

Kia ora koutou and warm greetings to you all.

This is the first of the Todd Foundation's twice-yearly newsletters to community groups. We are initially sending it to one person per organization only, so feel free to forward it either within your organisation or to other groups, and please email us if you would like us to add names to our mailing list. Alternatively if you do not wish to receive this, just let us know.

We would really appreciate feedback and comments; contact details below.

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### *Questions we're pondering*

The Todd Foundation has become increasingly focused in what we fund over the last few years and we have included our vision, goals and target funding areas later in this newsletter. As we've learned more, there are some specific questions we are interested in exploring further, and we would welcome your input on what kind of approaches work best, or in receiving funding applications that you believe address these questions. (Please note that if you wish to put in an application for our next funding round in November you would need to send in the one-page "Outline of Application" by the end of August.)

- *How can the Todd Foundation better support young people leaving school without qualifications to train, find their first job and succeed at it?* It seems to us that young people leaving school without qualifications face additional

barriers in developing their potential and contributing to their community, and earlier this year we held a focus group to learn more about what is happening, what seems to work and what the gaps are. Some of the key needs suggested were to build collaboration and cooperation between initiatives and to support more effective programme design and evaluation.

- *How can the Todd Foundation better meet the needs of M\_ori and other ethnic groups?* The Todd Foundation has begun this journey with workshops and training for staff and trustees. Our initial thinking with respect to supporting M\_ori is that pan-iwi initiatives, particularly those which emphasise building connectedness for whanau and rangatahi, may be helpful.
- *How can Todd Foundation better support talented and gifted kids?* Earlier this year we commissioned research from Massey University into out-of-school provisions for talented and gifted kids, including who is involved and what the gaps are. The list of providers found in the scan is available at [http://education.massey.ac.nz/massey/depart/education/online/out-of-school-provisions-for-gifted-and-talented-students/out-of-school-provisions-for-gifted-and-talented-students\\_home.cfm](http://education.massey.ac.nz/massey/depart/education/online/out-of-school-provisions-for-gifted-and-talented-students/out-of-school-provisions-for-gifted-and-talented-students_home.cfm). This research identified many funding gaps, including coordination and collaboration across providers and robust evaluation. Our trustees have also expressed a preference for focusing on academic giftedness, particularly in the science area.
- *How can the Todd Foundation better support rural Early Childhood Education?* It seems that rural kids have the fewest choices regarding Early Childhood Education, and we are interested in further exploring what role we can play in this area.

## *What we're learning*

We recently began asking our grantees to report on what they are learning as they implement the initiatives we have helped to fund. Here are some of the key themes that have emerged so far:

- Initiatives need to be clearly communicated and/or promoted to ensure good uptake.
- Initiatives generally need to be adapted for the different needs of different groups and/or you need to tightly target the initiative.
- Everything takes longer and more resource than you think. (No surprises here!)
- What happens when an initiative ends and how do we know that the impact is sustained? Some initiatives appear to meet their stated objectives well, but the long term benefits are less clear.
- Todd Foundation staff need to keep in touch during the lifespan of the grant so that we can work together to adjust things if necessary.

## *Who's received funding*

The following organisations received funding from us in the June funding round:

### **GOAL 1: Support Families to provide safe and nurturing environments for children**

CPS training: *Evaluation of child protection training* \$15,000

Every Child Counts / He Mana to ia Tamaiti: *Revise and reprint brochures* \$6,000

Fed NZ Prisoners' Aid and Rehabilitation Services: *Pilot programme to strengthen family connections for young offenders* \$45,000

Royal NZ Plunket Society: *Volunteer Training for parent education and child safety* \$35,190

Te Kahui Atawhai O Te Motu Inc: *Develop best practice for working with high need whanau* \$35,000

Youthlink Family Trust: *Family therapy for young people and their families who have substantial family issues* \$36,000

### **GOAL 2: Help Children to be school ready by age five, and, after that, to participate actively in school life**

Far North Parent Mentor Cluster: *Resources and part time administrator costs for rural pre-school programme* \$30,000

