



Kaipātiki Project
share in nature's revival

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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WHO WE ARE

Based in Auckland’s North, Kaipātiki Project is a not-for-profit, community organisation inspiring people to share in nature’s revival and live lightly on this planet.

We facilitate forest, stream and estuary restoration activities, on public land and in backyards. With support from our passionate volunteers, together we run a thriving native plant nursery where each year we grow 40,000+ native plants. We encourage zero waste and local food initiatives to close the loop, reduce the need for fossil-fuelled transport and new resources, and reduce our community carbon footprint.

The heart of our service is at the Kaipātiki hub, which we maintain as a happy, welcoming, busy and inclusive second home for our community. Knowledge and skills to bring our vision to life lie with many people and so we create opportunities for sharing and exchange to take place. The hub is a demonstration site for many ways to revive nature and live lightly; a place of sharing and exchange – of skills, knowledge, ideas and aspirations.

While serving our own place in the Kaipātiki community is our priority, where other communities are inspired by our work, we commit to sharing our skills and understanding to enable them to establish their own initiatives. As part of our continuing commitment to sharing skills and supporting initiatives across Upper Harbour, we have established a smaller hub at Hobsonville Point, including nursery, food forest and compost hub activities, in response to local community interest.

We seek to overcome the difficulties people have to engage in reviving nature and living lightly by understanding our local area and people; identifying specific barriers to change; and designing our service to overcome those barriers. We want nature’s revival and living lightly to be easy, practical, impactful, community-connected, and fun. In all our work we treasure mātauranga Māori and practise concepts of good stewardship.

And we work together to grow our impact, with many diverse volunteers, members, partners, funders, supporters, donors and participants.

OUR APPROACH

- Make it easy, practical, impactful, community-connected and fun.
- We treasure mātauranga Māori and practise concepts of good stewardship.
- Knowledge and skills lie with many people, so we create opportunities for sharing and exchange.

By working together, we can restore our native plants, birds, bugs and fish, and help revive our environment.

Photo on cover by
Pete Forrest

TĒNĀ KOUTOU

FROM THE CHAIR AND MANAGER

Welcome to the 2020 Kaipātiki Project annual report , an opportunity for celebration, reflection and further aspiration. The past 12 months have seen unique challenges. Yet the worst of times bring out the best of us. Together, we worked with volunteers and our communities to keep connected and focused on what was important. Thank you to our wonderful board and to our staff who went the extra mile to make sure we got through Lockdown in good spirits. Thank you for the ingenuity and enthusiasm of everyone who helped make the year a success, concluding with our inaugural plant sale that, despite everything, brought us together and ensured we met our financial targets in a celebration of life.

Mauri Ora!

PURPOSE

Inspire and empower people to share in nature’s revival and live lightly on the planet.

VALUES

Manaakitanga
Humility
Inclusiveness
Respect

PRINCIPLES

- Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Seek authenticity of local place
- Practice regenerative approaches
- Act with transparency

As we enter our 22nd year, how has the environment changed, and how has our focus changed to respond? We recognise the climate emergency as the defining issue of our time. That’s why we have continued to give climate change, biodiversity threats and waste the sustained attention and prominence they demand. We also recognise that these threaten to entrench inequality, so we seek to work in a way that enables our whole community to build a movement for just change together.

As one challenge has it: What if Papatūānuku was on the Board?
Our new and emerging strategy reflects this way of working. To realise our approach of honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi, we are hosting Te Reo and Tikanga Māori classes for volunteers, staff and our wider Kaipātiki whānau, and we are also on a learning journey of ways to engage with mana whenua to support their aspirations for the environment and people.

Te Ara Awataha has taken on a momentum and life that continues to surprise and delight. Within a broader partnership for Panuku Unlock Northcote town centre development and Kainga Ora housing transformation, Kaipātiki Project is leading community ecological regeneration at the source of the Awataha stream in Jessie Tonar Scout Reserve, delivering on the vision of the Iwi kaitiaki expressed in the “Take Mauri – Take Hono” mauri indicator framework. This framework has also inspired the innovative Para Kore/ Zero Waste Northcote Action Plan. We now have 44 waste reduction priority actions across residential and business activity, construction & demolition, parks and streets, food systems and schools; all supported with advocacy, storytelling and events to connect and celebrate the programme and the local champions leading it.

Our staff continue to develop and secure funding for inspiring programmes to welcome our superdiverse communities to participate, learn and lead – for Pasifika communities, people with disabilities, new migrants, refugees, and people from ethnic communities, rough sleepers, as well as youth and older adults.

Recognising that no one group can do it alone, we continue to practice partnership and collaboration, such as our Kaipātiki Stream Care programme, now being jointly delivered with Pest Free Kaipātiki, allowing us to bring together the talents and strengths of both organisations across the whole Kaipātiki Local Board area, with a bolder goal of all streams supported to have capable care groups.

