellers mentoring program, Youth weeks, Mentoring of groups and 1-1 students, Lunch time activities. Also supported this year the College Ball, Yr 10 activity day, Market day, Mana ora programme, Athletics day, Cross country, Pink shirt day.

After School: Specific mentoring initiatives and student mentor development.

Fuel: 20 sessions with on average 16 youth

Elevate: 14 sessions with 10 boys

GGA: 30 sessions with 10 girls

MTB: 20 sessions with 5 boys

United : 21 sessions with 10 girls

Amp'd: 12 sessions with 40 boys/girls

Travellers: X 2 groups of 12 youth over 10 sessions

Shine: Waipukurau Primary - 8 sessions

The Terrace - 8 sessions

Inspire: Team of 6 facilitated 9 events

Gym: 5 yr11 boys for 10 sessions

Camps: Opportunities that strengthen connections through positive experiences.

Leap camps: Week 1 @ Camp Tuki - 24 attended

Week 2 @ Taupo - 24 attended

Leap +: Weekend camp 1 @ Taupo - 10 attended

Leap + / Leaders Camp: Weekend @ Auckland - 24 attended

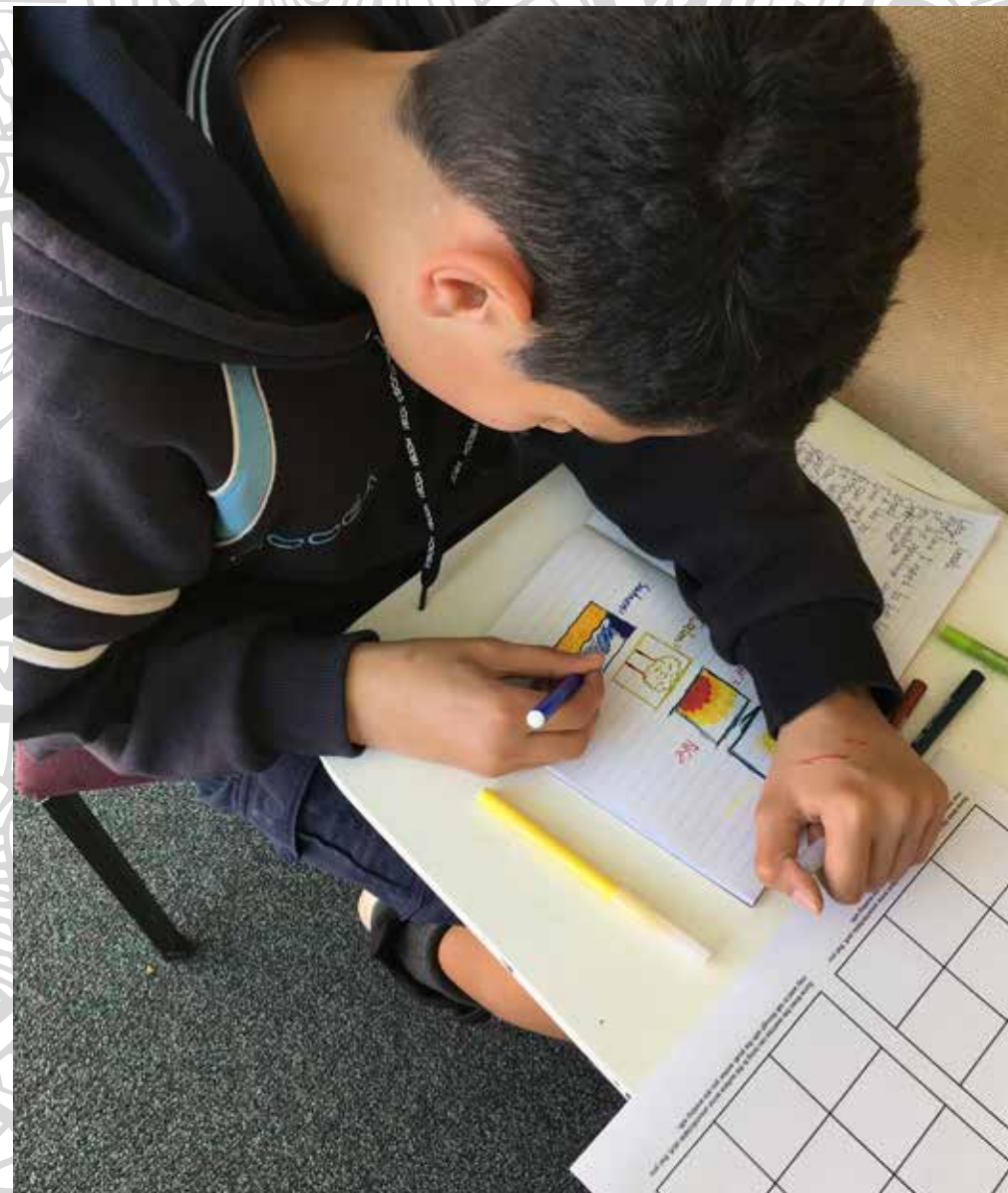
MTB: Weekend @ Rotorua - 6 attended

Fuel: Weekend @ Camp Tuki - 24 attended

United: Weekend retreat @ Farmstay - 10 attended

Covid -19: Our initiatives were impacted by Covid as the country set parameters on what schools and community groups could do, we have worked with that this year and responded and supported our youth community through this. This included working with our District Council as they established a network of networks to relay information and plans and tools for supporting whanau. As a team we used this as a time for staff training as well as continuing our connection with youth through ZOOM and instagram. The team initiated some of the following with youth through lockdown; Quiz's, games nights, movies, online gaming, photo challenges, tik tok and plenty of prizes won. This lead to 400 interactions during this time. We have adapted and been there for our youth to ensure they integrated back into school and the community well.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



IN SCHOOL:





2020 has seen a drastic change in the way that we have been present within CHB College. Alongside the Connect Youth and Community Development team from the council we have opened a youth hub based at the old netball pavilion. We facilitate various groups, mentoring and activities from the hub on a Thursday and Friday each week. On the return to school post Covid lockdown we were able to jump straight back into connecting, mentoring and working alongside our young people like we love to do.

