

HOSPICE WHANGANUI MEDIA RELEASE

2022-2023 Hospice Whanganui Annual Report Now Available

17 November 2023

We are delighted to present the Annual Report for Hospice Whanganui to the Whanganui Community for the 2022/23 financial year. The annual report highlights the services that Hospice provided to the Whanganui community over the past year.

What we know is that the demand for specialist palliative care services will continue to climb in our community year on year. This year we have cared for almost 400 patients and a similar number of whānau and we have seen an almost 30% increase in referrals on the previous year. Our clinical team has made almost 300 face-to-face visits to patients and their whānau each month on average. Our team of skilled nurses, care assistants, whānau support practitioners and doctors are out and about every day of the week supporting patients and their whānau to ensure they can continue to live life to the full, right to the end. One of the key changes we made this year was to extend our working hours till 10pm at night, which means our nurses can continue to visit patients and families in their homes until well into the evening. We now also provide a 24/7 on-call nursing and medical service so that patients and families can reach us anytime of the day or night.

We have also extended our Whānau Support capacity to ensure that families and those who care for their loved ones at home are well supported along the way.

Another key highlight was the development of a Partnership between Hospice Whanganui and General Practice teams in the region. This partnership enables Hospice to provide training and support to GP teams in palliative care, and provides additional funding so that GP teams can provide palliative care to their eligible patients free of charge.

As our service continues to adapt to meet the growing demand for palliative care, we are especially conscious of the deep reliance that we have on our community for funding. This includes our retail stores, our corporate donors, and especially the individual supporters in our community who give so generously to Hospice. We could not provide this service without this generosity, and as we present our report, we extend our heartfelt and immense gratitude to you all.

We also thank Te Whatu Ora for their ongoing funding and support and will continue to engage with our Government partners to ensure Hospice services are funded fairly and equitably into the future.

END MESSAGE

Enquiries:

Davene Vroon

Ph: 06 349 0080

E: davenev@hospicewhanganui.org.nz