Also new last year has been the Eco-Broker North programme, looking for ways to connect and support groups across local board boundaries and established networks, to think outside the box, and increase the impact of all our activities.

In these ways, we can together address the challenges of regenerating our environment in ways that create a space for everyone to share in nature’s revival.



Charmaine Bailie, Chair



Janet Cole, Manager

Ko Taropehu te maunga
Ko Oruamo te awa
Ko Te Hau Kapua te takiwā
Ko Pākaurua te rohe
Ko Te Rōpu Kaipātiki tamore mātou
No reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou,
tēnā koutou katoa.

This pepeha was kindly gifted to Kaipātiki Project by Matua Pat Ruka.





WELCOME

TO OUR TEAM AT KAIPĀTIKI PROJECT

VOLUNTEER BOARD

CHARMAINE BAILIE, *Chairperson*
Charmaine grew up just down the road from the Kaipātiki Project centre and has been involved with Kaipātiki Project since 2000 in many different roles. Charmaine is also a Director of Uru Whaakaro Ltd – a natural heritage company.

CERASELA STANCU, *Deputy Chairperson*
Cerasela joined the Board in October 2016. She has had senior roles in environmental NGOs in her native Romania and in Hungary. Here in New Zealand she has led sustainability management programmes at Fonterra and Landcare Research and is now a consultant sustainability strategist.

LUCY MCKENZIE, *Board member*
Lucy joined the Board in July 2014. She is the Sustainability Advisor at AUT University and has spent many years working in the sustainability field in NZ and the UK. Lucy is stepping down at our AGM, and we look forward to hearing of her next adventures. Thank you for all your support and contributions.

JENNY CHILCOTT, *Board member*
Jenny has been on the Board since July 2016. Her background is in community-led development and engagement, and she also worked at Waitakere City Council as Strategic Advisor on Project Twin Streams.

HILARY CHIDLOW, *Board member*
Hilary joined the Board in October 2018. She has over 22 years' experience as Manager, Education for Sustainability at Auckland Council.

NIGEL GREEN, *Board member*
Nigel joined the Board in October 2018. He has worked as a Manager in the Social Profit sector since 1993, and has broad experience in all aspects of management with a particular focus on developing and supporting community.

BEN SHEERAN, *Board member*
Ben is an experienced resource management policy planner, environmental economist and project manager. He brings over 15 years' experience in the practical application of sustainability and is actively involved in local community conservation.

THE TEAM

Operations



JANET COLE
Manager



SANDRA ATKINS
Operations Manager



JOANNE KYRIAZOPOULOS
Grants & Impact Specialist



IRINA ZGOBA
Cleaner

Education, Communication and Events



SAM TU'ITAHĪ
*Kaitakawāenga
Hāpori | Community
Activator*



BLANKA ROS
Marketing Strategist



DALIDA SEMENOVA
*Digital Media
& Communications
Co-ordinator*



ALYSE YOUNG
Event Co-ordinator

Regenerative Environments



DEREK CRAIG
*Restoration Nursery
Manager*



CRYSTAL ASTON
Nursery Assistant



NEIL HENDERSON
*Kaiwhakahaere Taiao |
Restoration Activator*



**TAKUTAI MOANA
WATTS**
*Kaiawhina Kaitiaki |
Restoration Assistant*



DORIAN SCOTT
*Restoration
Navigator*



BRETT STANSFIELD
*Freshwater Ecologist
(contractor)*

Live Lightly



JUDITH ROSAMUND
*Teaching Garden
Co-ordinator*



ANNA SHAW
*Administration Assistant
& Compost Collective
Co-ordinator*



BUFFIE MAWHINNEY
Sustainability Activator



LUCY PIERPOINT
Eco Navigator

Aroha nui goes to Alyse Young, Buffie Mawhinney and Lucy Pierpoint, who were on short-term contracts or have left during the year. Thank you for all your support, help and contribution towards Kaipātiki Project initiatives and our journey.

OUR IMPACT

ON NATURE'S REVIVAL

2020		2019	% change
41,760	eco-sourced, chemical-free native plants grown (83 species)	30,850	↑ 35%
147	nursery & teaching garden volunteers	152	↓ -3%
4,621	nursery & teaching garden volunteer hours	3,688	↑ 25%
39	restoration and planting days	28	↑ 39%
709	restoration volunteers	584	↑ 21%
2,750	restoration volunteer hours	2,359	↑ 17%
662	kg of pest plants removed	Not reported	Not reported
612	workshop and course participants across 30 events	302	↑ 103%
6,012	Compost Collective workshop participants across 399 workshops	6,231	↓ -4%
522	tonnes of waste diverted	493	↑ 6%
266	students involved in youth education programmes, including Kaipātiki Stream Care across 27 events	40	↑ 565%

FINANCIAL

OVERVIEW

AT A GLANCE

Building on our 2019 position, we have continued to strengthen our financial sustainability through remaining focused on delivery that creates and grows value for our communities, resulting in growth of self-generated and contract income, employment creation and diversified contract delivery. Taking into account capital purchase income, the result of a small but positive net outcome was made possible by the receipt of the government COVID-19 subsidy and intentional, careful management by board and staff.