GGAmentoring

This year in the youth hub I was able to take my mentoring group out of class once a week to focus more on mentoring and developing their stories cards. I found this time very productive at school as my young people are in school mode and find it easier stay on task than outside of school. During this time together we gathered personal stories from our young people, we provided a safe space for them to share parts of their story which made our group bond and grow stronger together. Some of these are shared in this report.

Travellers Mentoring Program:

Resilience

Confidence

Self-esteem

Connectedness

Travellers was introduced last year as a program for a small number of year 9 students. It is an 8 week course developed by Skylight which focuses on the themes of 'Life is a journey, I'm okay, Express yourself, I think therefore I am, Be your own best friend, Mobilise your team and Life is doable'.

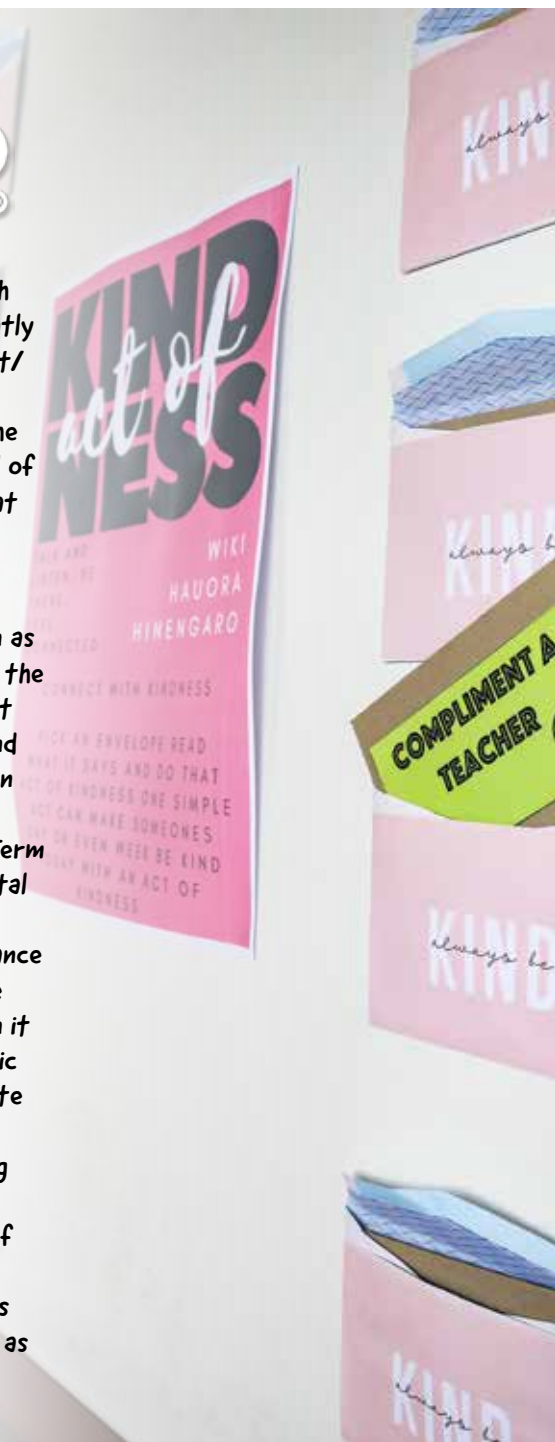
Youth were selected via a survey system that travellers provides so the youth that are targeted are from an array of different backgrounds and each have their own story to share. This year's groups engaged well, participated in discussion and were really humorous. We were stoked with the way the groups gelled together, were accepting of each other's experiences and ideas and it was great to see them trying out the new concepts and strategies in their day to day

lives outside of the group. It has been really cool to see their confidence grow, friendships develop and see their connectedness with each other and Epic grow as well.



This year we have run 2 youth weeks alongside the Inspire team. These youth weeks have been organised predominantly by Lydia Bucknell (Epic gateway student/ Inspire Co-ordinator). Her planning alongside her team have meant that the youth weeks carried out have been full of fun and excitement for the students at CHB College.

In term 1 youth week was held early on as a way of welcoming back students for the 2020 school year. We had set up a giant waterslide, 'old-school Epic games', and had all in games as well. Ivan came down to school so that we could have music pumping and a fun, chill environment. Term 3 saw youth week coinciding with Mental Health Awareness week- 'Wiki Hauora Hinengaro'. Again Ivan made an appearance with prizes like fizzy and lollies for the winners of fluffy bunny, minute to win it challenges and we even brought the Epic basketball hoop and gave away chocolate to the person who got the most goals in a minute. Pink shirt day (anti bullying campaign) took place in term 4. Youth participated in interactive activities of leaving words of encouragements for others, took part in some competitions and had a free sausage sizzle for lunch as well.