Autism NZ Inc: *Training for Holiday Programme Staff* \$13,300

Cystic Fibrosis NZ: *Laptops for young people with Cystic Fibrosis* \$20,000

Emerge Supported Employment Trust: *Pilot programme for disabled students to transition into work* \$16,300

Parent to Parent: *Training for Sibling Support and for support parents to become advocates* \$59,000

PHAB Association: *Training for mainstream youth workers to work with disabled young people* \$34,320

Standards Plus: *Contribution towards bringing Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network to NZ* \$10,000

### **GOAL 3: Help young people to develop their potential and contribute fully in the community**

Holiday Seminars Charitable Trust: *Scholarships for low income kids and marketing expenses* \$20,000

ChCh School of Medicine & Health Services: *Completion of Crohn's Disease research* \$5,000

NZ Association for Adolescent Health and Development: *Capacity building and collaboration for regional youth development organizations* \$55,000

Wellington Ending Violence and Abuse: *Pilot programme encouraging non-violence in youth* \$13,400

## *Our commitment*

At the Todd Foundation we understand that how we give is important. The following is a statement of our commitment to applicants and grantees:

1. We will respect and appreciate your commitment to making a difference.
2. We will listen and learn
3. We will have regard to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi

4. We will keep our processes clear and simple and be available for advice when requested
  5. If we say no to a funding request, we will do so respectfully and provide a clear reason.
  6. If we say yes to a funding request we will notify you personally, pay promptly and will be available to provide advice and feedback throughout the life of the grant. We are interested in what you are learning and open to discussing any adjustments to funding purpose based on these lessons learned.
  7. Our aim is to work together to change lives for the better.
- we do not generally make grants to groups whose main purpose is to promote a message rather than provide a service
  - we do not generally make grants to individual schools or early childhood centres, nor to external providers delivering within schools
  - we generally prefer to fund initiatives that are available nationally or in more than one region, and regional organisations who are part of a national structure should apply through their national office. We do however consider some regional initiatives, particularly those with potential to be used more widely or innovative initiatives from high need areas where funding is harder to find
  - we seldom commit to funding a project for more than **three** years
  - we seldom fund organisations that are not a charitable trust or incorporated society or on the way to becoming one
  - we do not normally support projects that would be considered part of the Government's social contract responsibilities or are clear candidates for corporate sponsorship
  - where appropriate, we are interested in proposals that demonstrate collaboration and cooperation between organisations and/or where learnings and resources are made available more widely
  - we are particularly interested in applications aimed at one of our five current target areas: High Need Families, Early Childhood and Childhood Education, Disabled Children, Talented and Gifted Children and Youth Development.

## *Funding Guidelines*

If you wish to apply for funding to the Todd Foundation, please go through our web site for full details of the application process. Please also note that if you wish to put in an application for our next funding round in November you would need to send in the one-page "Outline of Application" by the end of August. However for your convenience here is a reminder of our guidelines:

1. Will your project/initiative materially contribute to one of our key goals? (see next section)
2. If your organisation is part of a national structure, are you the national office?
3. If you have received a grant from the Todd Foundation before, is the project complete and have you completed all reporting requirements?
4. Have you checked that your funding is **NOT** one of the following excluded purposes? We do not fund:
  - buildings and associated capital items
  - purchase of vehicles
  - overseas travel
  - sports organisations
  - projects that are already complete
  - fund-raising appeals by a second party

### **Additionally:**

- we do not generally make grants to individuals

## *Our Vision and Goals*

Our vision for New Zealand Aotearoa is: *A place where everyone can contribute to the best of their ability in a society that nurtures and values young people, encourages endeavour and tolerance and recognises our cultural diversity*

To work towards this vision, we focus on the following key goals:

- *Supporting families and communities to provide safe and nurturing environments for children*
- *Helping children to be school ready by age five and, after that, to participate actively in school life*

- *Helping young people to develop their potential and to contribute fully in the community.*

These goals are in turn achieved by directing our funding to the following target areas:

- *High Need Families*
- *Early Childhood and Children's Education*
- *Disabled Children*
- *Talented and Gifted Children*
- *Youth Development*
- *Scholarships and Awards*
- *Environmental projects that address climate change through encouraging sustainable living (2007 Centenary Fund focus: by invitation only)*

### *How to contact us*

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