Income	Capital Income	Net position
\$994,229	\$50,133	\$51,240
Direct Costs	Operational Costs	
\$796,633	\$196,489	
Assets		
\$476,308		
Liabilities	Net Assets	
\$281,053	\$195,255	

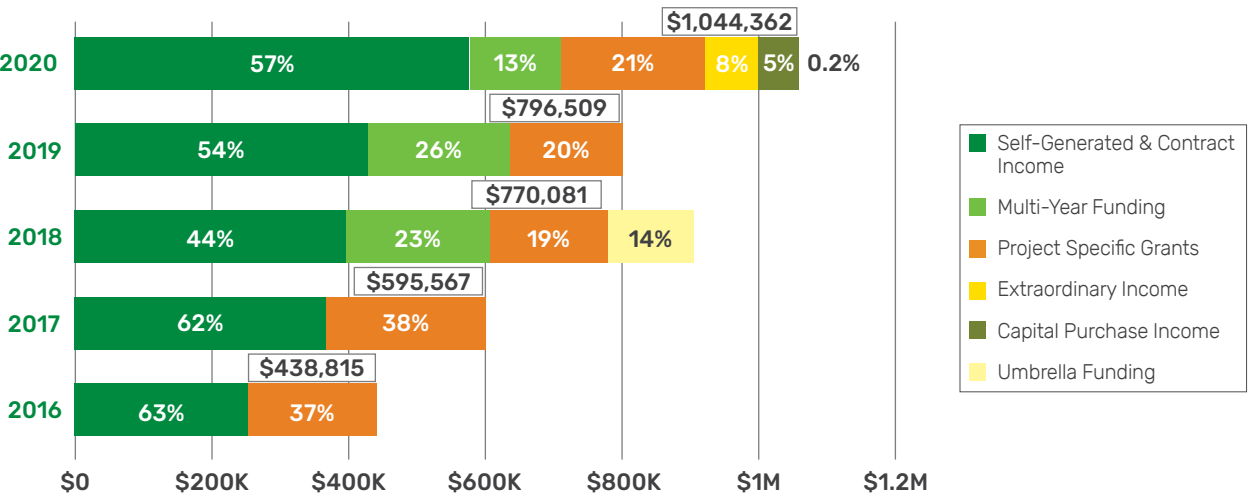
BUILDING TOWARDS A SELF-SUSTAINING FINANCIAL MODEL

Kaipātiki Project has continued to grow and diversify our income streams by:

- Expanding our funding partners to support work in all our programmes and tikanga practice
- Growing our capability and capacity in stream and coastal margins work through partnerships
- Developing the capacity of our native plant nursery to support the regeneration of the landscape matrix across public and private land
- Growing our contract work in Para Kore/ Zero Waste
- Running new fundraising initiatives, such as Gift a Tree, Teaching Garden Appeal and Native Plant Sale
- Strengthening our annual membership and donor base.

2020 has presented the challenge of COVID-19 lockdowns demanding modified delivery. Particular attention has been given to continuing to deliver well against our growing work and ensuring we continue to meet objectives through adaptation and commitment in challenging conditions.

INCOME SUSTAINABILITY 2016-2020 SPLIT OF INCOME



There have concurrently been opportunities through this period, with increasing focus on a 'green recovery'. Over the next year, we will continue to focus on building value, so Kaipātiki Project can grow as a resource to empower our communities in stepping up to share in creating collective resilience through these challenging times.

SHARING

IN NATURE’S REVIVAL

‘By 2030, Oruamo and Kaipātiki Stream catchment will be renowned for its healthy waterways and estuaries, its diverse and pest-free native urban forests that are able to support kākā and kōkako, and for children and adults being immersed in nature.’

Natural biodiversity is the variety of all living things and ecosystems. It includes plants, animals, fungi and micro-organisms as well as the ecosystems (on land or in water) where they live. Biodiversity can be of any scale – it could be a patch in your backyard or the whole planet. Biodiversity is the web of life.

“Biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people are our common heritage and humanity’s most important life-supporting ‘safety net’. But our safety net is stretched almost to breaking point.” (Te Mana o te Taiao – NZ Biodiversity Strategy 2020)

We believe the heart of wellbeing for nature and people lies in belonging. Through love of place, embracing diversity, and the sharing and exchange of knowledge and skills, we can empower our communities to share in nature’s revival and live lightly on the planet.

NATIVE PLANT NURSERY: GROWING A RESOURCE FOR ALL

A local centre for native plants and plant knowledge.

Led by Restoration Nursery Manager Derek Craig, our passionate volunteers eco-source, propagate and pot up tens of thousands of native plants every year to help restore the bush for our native birds, animals and plants, and remove carbon from our atmosphere. Our community-driven, chemical-free kaupapa reflects our regenerative, whole system approach.