Lunchtime programmes:

Off the back of lockdown we decided to do lunchtime programmes as school started up again because we spent most of term 2 connecting through social media and online. Through having the lunchtime programmes each Friday we were able to bring some fun, competition and excitement to the school environment. We ordered custom made Epic Hoodies, had quizzes and challenges. Each week we put out table tennis, corn hole, 4 square, netball game to win juice's and a bike course to win chocolate. This helped keep our young people active and interact with lots of different peer groups. We received positive feedback from the principal acknowledging our work and how this is a great way to give young people joy.

We have continued to have the youth hub as a place youth can come at break times on Thursdays and Fridays. We have the table tennis and mini bikes out each week. Having the hub as a neutral space for all youth at college has allowed us to connect with them in the school environment through our mentoring programmes as well as through fun interactive activities in their break times.

SHINE
WORTH. STRENGTH. PURPOSE.

Shine is a mentoring resource designed to equip girls with the knowledge and skills to discover who they are and the person they want to become. Shine encourages the girls to find the strength and courage within them to make healthy choices and live to their

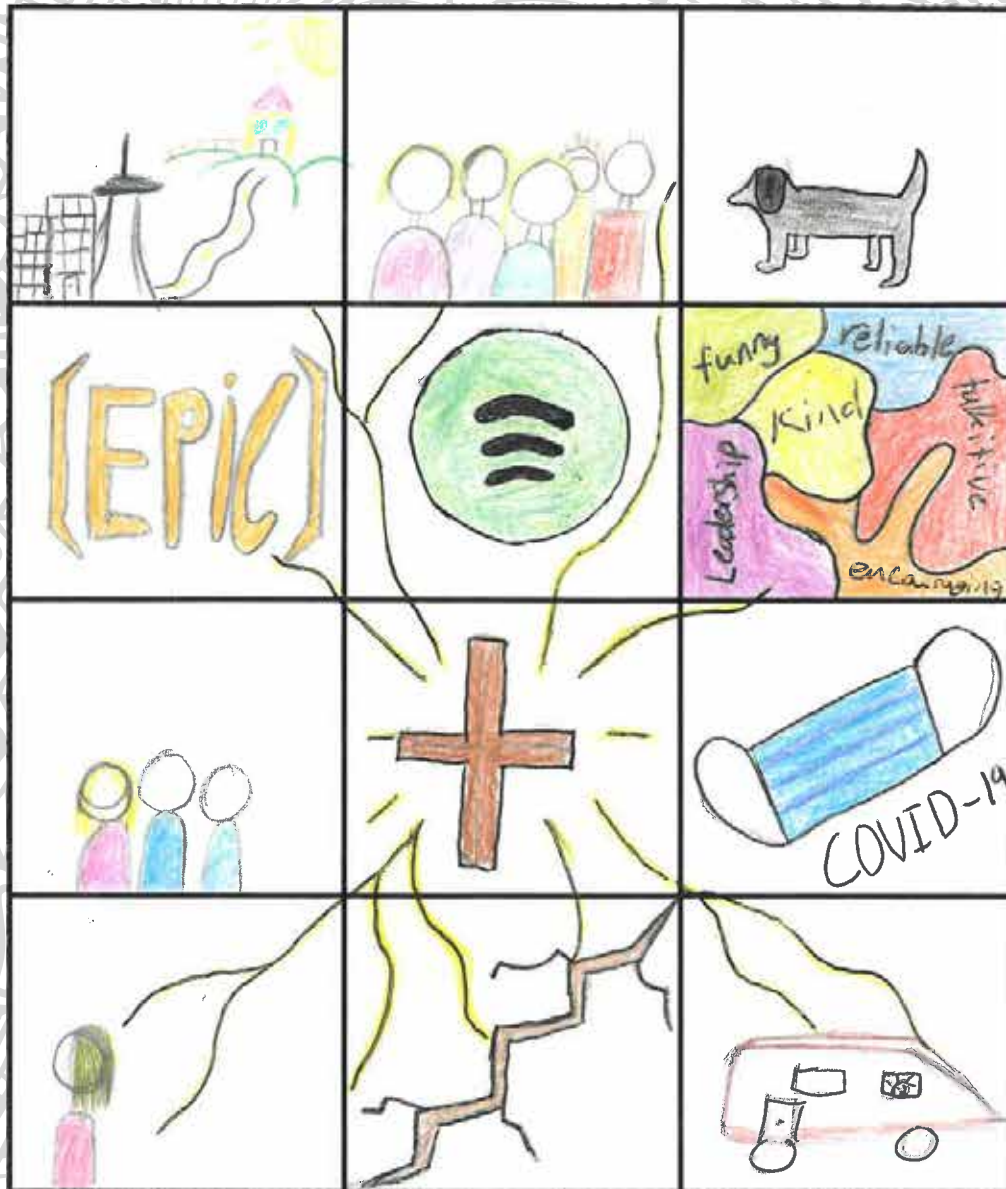
full potential. The program is founded upon the premise that every life counts and has intrinsic value and fosters an awareness of this belief.

