

Our Funders



Rātā
Foundation



Hurunui District Council

Community Hub

Case Story #5

Introduction

A report written in January 2021 by The Collaborative Trust highlighted the need for a wellbeing hub to be developed to support our youth. The Hurunui district is predominantly rural with a large geographical spread and has no public transport.

To find a physical location for such a hub was deemed to be impractical because a section of our community would never access it because of the location and transport issues. However, work towards meeting the need, the Council applied to the Lotteries Community Fund to build a custom trailer fit out with equipment suitable for events and youth activities with the goal of it becoming a transportable wellbeing hub for all of the community. We were successful.

October 2022 we were successful again with a second round of funding, also via the Lotteries Community Fund, to employ a part time youth worker and for a trailer project budget. With this we can take youth resources to events to where you are at.

Challenges Faced

- Covid related issues (shortage of supplies, increased costs and general delays) played a part in there being a delay building the trailer but we finally took ownership of the completed trailer February 2022.
- How should we brand it? A staff member briefed a design company and took 3 options out to local youth for their opinions.
- Covid traffic light system. We weren't able to visit schools to use the trailer.
- What should we outfit it with? We decided to purchase the basics for an event first (bbq, tables, chairs, safety equipment, outdoor games), then decide after using it what additional equipment would be useful.



Community Hire

The primary use of the hub is the council's community led development work but we wanted to take it a step further. Staff felt it would be a great resource for community groups to utilise so have made it available to community groups to hire for a minimal fee.

Anyone wishing to book the hub trailer can email:
community@hurunui.govt.nz



Outcomes

- The hub has met the need for a youth friendly resource that everyone can use.
- We're able to load everything for our summer pool parties into the hub and pitch up at the pool.
- We're excited the trailer is in the community at youth organised events, Council and community events, such as fireworks evenings.
- The trailer is available to community members to hire and make use of these resources.

2023 Pool Parties

The hubs first real test was the 2023 Kia Ora Summer Pool Parties, travelling to 11 locations around the Hurunui district.

Staff were able to load everything needed... bbq, tables, chairs, chilly bins loaded with sausages, gazebo, cooking utensils, games, water containers and a speaker system. We knew that everything would be in the right place for the next pool party.



Community Hub on Tour

The community hub provides a means to set up for a youth activity anywhere in the district with heaps of resources in one easy to move place .

We are stoked it can be utilised across our community throughout the year and be full utilised by anyone running events in the community.

*Jo Sherwood
Youth Development Officer, Hurunui District Council*