Our nursery operates at sites in Birkdale and Hobsonville Point to produce an extensive range of native plants, from shrubs, trees, climbers, to ground cover as well as a mix of pioneering and canopy species, understory and wetland plants. We grow all plants from seeds sourced from the Tāmaki Ecological District.

Another fantastic year growing 41,760 native plants, 35% more than the previous year. We grow 80+ species to increase native biodiversity across the region in reserves, forests, backyards and beyond. We enjoy working with keen locals as well as developers, landscape architects, restoration groups, schools, tertiary institutions and Auckland Council’s Community Park Rangers, Tūpuna Maunga Authority, Panuku, and Kainga Ora who share our vision of a diverse regenerated environment. We continue to develop our relationships with mana whenua through enabling reciprocal learning with iwi and hapū nurseries, as well as working with organisations such as Hōkai Nuku Ltd – a collaboration of four iwi and hapū primarily focusing on Ara Tūhono Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of national significance.

As we prepare for the Kaipātiki Project EnviroHub to be deconstructed and renewed, the entire site at 17 Lauderdale Road must be cleared. The nursery storage sheds, potting area, shade house, water tank, thousands of potted plants and the teaching gardens are being

Community involvement and learning opportunities are crucial to our work, with an educational component for our volunteers being one of our key elements. The combined effort of a small team of staff and a huge team of volunteers keeps our nursery sites and restoration work buzzing.



moved. We worked with Carl Pickens, Landscape Architect to design a fit-for-purpose temporary and long-term nursery development plan. With approval from the Kaipātiki Local Board we have been able to extend the use of grounds to accommodate the relocation of the nursery.

Thanks to funding support from Lion Foundation we started the nursery relocation during Autumn. This included laying matting and gravel for the extended nursery area with irrigation laid in. Two containers being brought in for storage, new 9m hothouses and construction of a large shade house from second-hand scaffolding.



**Biodiversity
and nature’s
contributions to
people are our
common heritage.**



REFRESHED REGENERATION IN THE ESKDALE RESERVE NETWORK

The initial inspiration and continued focus for Kaipātiki Project's restoration work lies in the Eskdale Reserve Network. These reserves combined (approx. 74h) are a unique urban forest eco system in the Tāmaki Ecological District. Forming part of the North-West Wildlink, they provide large areas of continuous urban native vegetation. The network encompasses depleted Kauri podsols on the ridgeline through broadleaf/podocarp forest, down to saltwater edge plants, including one of the few remaining swamps in Auckland containing Swamp Maire (Myrtle family) a rarity and treasured species threatened by Myrtle Rust.

Our experienced Regeneration Team led by Kaiwhakahaere Taiao – Restoration Activator Neil Henderson facilitates volunteer activities year-round in the reserve that contribute to Predator Free 2050, the reduction of invasive weed species and improving native eco-systems. We partner with Māori to understand how mātauranga Māori can improve environmental outcomes for the area and incorporate this into our work. We adopt a chemical free approach to all our restoration activities. In our adjacent native plant nursery, we grow from seeds collected in the reserve and then plant back in the reserve to increase native biodiversity

and provide 'forest candy' for birds and insects. Our Stream Care programme supports our restoration goals by providing regular freshwater monitoring of the stream flowing through the reserve, contributing data on progress. Highlights for Eskdale Reserve this year include creating a refreshed Regeneration Plan and priorities, in part triggered through Council's upgrade of Eskdale to a 'high grade' reserve, attracting additional investment and resources, including contractor time.

We have focused on removal of large areas of Kahili ginger, Tradescantia and Japanese honeysuckle, with extensive mulching in some areas to inhibit weed regrowth and keep our new infill plantings moist over the very dry summer ahead. Our traplines, now focused more on the Eskdale stream edge, continue to reduce rodent and possum numbers. We were very gratified to discover a small pool in one of the tributaries that was surprisingly rich in stream life such as kōkopu, tuna and koura. An additional treat for us was having the opportunity to harvest a fallen Tānekaha tree for cultural purposes, in coordination with the local Parks Ranger. The bark is now being used for dying harakeke muka and the trunk will be carved and used over the next year.

SUPPORTING HABITAT HOBSONVILLE

Kaipātiki Project has been instrumental in establishing a new community volunteer group in Hobsonville Point focused on restoration. We facilitated the development of Hobsonville Pesky Pests and then mentored volunteer Dorian Scott to step up as co-ordinator. The group has grown to 30 members and renamed themselves Habitat Hobsonville, to reflect their passion for restoration of the natural habitat. The group gave over 370 volunteer hours invested to: destroy substantial amounts of privet, remove over 80 rats, 170 mice and 6 possums, and developed a sustainable community group.

Kaipātiki Project was the umbrella organisation for Habitat Hobsonville's successful application to Council's Community Facilitation & Coordination Fund. This provides them with two years to continue predator trapping and removal of noxious plants. The group has joined the Upper Harbour Ecology Network and are now collaborating in new initiatives with Kaipātiki Project and other groups around the Upper Waitematā.