We aim to develop a strong sense of personal identity, confidence and hope. These program objectives are achieved through 3 foundational concepts: **Worth. Strength. Purpose.** This year I was able to deliver this program to 22 girls at Waipukurau and Terrace school. As I was also in these schools once they had completed the program, I was able to continue to journey and mentor these girls throughout the rest of the year.

Youthwork in the Primary schools:

When we were finally allowed back to work after the Covid-19 lockdown we were still unable to run most of our mentoring groups or amp'd nights. So that left me with quite a bit of time on my hands. I contacted our two closest schools – Waipukurau & Terrace – and since then have spent 1 day a week in each school. This has enabled me to meet with and mentor my Leap youth, United girls, past shine members, support the student council at Terrace, support school events, be at breakfast club, be in classrooms and available for any help or support the school needs. Being able to see most of the youth I am working with on a weekly basis has really fed into the programs I run at Epic. I believe seeing my young people in their school environment has brought my youth work to the next level. Seeing them achieve, and being able to acknowledge their strengths and awahi them along has been incredibly fulfilling.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



AFTERSCHOOL:





It has been an honour to serve as the Fuel Coordinator in 2020. The year has been a year of growth and challenge. The focus from the beginning of the year was around developing practices such as gratitude, scripture reading, prayer, community, silence and celebration which all are rhythms of our faith. After developing and practicing these rhythms we transitioned from fortnightly Fuel gatherings including some via zoom (Thanks Covid19) (Term 1 and 2) to weekly Alpha sessions (Term 3 and 4). Throughout the year, we have had a core, consistent group of 15-17 youth attend. Highlights of the year include a committed and consistent small group of student mentors as well as a core group of students who faithfully attended the entire Youth Alpha programme.

Together with the student mentors, we worked through developing a personal rule of life. The focus was on developing and sustaining rhythms and practices that help create space in our busy lives for Jesus. We ended the study with a retreat away where we focused on community as well as creating our own person rule of life (which is basically a fancy way of identifying and grouping practices and rhythms in our life that encourage faith growth).

I am thankful for the commitment of the adult mentors who faithfully turned up throughout the year. Fuel hinges on relationship and community. These elements require time. The adult mentors gave time to serve the Fuel community and I am so grateful for them.

I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve the Fuel community. Fuel places a significant role in the formation of faith concepts for students and it has been an honour to journey with youth during this year.

Robin Coutts



that aimed at helping grow their Mana. This included, art, cooking, swimming, biking and sports.

James SciaScia



This year we relaunched mentoring through mountain biking. This involved sharing stories, challenging each other and riding bikes in our local mountain bike park. Our highlight was two full days of riding in Taupo and Rotorua on some of the best tracks in NZ. This was a great way to journey with a small group of boys and share some great memories together.

Tama Bucknell

GGA Girls Get Active

This year 2020 GGA has been challenged in many ways keeping the group together and having to adapt to online interaction. GGA started Term one, I gathered a group of 10 girls together who I connected with in primary schools, we did many team building games and getting to know each other, I started off the year with a beach trip at Kairakau which still holds some of my best memories of the year. Shortly after forming this tight group Covid-19 came and lucky we had internet to keep us connected, we did daily challenges and Covid bingo. During this time it was hard to not see each other physically but we learnt new ways to stay connected, we loved sending each other photos and making Kahoot quizzes for each other. Coming back together after Covid we did events such as laser force and flipout, ocean spa and mini golf this encouraged the group to keep going and to have fun while we are together, this made us value our time together. GGA focused on mentoring cards, getting to know our young people stories in a safe environment, this year we are happy to say we were able to learn about our young people's stories and uplift one another with this experience.

Ariana Jean-Henson

Lockdown Period:

During the lockdown period we continued to connect with the youth through our Instagram. Ari, Lydia and I facilitated online photo competitions, riddles, bingo and staff quizzes. We had zoom calls with our young people and maintained strong connections throughout the period of lockdown. Through the use of zoom and Instagram we had over 400 different interactions with our youth! We were humbled that they wanted to interact with us in an online capacity while it was the only option at the time!



This year I have been able to meet weekly with a group of 10 girls throughout the entire year. I inherited this group which had originally been a dance group. We started the year with dance, but over the term noticed the girls just wanted to be there to hang with each other and myself so the group merged into what it is now.

Then lockdown happened. During lockdown the girls and I kept in contact through Tik Tok challenges, Houseparty calls and Zoom quizzes and games. I feel through all these I was able to be available and keep our connection during this time. I feel it strengthened our group bond and we were all so excited when we were finally able to meet in person. This year I have been able to celebrate achievements, support during difficult times, help with school projects, encourage, love and just overall be there for my girls.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



CAMPS:





The Alpha Retreat was another highlight. It was a time of much laughter (spaghetti and shaving cream), honest conversations about faith, and intentional time as a community. It was a space for questions to be asked and discussion to be had. It was a place for worship. It was time away from the normal life to spend being deliberate about asking questions about life, faith and God.



Leap+ aims to connect in with the youth who attended the leap program in year 7 & 8 as they move into their years at college. Ideally we would have facilitated 4 weekend retreats over the year however this year we have managed to facilitate 2. On these retreats we aim to give youth experiences that are positive, push them out of their comfort zone and bring them together.

We had a great time up in Taupo in February paddle boarding, swimming and making pumice carvings. In November we combined Leap+ and our annual youth leaders trip and headed to Auckland for some fun challenges at Rainbows End, Vector Wero White water Park and Hampton Downs Raceway. We were able to celebrate the leadership commitment of the Amp'd leaders over the weekend. In Auckland it was awesome to see the youth across all high school age groups having fun together and sharing the new and challenging experiences they had over the weekend.

