# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024

McKenzie Centre

Realising a child's potential

# MCKENZIE CENTRE

## 2023 - 2024

## MISSION

Realising a child's potential

## VALUES

- Care
- Respect
- Partnership

## STRATEGIC GOALS

**Te Aranga / Structure:** Our systems and resources support high quality services
**He Tangata / People:** Our people and whānau are empowered and capable
**Te Kotahitanga / Sustainabiltiy:** We are responsive to community needs through growth and innovation

# McKENZIE CENTRE

## BOARD CHAIR REPORT '23 - '24

It is my pleasure to present the McKenzie Centre's Chair Report for the year 2023-2024. Our continued collective commitment to providing high-quality early childhood intervention services to children and their families has remained steadfast during the year.

For the past 40 years, McKenzie Centre has supported thousands of families / whānau, students, and professionals. We look forward to celebrating this wonderful milestone with our staff and the wider community that have all contributed to our success.

At the heart of everything we do is our purpose: 'Realising a Child's Potential'. We focus on early intervention for children from birth to school age who have disabilities or developmental delays. This year, we engaged ImpactLab to conduct a Good Measure survey of our services. Good Measure is a tool used to estimate and quantify the social impact—expressed in dollar terms—generated by our programs for participants throughout their lives.

ImpactLab estimates that the Centre generated over $3 million in social value during the period from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023. This figure represents the estimated lifetime social value created for participants during this timeframe. When we divide this by our total operational costs for the same period, we find that the social return on investment (SROI) is $1.80 for every dollar invested. This fantastic result validates the profound impact the Centre has on the lives of children with disabilities and their families.

Looking ahead, expanding the range of services provided by McKenzie Centre to support even more children and families remains a key focus for the Trust.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff and committed volunteers.

A special thank you goes to our generous donors and grant providers; without your support, we would not be able to deliver our services to such a consistently high standard.

I would like to welcome Claire van der Most to the Board of the McKenzie Centre. In addition to Ken Williamson, Maree Haddon and myself we form a team that is dedicated to governance of the McKenzie Centre and growing the service offering.

Together, we all contribute to making a significant difference in the lives of many children and their families.

I look forward to another year of progress and achievements at McKenzie Centre.

Ngā manaakitanga

Paul Bennett

Chair

# SUZANNE KOK

## SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT '23 - '24

I am delighted to present the annual report for the year ending June 2024. Despite the challenges during the year, McKenzie Centre's strong kaupapa and vibrant culture have enabled us to continue delivering exceptional early intervention services to whãnau with children who have additional needs or disabilities.

Our robust service delivery model, which focuses on partnership with whãnau to build capacity in three key areas of Education, Connection and Advocacy, has continued to evolve and strengthen over the past year.

Education:
We have made significant strides in enhancing knowledge and skills of people, parents and professionals, who support children with disabilities, thanks to:
- Online workshops provided to parents and professionals, offering information and greater accessibility to resources.
- Face-to-face workshops held during our early intervention play sessions at McKenzie Centre, fostering deeper engagement.
- Collaborative visits to tamariki in early childhood education (ECE) centres, working directly with ECE teachers to support inclusive practices in these environments.

Connection:
Whānau have had more opportunities to deepen relationships through a variety of social events, such as Matariki, Diversi-TEA, and the Hangouts—including the Dad's Hangouts. Additionally, McKenzie Centre hosted another networking hui for professionals, strengthening collaboration with other community organisations and creating stronger connections across sectors.

Advocacy:
We've expanded our advocacy efforts through the employment of additional Tuakana/Peer Support Workers. These team members, who draw on their own lived experience of raising children with disabilities, have played a pivotal role in helping whānau develop their own advocacy skills. By sharing their stories, insights, and practical advice, our Tuakana have become invaluable in guiding and empowering current whānau.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our generous funders. Your ongoing support allows McKenzie Centre to continue providing high-quality early intervention services. We could not achieve what we do without your partnership.

I also extend my sincere gratitude to our Board of Trustees. We are incredibly fortunate to benefit from the expertise and guidance of such knowledgeable individuals.

Finally, thank you to our dedicated staff and volunteers, whose passion and commitment to McKenzie Centre's mission of "Realising a child's potential" is truly inspiring.