TE ARA AWATAHA & JESSIE TONAR SCOUT RESERVE REGENERATION



We have also co-created a regeneration plan for the Jessie Tonar Scout Reserve following the same mauri indicator framework. To engage immediate neighbours and locals, we started monthly working bees, initially to remove a large stand of running bamboo. Businesses, local schools, and community groups have also volunteered. One of the highlights for Kaipātiki Project has been working regularly with Street Guardians in conjunction with City Mission and Tomorrow Inc. Charity. We are also excited to report finding tuna for the first time after a year of monitoring, confirming they are returning to the improved stream to continue their life cycles.

Our amazing community stewards: Some of our younger volunteers have come from Northcote Intermediate, as part of the William Pike Challenge. Others have come from Carmel College and beyond. We would also like to thank Nick Monks from Auckland Libraries who created videos capturing the energy and

enthusiasm of the project.

More neighbours have got involved over 2019, some participating in almost every single community restoration day. Neighbours were there to report seeing kōtare, tūi and kererū in the reserve, as well as banded kōkopu in the stream. We have even had a sighting and photograph of kākā – a first in 30 years. Another amazing neighbour has generously helped by watering the vegetable garden.

Since March 2019, Kaipātiki Project has had the privilege working with mana whenua and community as part of Panuku Development Auckland's "Unlock Northcote" project. Working to deliver on the aspirations of the Take Mauri – Take Hono mauri indicator framework developed by mana whenua, Kaipātiki Project is using a whole systems approach to regeneration. This framework will boost the mauri (life essence) of the stream, improve its water quality and allow it to become a habitat for birds, insects and tuna (eels) once more. It will also reconnect the community with this lost environmental taonga (treasure).



WAIPAPA STREAM RESTORATION

Waipapa Stream is an historic site situated on the fringe of the eastern side of Auckland Domain, Parnell Railway and residential properties. Since 2012, efforts have been taken to remove rubbish and replant the riparian edges with natives. Kaipātiki Project has been engaged by Auckland Council for the past three years to work with local community, including adjacent residents and representatives of Summerset retirement village. A canopy of native plants now shades the stream and consequently the quality of the water has improved with increased numbers of macro invertebrates detected. In addition to regular working bees and planting days, Kaipātiki Project has also explored a range of other avenues for building sustainable community engagement including establishing animal pest control, engagement with local schools, establishing a trap library with Parnell Trust, and training around WaiCare testing.

In 2019, several large Chinese Privets were cut down, which was greeted by disapproval by neighbours who treasured them as sight and sound screens between their properties and the busy rail line. As a result, it was agreed to replace them with several larger native trees, with the first group planted in November 2019 and the second group in May 2020. This time, a trial of handfuls of wheat were scattered into the holes before the trees went in. The idea behind this is the sprouting wheat creates gaps for the roots, and provides extra nutrients for the tree once the sprouts die.

In June 2020, moving to Level 1, we were able to organise a community planting morning with 180 native plants along the edge of the stream and in areas where there were big gaps in cover.

IWI, HAPŪ & COMMUNITY NURSERY NETWORK



In 2018, supported by Council's Natural Environments unit, Stage 1 of this project focused on a stocktake. The research identified 31 nurseries across Auckland that fit the definition, plus Trees for Survival in many schools. The report recorded a range of knowledge areas and identified volunteers as 'the part of the powerhouse that keeps nurseries going'. One outcome was a desire by staff and volunteers to connect more with other nurseries and to learn through a shared work programme. It identified the areas of interest and proposed ongoing work to support an increased range of networked nurseries as next steps.

Building on the findings and engagement from Stage 1, work this year focused on consolidating relationships and partnering with members and stakeholders to develop an effective learning network, addressing shared issues and challenges.

Although COVID-19 created substantial challenges to rolling out Stage 2 through workshops and nursery visits, the growing network has started to share through the Iwi Hapū Community Nurseries Facebook page. Through further nurseries' visits and the workshops that did manage to go ahead, we have brought together a range of recommendations for next steps. These range from support for Kaipara Moana remediation programme through extending a native nursery network specifically tailored to meet local needs, through to developing specialist nurseries such as epiphyte or fern nurseries to boost range and availability. With each of these opportunities, there is the ongoing sense that nurseries play a special part in developing and supporting the growing appreciation of conservation, as well as generating income and creating community connection and resilience.

The lifeblood of restoration projects flows from knowledge held by the people running them and the nurseries that restock habitat.

It was this observation plus seeing that many native plant nurseries were shutting up shop that led Kaipātiki Project's Charmaine Bailie in her Uru Whakaaro role to lead an innovative initiative to explore how we might come together to achieve ongoing sustainability of Auckland nurseries. For this project, nursery was defined as an area used to grow native plants where any profits are returned for the economic benefit of the community it serves.