It's been really cool to connect with the year 10s over the last 2 years and the year 9s over this year. I have loved seeing their confidence grow, seeing them push their own personal boundaries through the different activities and I have loved seeing the joy and smiles on their faces.



The Leap program mentors teams of girls and boys and connects them with positive role models and challenges them away from home. Our objective is to invest into their lives and provide them with a range of activities that contribute to their learning and development. We are helping young people to maximise their latent potential by building positive experiences and memories in their lives. We emphasise a values and strength based approach to improve their life skills and decision making.

Normally we are run 3 camps over the holidays in a year. Again Covid-19 halted some of our plans. Luckily though we were able to go on 2 of our

camps; Camping Week and Adventure Week. These camps were able to provide the environment we long to create through activities such as abseiling, archery soft, high ropes, bike rides, art activities, kayaking, paddle boarding, the luge, zorbing and a tonne of swimming.

This year we also started our in school leap mentoring. I was able to go into their schools every fortnight to catch up, create memory boards, set goals and work through the 'your story' mentoring resource. This was a goal of ours and I'm stoked we were able to achieve it.

Mentoring Week					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
9:00am Registrations	7:00am Wake Up	7:00am Wake Up	7:30am Wake Up	7:30am Wake Up	
9:30am Packing Trainers	7:30am PT - FITNESS	7:30am PT - FITNESS	8:00am PT - FITNESS	8:00am PT - FITNESS	
10:00am	8:00am Breakfast	8:00am Breakfast	8:30am Breakfast	8:30am Breakfast	
10:30am Travelling to Camp Site	8:30am Breakfast	8:30am Breakfast	9:00am Breakfast	9:00am Breakfast	
11:00am	9:00am Travelling to Mata Peak	9:00am Travelling to Napier	9:30am Breakfast	9:30am Breakfast	
11:30am Camp Safety Briefing	9:30am	9:30am	10:00am	10:00am	
12:00pm Unloading & Setting up	10:00am	10:00am	10:30am	10:30am	
12:30pm Lunch	10:30am	10:30am	11:00am	11:00am	
1:00pm All Team Challenges	11:00am	11:00am	11:30am	11:30am	
1:30pm Hot Building	11:30am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:00pm	
2:00pm Hot Building	12:00pm	12:00pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	
2:30pm Billy Shaw	12:30pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:00pm	
3:00pm	1:00pm Lunch & Chat up	1:00pm	1:30pm	1:30pm	
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	9:00pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	9:30pm	

FEEDBACK:

Participant Feedback Data for: **Epic Ministries (Leadership and Mentoring Project)**
Received between: 01 July 2020 and 30 September 2020

Please tell us a little bit about what you feel was really good about the programme or service that you took part in (for example; What were your favourite things? What did you learn? What will you remember most about it?):
They provide me a lot of fun activities and interesting activities. I learned about Jesus Christ, thinking about as a Christian. To go camping is the best activity for me.
I love the bit where we had the time to reflect to the questions that were said in the alpha videos. I also loved the games and activities that we did!
I loved fuel/ampd this term! I think bringing in the videos and being able to discuss the topics brought up in them worked really well. Having a set track on what we were learning about was different, but I think that it opened a lot of new pathways into questions, that a lot of us hadn't even thought of! All up, it was a really good term!
The videos were really interesting and I learned a lot more about versus in the Bible. My favourite part was the video
I think the program was very good. It allowed a small but good sized group of teens and leaders to get away from their issues and understand God and themselves a bit better
It was good
I enjoyed the entire programme from start to finish. The people and the environment that was created was overall so amazing and I am genuinely grateful for everything.
I loved how inclusive it is
food, friends, community
I love how we do stuff that makes us girls all happy
The memories with all the girls and knowing that they're here for me
hanging out with Ari and dancing
reflecting on our days every time we meet and making new friends
making our story cards and playing games
doing our story cards
learned how to dance
Ari making us yum food
What Will I Most remember...? Making New Friends. And Making memories. What Are your Favourite Things...? Everything! What are some of the things that you have least enjoyed...? Biking!!
getting out of class.
The group discussed how we feel and I for one feel more confident with my self.

To Whom it may concern,

We have been very fortunate to have Penny Single working at Waipukurau School for a day a week in 2021 in her role as a youth worker from EPIC.



Penny has worked with a range of students at our school in a variety of contexts. She has worked with some students one on one, providing support, guidance, a listening ear, an impartial viewpoint and just some genuine support and one on one time that these students need. This has been of incredible value to our school, providing an extra level of support that class teachers would love to be able to provide but do not have the time to enable this to happen.

Penny has also run the 'Shine' programme with some of our Year 8 students. This was a very valuable addition to the pastoral care programme of the school. It provided an opportunity for students to develop confidence, self-esteem, self-worth and social skills, alongside learning how to build positive relationships and interact positively with others. Again this is the kind of programme we would love to be able to provide but due to resourcing we are unable to, so having Penny come in and run this has meant we can add this layer of support.