Ngā mihi,

Suzanne Koh

Service Manager

# McKENZIE CENTRE OVERVIEW OF '23 - '24

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Our Tuakana and Peer Workers hosted seven hangouts to build social connections and friendships with other parents and lessen feelings of isolation.
- We held eight Dad's hangouts, with 20 attendees, most of these are online, and are facilitated by one of our Dads. They focus on the things that are important to the special dads in our children's lives.
- At the start of the calendar year we held a Meet and Greet BBQ to which 58 people came.
- Matariki celebrations; we hosted a whānau evening to strengthen connections and celebrate our culture, with 54 attendees.
- Diversi-TEA was held in early September to celebrate the diversity within our whānau with 32 people attending.
- We also held an 'End of Year' party for all whānau, including siblings and grandparents, in December - 37came to this.
- 22 workshops comprising 47 sessions were held with 398 attendances. All of our workshops are designed to build skills and confidence to assist children's learning and development.
- 156 parents attended Parent Focus Sessions held every term.
- 212 Individual Plans were developed and reviewed to support children's learning.
- 202 early childhood and other community visits took place.
- We provided 216 early intervention sessions.
- We also provided 30 parent-led playgroups.

## GEOGRAPHIC

48 families live beyond Hamilton City boundary and 88 inside the city.

## DIVERSITY

Numbers of whanau supported across a wide range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds with:

- 56 reported as Maori
- 6 reported as Pacifica
- 47 reported as New Zealand European
- 19 reported as Asian
- 8 reported as other.

## AGE RANGE

Preschool children and their whānau.

## SUPPORTED

We have supported 136 families who have preschool aged children with disabilities this year with our range of service options.

# FAMILY FEEDBACK

**“Thank you so much for your incredible support in J's progress. Your guidance has been invaluable, and we're truly grateful for all your assistance. It's been a pleasure working with you and Mckenzie Centre. Your dedication has made a significant difference, and we're looking forward to his schooling years.”**

“Good Morning amazing McKenzie Team!
I would just like to take the time to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the many things you have done for E and my family during our time with you so far. You have been so incredibly welcoming, understanding, friendly, and supportive and this has been such an amazing experience for us so far. We just think you are all such incredible people and we are so lucky to have you! E is loving his time there and he loves you guys too!
Thanks again - you guys have changed our lives!”

“I can’t believe we have come to our last visit. So much has changed since day one. Thank you so much for the care and support you give our little ones. You make such a huge difference in their lives and in their families’ lives too. An extra big thank you to Steph, John, Helen and Julia, B loves you all so much. He will really miss you.”

"To everyone at McKenzie Centre, THANK YOU for being there for us during our often challenging journey. We really, really appreciate all you have done for S – and for us as a family. We'll miss you all. It's scary to think we won't have you with us in this next chapter, but we're so grateful we've had the opportunity to be part of the McKenzie Centre family for as long as we have."

"Thank you all for being a part of Z's journey. We are going to miss you all. We would've (been) lost without the support we got from you all."

"This is so hard to put down in words but let's try. We would be so lost with the support of you & the village @ McKenzie. When we started @ age two in a lock down we felt sad, lost & honestly we didn't know where to start. Our boy couldn't walk and was non-verbal. With the help of you & McKenzie we started what we now know to be a life changing experience. We found our people. We felt safe to acknowledge what was hard for us & C and with the help of Now & Next © we looked at the future & started our small step goals. With all IP Plans we started to get daycare on the same page. We now leave 4 years later achieving so much. We can walk, climb, talk, sleep, ride a bike & acknowledge feelings. We will be forever grateful.

**We asked C what he loved about you & simple said " she plays with me", " She is good at playing with toys", "She finds the toys cars for me", "I actually love her mum" " She's fun"**

**We took those words, C choose beads & we together made you a bracelet so you always remember how you a viewed from the tiny people you support."**

# THANK YOU
## TO OUR SUPPORTERS 2024

## SPONSORSHIP

BES Delivering business and accounting solutions

We thank BES - Business Enabling Systems for their ongoing and generous sponsorship support.

## SIGNIFICANT DONATIONS

Hill Labs Hamilton
Kiwanis Club Westside
Payroll Giving

## AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

Richard Stewart (grounds and repairs)
Eli Martin (grounds)
Richard Bennett (carpentry and repairs)
Carina Wassenaar (admin)
Ron Bint (grounds)

## FUNDERS

Trust Waikato TE PUNA O WAIKATO
COGS Community Organisation Grants Scheme
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA
Greenlea Foundation Trust
WEL ENERGY TRUST www.welenergytrust.co.nz
Whaikaha Ministry of Disabled People
grassroots trust
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The Tidd Foundation Incorporated
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA
D.V.BRYANT TRUST Enhancing Human Welfare in the Waikato