LIVE LIGHTLY ON THE PLANET



By 2030, our communities have a reducing environmental footprint because everyone regularly:

- **refuses, reduces, reuses, repairs, recovers and rethinks rather than consumes new items, and**
- **meets their food needs from local sources**

DEVELOPING OUR TEACHING GARDENS & COMPOST HUB

With generous support from Foundation North, we have been able to welcome our wonderful Teaching Garden Coordinator, Judith Rosamund to the Kaipātiki whānau. Building a sustainable edible garden is a circular process starting with improving soil fertility, planting strong seeds, maintaining plant health organically to produce nutrient dense food, harvesting and sharing this abundance with community, saving seeds for the next growing season, and working to the environmental conditions. All our organic material including food scraps are composted to go back into the soil, drawing down carbon and reversing climate change.

Through Judith's inspiring leadership plus enthusiastic hands-on help from volunteers we have built 12 organic garden beds which are cared for by volunteers during our twice weekly volunteer mornings at the Birkdale garden. Even lockdown didn't stop the progress. Alison, a long-time garden volunteer, planted seeds just before the lockdown, and looked after them at her home. When we came back, Alison brought along the seedlings ready to be planted. So far, we are growing silverbeet, kale, fennel, beetroot, spring onions, lettuce, coriander, asparagus, broad bean, herbs and strawberries.

As part of the redevelopment of the Engine Bay Nursery in Hobsonville Point, a community Food Forest has been established on a sloping section of the site next to the public walkway. We also established a new Community Compost Hub in the grounds, generously supported by Compost Collective, Four Winds Foundation and the Upper Harbour Local Board. The hub includes four Carbon Cycle Composter systems and large bins to collect

bokashi food scraps from local households. We aim to maximise the number of households/groups bringing their food waste to the Community Compost Hub – potentially up to 120 households contributing weekly. We will also educate and support the community to use the living compost to increase soil fertility and grow their own food, helping to build food resilience and practice a whole systems approach.

We also have five thriving vegetable beds on site. The volunteers tend the garden and the food forest, which are currently full of fennel, coriander, rhubarb, spinach, currants, apple, peach, plum trees and more to come. Compost from the hub will go back into the orchard, nursery and community, closing the food loop and creating zero waste.

It's always rewarding to share nutritious goodies from our community Teaching Garden with volunteers, while using the neighbouring harakeke to make māra kete (garden baskets). It feels right when you walk away with the fruits of your labour, in a kete that you've just learnt to make -zero waste and wholesome nutrition!

By developing our Teaching Garden and Community Compost Hub we have much greater capability to share and exchange knowledge and skills, we can empower our communities to share in nature's revival and live lightly on the planet. They are a great addition to our services and will be the base for providing guidance and support to other community and teaching gardens.



**Everyone's food
needs are met from
local sources.**



THE COMPOST COLLECTIVE

A behaviour-change programme building community capacity to divert waste from landfill and carbon from the atmosphere through on-site composting of food and garden waste.

Compost Collective is a collaboration between Kaipātiki Project and EcoMatters Environment Trust, contracting to Auckland Council as part of the movement towards zero waste 2040. With a team of keen composting facilitators, Compost Collective offers free home, small business and community composting courses about worm farming, bokashi buckets & traditional composting bins. The purpose of these courses is to encourage Aucklanders to minimise waste; turning it into useful compost for the garden.

Our impact to-date: In Auckland, 50% of our household rubbish is organic waste, such as food scraps and garden clippings. Currently, this means over 120,000 tonnes of organic waste is sent to landfill each year where it remains forever. By running 399 free courses, we attracted 6,012 participants and therefore



diverted 522 tonnes of waste from landfill. Our courses are usually run face-to-face, but during the lockdown between April and May 2020, we delivered 32 courses online via ZOOM and Facebook Live and a further 27 Facebook video presentations. Our facilitators showed amazing adaptability to live and video formats, engaging 475 people through live events, and a further 3,743 people through Facebook videos. Throughout, we have seen an ongoing engagement that has resulted in near equal uptake of composting compared with last year, and our highest removal of waste from landfill to date.

This is supported by setup of local compost hubs and Sharewaste promotion encouraging communities to keep their food waste local, return it to local soils, and make a local contribution to growing food security.

compostcollective.org.nz

ZERO WASTE HUI & AWARDS



In July 2016, 80 passionate community waste champions from across Auckland as well as a range of Auckland Council staff gathered to co-design a collective vision for a waste free Auckland by 2040. From this Hui, a Zero Waste Guardianship Group was formed, a select group whose mandate it is to be kaitiaki of the vision of 2040.

Every year, a regional community hui is held. In 2019 the hui, called "Back to the Future" was facilitated by Kaipātiki Project, who partnered with Auckland Council, Pacific Vision Aotearoa and Para Kore ki Tāmaki to host the event. Kaipātiki Project's Chair described it as 'a celebration of what's being done, and an opportunity to come together to get inspiration for the year ahead'.