Having Penny consistently involved in our school has impacted so positively on our students. She has been able to make strong connections with many of our girls in particular and this has meant that her work can continue into the wider community beyond the school gates. Many of the students that Penny worked with are those that need extra support, find navigating friendships difficult and have many difficulties that they face beyond the school gates. Being able to have Penny involved with them at school, and then connecting to her role in wider outreach has meant that the support can wrap around and be so much more effective.

The service that Penny and EPIC provide is invaluable and we wholeheartedly endorse it being continued and supported for funding. Waipukurau is extremely fortunate to have such a strong and supportive organisation such as EPIC working in the community.

Kind regards

Hannah Fairbairn

Deputy Principal, SENCO

FEEDBACK:



CONNECT

YOUTH DEVELOPEMENT

To whom it may concern,

We are writing in support of the wonderful work that Epic Ministries does for our young people in Central Hawke's Bay.

They are such a worthy investment; they always go the extra mile, and our community is so much better off because of the work that they do for our young people. We have the honour of partnering with them and working closely with them through our Youth Development network.

"Epic" are key leaders in the youth development space are committed to ensuring that our young people have access to positive role models in a healthy community.

We are grateful for all they do to walk along side our young people in their most vulnerable years, through purposeful mentoring, healthy programs and activities that encourage leadership and it's a great honour to write in support of them.

Ngā Mihi
Kelly Annand

3 November 2020

EPIC Ministries
Church Lane
Waipukurau 4200

LETTER OF SUPPORT

It is my pleasure to provide this letter in support for EPIC Ministries.

EPIC Ministries have been providing a localised response to the needs of young people in Central Hawke's Bay since 2004. Every day they strive to achieve their vision of seeing a generation of young people empowered to reach their maximum potential – physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually so they can be contributors to a healthy community.

I have worked alongside EPIC Ministries for many years and have witnessed first hand the real and tangible difference their work makes to the young people of Central Hawke's Bay and their families.

Central Hawke's Bay District Council is committed to the wellbeing of its residents and our Community Wellbeing Strategy reflects this commitment. EPIC Ministries works closely alongside council to deliver the Central Hawke's Bay District Youth Development contract and are also a key contributor to the Community Wellbeing Strategy via its involvement and leadership of the implementation of the Central Hawke's Bay Youth Action Plan.

I am happy to be contacted at any time.

Yours faithfully



Christine Renata
Community Development Lead



**CENTRAL
HAWKE'S BAY**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

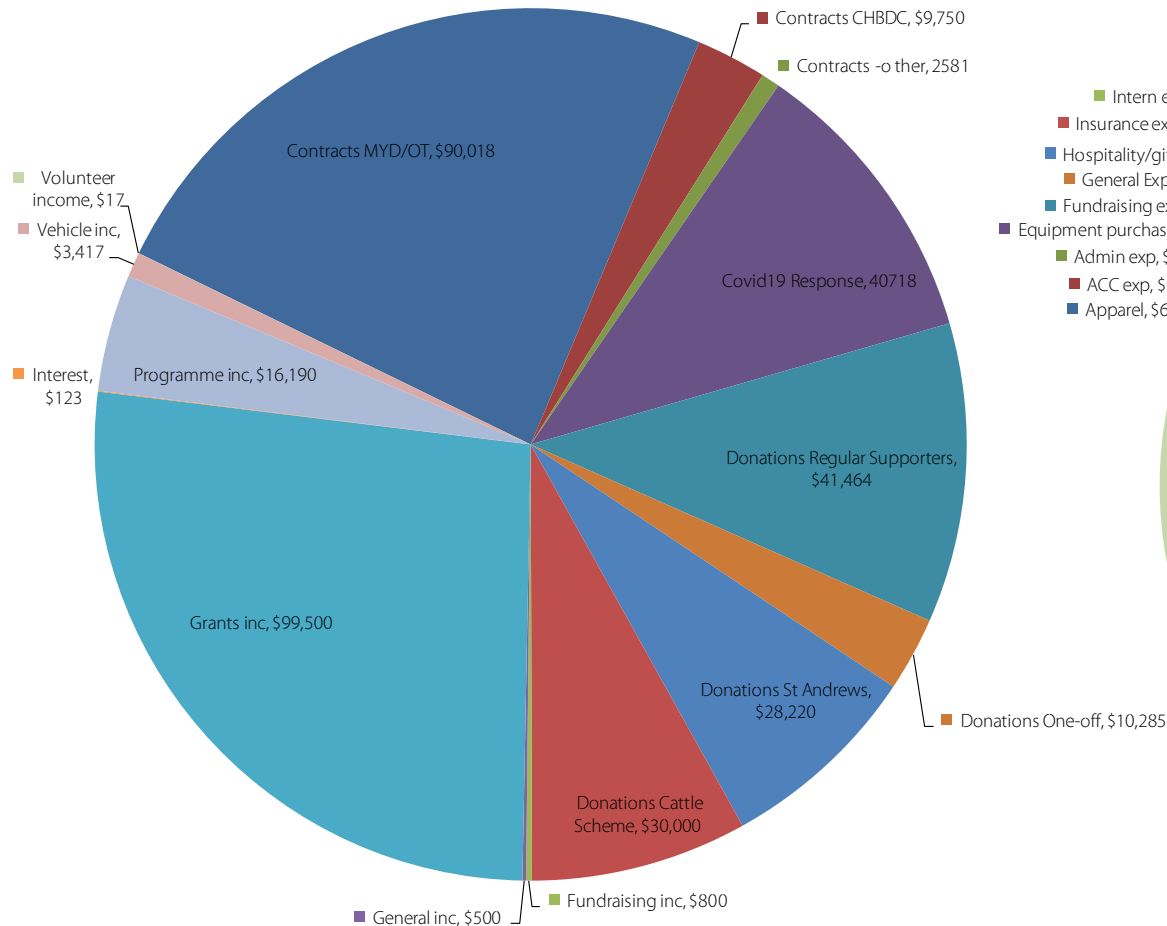
Ruataniwha Street,
PO Box 127, Waipawa 4240
New Zealand

