

June 2021

Dear Friends and Family of Totara Farm Trust

Greetings from Team Totara. It's so hard to believe we are at the end of June – time really feels like it's flying by.

The Taupo Holiday

Those of you that are following our Facebook page will know that it was a massive success. The people supported and the staff had a whale of a time and enjoyed a wide range of activities, meals out, evening movies – such a variety and such a privilege to play a small part in.

Those who did not go to Taupo because it wasn't their preferred option have had an alternative holiday already or have one in the pipeline.



The People we Support.

We have had a few internal moves driven by our constant commitment to having the right people in the right homes. All are settling into their new homes well and we will, as always, closely monitor these changes. We will revisit these changes if there is *any* cause for concern.

We are tracking well with our annual 360° reviews. All the people we support have or will be revisiting their goals, what's going well for them, what they'd like to change, and can have whoever they chose to attend this review. We keep a close eye on goals, living arrangements, activities etc on an ongoing basis and this annual review allows for a deeper dive when looking at the upcoming 12 months.

Friends & Family Group

Many thanks to those of you who have expressed an interest in taking part in the friends and family group. Unfortunately, we have had a few unforeseen hurdles to overcome which has delayed progress. We will be in touch in the next few weeks to update you.

Team Totara

We have welcomed new staff to Team Totara over the past number of months. This has primarily been to replace people who are on extended leave or have moved on from the Trust. All have settled in well and we're really happy to have them contributing to our awesome team.

Six of our staff took part in an excellent training program focused on positive behaviour support. The learning has been fantastic, and we have enrolled a further four staff to take part in the next program starting the first week of July.

Vaccinations for Covid 19

The process for staff vaccinations is running well. The process for the people we support is less so. We are taking part in a working group to contribute to moving this forward. With a fair wind we expect to commence vaccinations in the first two weeks of July.

Unite
against
COVID-19

Strategic Planning

The two most recent audits have required a strategic plan to be submitted. The Board and the Leadership Team having been reviewing our vision and values alongside the Governance training. We are not yet ready to publish but as soon as we have fleshed out the details and had sign off from the Ministry you will be bought up to date.

We have some exciting ideas around how we do everything we can to give your loved one's full access to a full life.

Website development

We are a matter of weeks away from launching our new website. Our current website is out of date and frankly a bit embarrassing. We are excited to provide an online presence that will tell our story and provide access to resources for you and all others connected to Totara Farm Trust.

As a bit of a teaser – here's our new logo:



Finances and the budget

We will finish our financial year with a surplus that is slightly more than we budgeted for which is pleasing. We are just polishing the 2021/2022 budget and expect a modest surplus for the coming year.

With the impending changes related to Enabling Good Lives and the health and disability reform, Wendy and I are taking part in a working group related to developing a new costing model. It is great to take an active role in this process and I will keep you up to date when we have more certainty related to these changes.

As always please feel free to get in touch anytime.

Nga manaakitanga ki a koe me o koutou
whanau

Bernadette and The Leadership Team

From the Totara Farm Trust Board

One of the Trust activities that was missed last year was our annual holiday with the people we support. This year we are delighted to be able to make it happen again.

We are so proud of all our staff who took part in supervising and enjoying their time with your family members on holiday in Taupo.

The Facebook pictures told lovely stories of happy people.

We are also proud of our staff who stayed behind and kept the routines going for those who had returned from their time or were waiting for their turn.

Thank you, Bernadette, your leadership team, and all staff who made this event happen.

We have a vacancy on the Board for one more family member or maybe close family friend.

If you would like to know more about what is involved, please contact Bernadette in the first instance.

Best wishes to you all.

Sue Crockett

Board Chairman