Attended by 117 participants, the hui comprised workshops, information stalls, guest speakers, weaving and pledging. The awards night with 110 attendees celebrated the amazing mahi happening in Tāmaki Makaurau, a chance to thank and nominate those in our community walking the talk, leaders in their field or just those ordinary everyday people doing amazing mahi around zero waste. We congratulate the winners Kate McLoughlin (Leader in the Making Award), Kai Conscious Café (Fair on all Fronts Award), Enuamanu Eco Warriors (Te Moana Nui a Kiwa - Cultural indigeneity, Māori and Pasifika Award), Agnes Granada (Te Moana Nui a Kiwa - Cultural Diversity Award), Cr Penny Hulse (Legacy Award), Flourish (Reimagining the Resource Award), Hope N Help Charitable Trust (Power to the People Award) and Trish Allen (Trail Blazer Award).

PARA KORE / ZERO WASTE NORTHCOTE

This innovative programme has grown from a desire by mana whenua to see their aspirations realised in relation to Para Kore/ Zero Waste for the Te Ara Awataha/ Northcote Greenway programme. Kaitiaki representatives oversaw development of cultural indicator framework Take Mauri - Take Hono. The framework identifies Para Kore/ Zero Waste as a key indicator for success, creating a focus on achieving the Council's goal of Zero Waste 2040 in the Northcote town centre and surrounding residential and business area.

Working across all waste streams concurrently is innovative. In building support for understanding and delivery of this whiria/ strand of the framework, Panuku established an initial partnership and match funding with Council Waste Solutions to fund Kaipātiki Project in engaging stakeholders to better understand what the waste challenge in Northcote is, and explore who would like

to be involved with addressing the problem. We have now also confirmed support from Kaipātiki Local Board to match fund Year 2 of the programme, supporting implementation.

In addition to the above organisations, the following stakeholders collaborated to jointly build understanding of the problem and co-design the solutions through interviews, surveys and two hui: Kaipātiki Community Facilities Trust, St Lukes Community Church, Northcote Intermediate, Northcote Library, Northcote Town Centre Association, Envision, Pirihahi, Kainga Ora and Auckland Council: Community Facilities, Community Empowerment and Sustainable Schools. The resulting Action Plan identified 44 actions, grouped into five streams, with top priorities. The five streams are: Leadership, advocacy & empowerment, Activation & communication, Food waste systems, Development planning and De/construction.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT, ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Volunteers, our Heart and Soul

Strength of invaluable volunteers

Local people make a significant contribution to the social development, economy, and environment of North Auckland through volunteering. Kaipātiki Project is brimming with amazing volunteers, bucking the national trend of a decline in volunteering. Despite the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns, our volunteering numbers have grown significantly. From an average of 15 volunteers during a regular morning session, we reached new peaks at 34 volunteers during sessions in June 2020.

Our different volunteering opportunities at Kaipātiki Project include a variety of roles including; marketing and administrative support, community restoration leaders, corporate groups, community restoration days, internships, regular volunteering at our two native plant nursery and garden sites, and board governance. We strive to enable our community to easily volunteer and everyone is welcome to join our volunteering whānau, even if it is just to enjoy morning tea!



Operational costs are greatly reduced through the substantial contribution of our volunteers, who gift their service through labour and skills for free. With combined volunteer hours in our nursery, garden and restoration activity alone this year amounted to 7,371 hours, which equates to \$162,900 if valued at the living wage of \$22.10 per hour. In addition, the trend of employing people who first volunteered at Kaipātiki Project continues, with five current staff members originally volunteering.

Our volunteers are the beating heart of our organisation and we are grateful to everyone who has volunteered with us this year. Volunteer time and energy are a precious resource to Kaipātiki Project. Our small team of staff are backed by a huge team of volunteers who contribute significantly towards the impact we can have collectively over a year.

Celebrate diversity by bringing people with different experiences together and everyone is welcome!

Our regular volunteer nursery groups reflect our community diversity. People of all ages, ethnicities and abilities join us for many different reasons. People come to learn, share knowledge, socialise, meet new people, and get hands on experience.

The social environment of the nursery volunteer days promotes friendship, peer support and learning, enabling active participation for everyone in our community.



A highlight – Street Guardian Volunteers

We have been privileged to regularly host the Street Guardians – a positive approach to addressing begging in the city centre led by Heart of the City. In partnership with Auckland City Mission and support from Ministry of Social Development, this project gives members of the city centre street community a weekly opportunity to spend a day undertaking activity with community organisations. Like the rest of our volunteers, the contribution of the Street Guardians has been phenomenal in their contribution towards our collective outcomes and getting things done.



EDUCATION INITIATIVES



Sustainable Living Workshops

Every year we deliver sustainable living workshops, events and

experiences open to everyone. As we prepare for the upcoming rebuild of the Kaipātiki Project EnviroHub, we find ourselves in an exciting space with the opportunity to reimagine and refocus our contribution to education for sustainability in Auckland's north. The new fit-for-purpose space will be available to strengthen our connection with people and build communities as we strive to foster a sense of stewardship for our living planet.