Phone: 06 857 8060
Fax: 06 857 7179

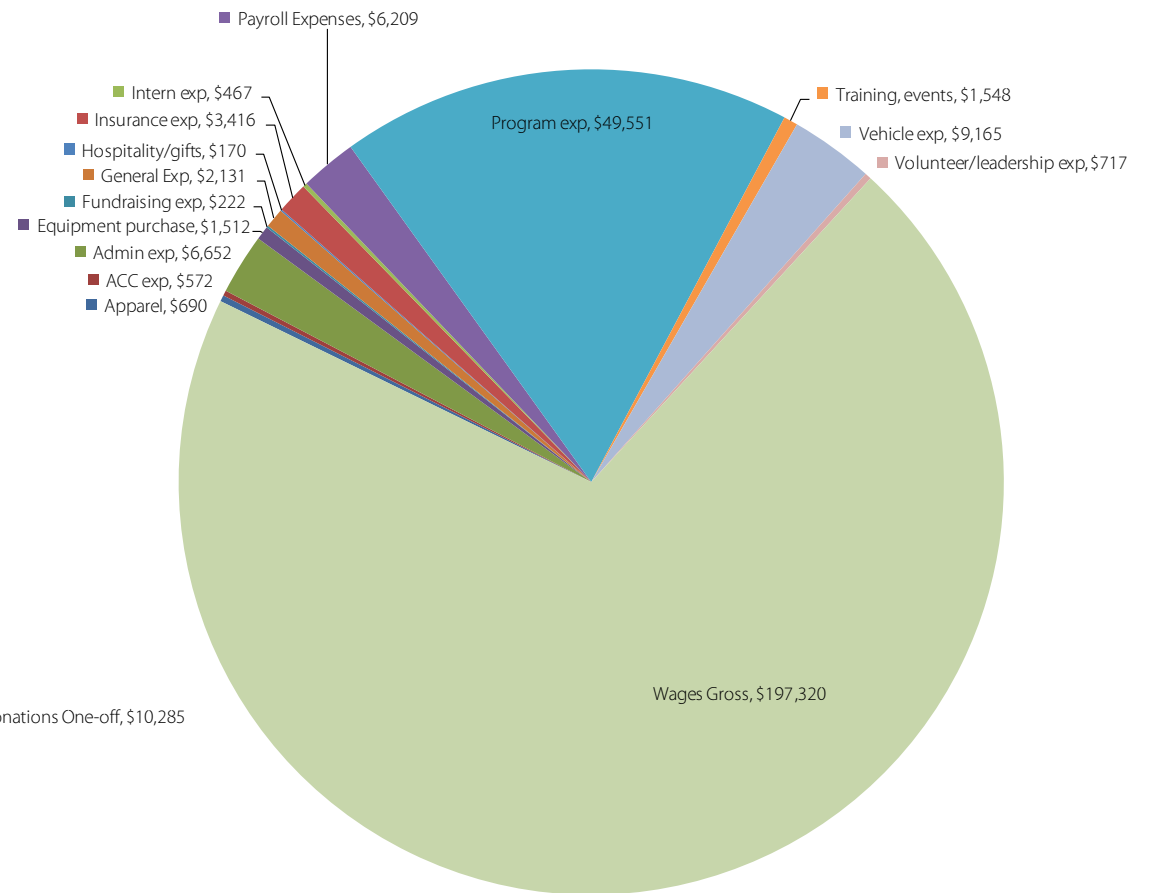
info@chbdc.govt.nz
www.chbdc.govt.nz

\$\$ 2020 – Where it came from and where it went

income: \$373,583



expenses: \$280,342



COVID-19 also presented unexpected challenges for us behind the scenes as our budgeted predictions for 2020 totally went out the window in many areas:

Before the school year started we had two staff leave, who were not immediately replaced, reflecting in the reduction in salary expenses for this year. Then COVID-19 changed our perimeters and program structures were altered to support youth mainly via online platforms, and then increased time spent working from within schools once lockdown was lifted. Therefore the costs of running programs, and maintaining vehicles, equipment and resources

were reduced. Of course, the program income from youth stopped, and several regular donors and supporters reluctantly had to withdraw their usual A/P contributions.

Thankfully, a significant grant from the Government COVID Response fund allowed us to maintain our staff throughout the uncertain lockdown and recovery period – and consequently we have also been fortunate to receive extra MSD Contract and COVID response grant funding to cover targeted staffing through to June 2021.



supporters support us support youth in CHB

APPEAL

As EPIC strives to help meet the ever changing needs of young people in our community, we acknowledge and thank those regular contributors who have enabled our Youth programs and initiatives to continue providing a safe and inclusive place of belonging and development.

We currently have 34 faithful sponsors making AP donations weekly, monthly or annually – who provide a predictable income stream we are able to place wherever the need is greatest. In addition this year, 21 individuals or Trusts have made one off donations ranging from \$10 to \$1,500 – some untagged and some to support specific projects.

EPIC has to find over \$330,000 a year to maintain the current momentum – a pace which is having significant impact in the lives of a large number of youth in our Community. We are well resourced with premises, vehicles and equipment – we model appreciation and respect for our gear and the youth take equal care with it. The greatest on-going monetary need is for employing the youth workers out there to be with our young people... in schools, after school, during the weekends and holidays – making time for them and with them. Journeying alongside youth as they navigate life and find their place.

This is how we make a difference.

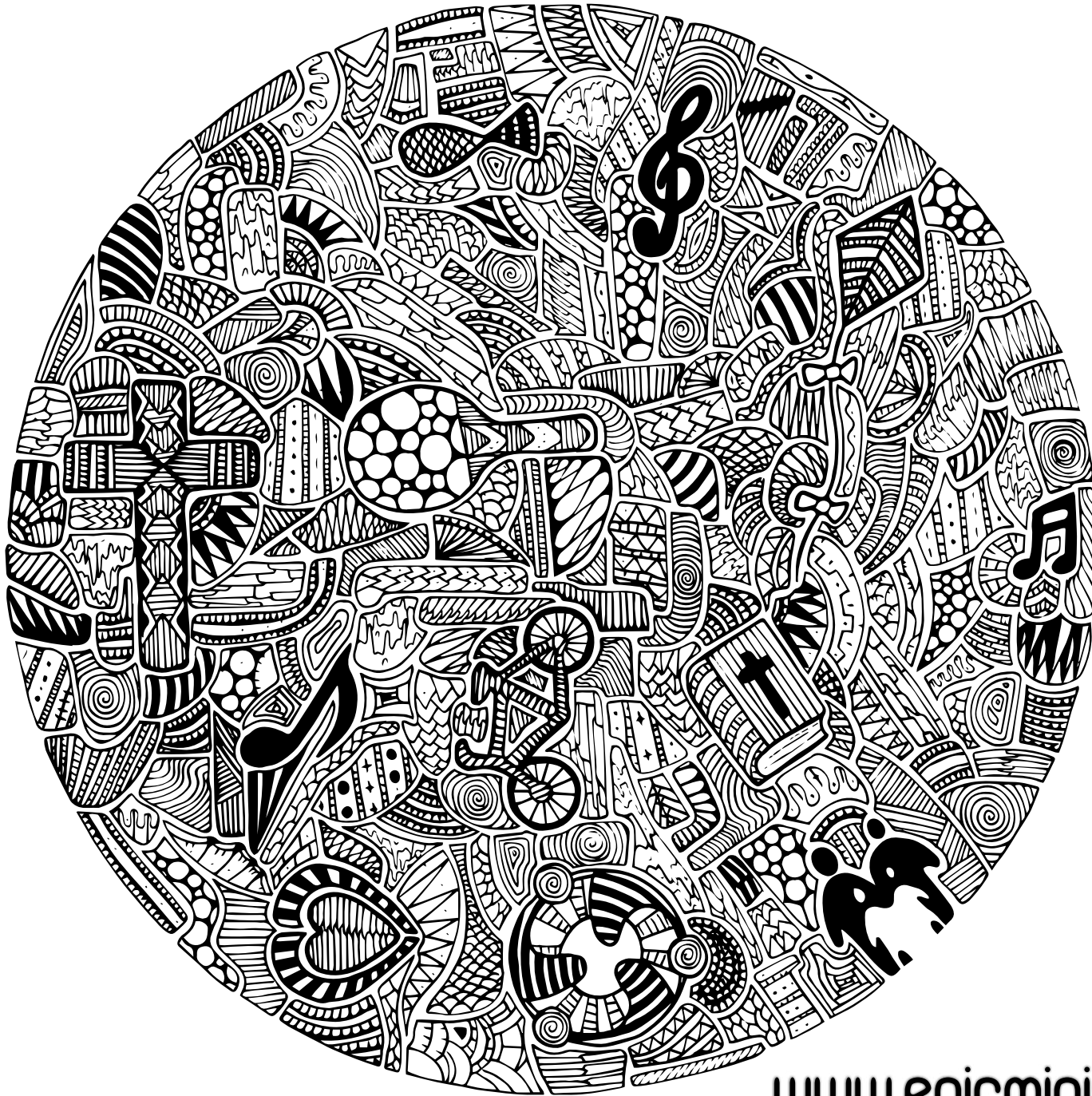
CAN YOU HELP? We need to increase our regular income stream to enable this invaluable work to continue at its current pace – AP supporters make regular donations weekly, monthly or annually – and we are able to set budgets and plan for staffing based on these anticipated totals. Would you consider becoming a regular supporter? Please chat with one of the EPIC staff about how you can help.

HUGE THANKS for continued financial investment into EPIC to the following additional funders:

Grants 2020 - AW Parsons - COGS - CVOSF - Due Drop Foundation - Eastern and Central Community Trust
Frimley Foundation - Gwen Malden Trust - Hawkes Bay Foundation - John Holt Charitable Trust
Lottery Community Fund - Royston Health Trust - Tasman Smith - Charitable Trust

Plus all those individuals who regularly help pay for kids to get to camps, as well as funding regular EPIC programs and initiatives. We couldn't do it without you.....

Jackie Lowry (Treasurer)



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