In the past year, we have had the pleasure of continuing to work alongside our amazing tutors including Judy Keats, Julie Craig, Trish Allen, Dave Grant and Takutai Moana Watts.

While modes of learning have shifted to online spaces, our COVID-19 affected timelines have seen an acceleration and urgency to move in this direction. Our media team has been successful in creating a dedicated space for online resources and content accessible through our website which has seen a welcome increase of online traffic.

Raranga highlight – Birkenhead College

Our connection to harakeke has been strengthened through Takutai Moana Watts. As a practitioner of indigenous weaving, we have been fortunate with our opportunities for Takutai to teach and share her rich knowledge.

In 2019, we delivered a series of raranga harakeke workshops at Birkenhead College to senior students. In 2020, we were back at Birkenhead College to work with even more students taking up the Tikanga Māori classes as part of their curriculum.

From the first workshop with students, Takutai takes care to ensure students start well by beginning with tikanga.

Covering karakia and fundamental protocol, there is a basic importance to understand that we begin with caring for the plants. Students are taught how the blades of harakeke are cut on an angle to prevent water build up and the amount that can

be appropriately harvested from a stand of harakeke. When all blades have been harvested, the careful processing begins with trimming, sizing and softening of harakeke.

The creation of the kete was extremely successful for the students attaining their NCEA credits. The opportunities to provide for the transmission of traditional knowledge is incredibly enriching for our community and strengthens our whole systems approach in our work.

Involving schools to help solve their local environmental challenges

We continually look for opportunities to support youth to achieve their environmental goals. In addition to the stream care project, we engaged with several local schools to contribute to their project-based learning, support them in their environmental initiatives or taught students a particular skill.

It has been rewarding working alongside these young people. These student-led projects provide an opportunity for them to connect and collaborate on active projects in the community, while achieving learning goals. These projects varied from working with the Design and Visual Communication class to work on an environmental hub building design to work with a science class where a group of students from Hobsonville Point Secondary School worked in sync with wider community groups on pest monitoring lines and pest control through established trap lines in Hobsonville Point. Such projects are important for giving our biodiversity the best chance of survival.

Igniting the desire to make a difference in local businesses

As part of Project Yard 1.0, a prototype initiative created to increase biodiversity in Tāmaki Makaurau, Kaipātiki Project has been collaborating with Jim's Mowing Franchisees to share knowledge and cooperate in eradicating pests, while supporting native fauna and flora to thrive.

Despite the two lockdowns, our nursery has welcomed 11 Corporate Volunteering groups this year, with enthusiastic and passionate employees who recognise that every bit counts and how their bush regeneration activity contributes to restoring nature.

MĀTAURANGA MĀORI

Key tangata whenua members of our restoration team bring a Te Ao Māori lens into our work. This helps to inspire and educate our community of volunteers to draw on both western science and mātauranga Māori in their stewardship of the environment.

For many years our long-time volunteer, current Chairperson and visionary Charmain Bailie (Ngāti Whātua Kaipara) has led the joint Kaipātiki Project – Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei approach of whole systems, eco-sourced, spray free nursery and restoration training.

We aim to build capability of local community for learning about indigenous ecological knowledge so they are empowered to protect the unique habitats and ecosystem in a way that achieves the aspirations of mana whenua to realise Māori outcomes.

Embracing mātauranga Māori in our everyday activities:

- Te Reo course for the staff and volunteers, delivered by Te Reo Tuatahi for us all to begin feeling confident to use te reo every day, as well as be attuned to ways of acknowledging and supporting Māori aspirations in our work.
- Supported by the Stout Trust we have been developing our raranga programme; volunteers are learning how caring for the harakeke is an important part of their duties and can do



so following tikanga. A number of these volunteers are now becoming enthusiastic weavers.

- Promote learning of indigenous knowledge and environmental practices in our nursery and restoration training
- Created educational resources such as the Manaakitanga video filmed at the Pā Harakeke site in Eskdale Reserve.

ECOFEST NORTH TURNS INTO BACKYARD ACTIONS

A month-long series of eco-events to offer a diverse, interactive and educational platform for individuals, families and other communities to feel a re-connection to their nature (inner and outer), and our environment as a whole. This includes environmental events, activities, experiences and sustainable living actions.

With 100 scheduled events by 44 different organisers, the festival more than doubled since last year, and covered a wide range of eco topics and geographical areas. Launched on 21 March 2020, five events went ahead as scheduled, until the event was interrupted by the COVID-19 lockdown. It was with a heavy heart, that the remaining events had to be cancelled, as a lot of energy went into planning and we were excited about the content and spread EcoFest North had to offer.

EcoFest North 2020 was quickly transformed into the online Backyard Actions, hosted on our website. We approached the event organisers to share any workshops, ideas, activities, resources and DIY actions that require minimal guidance and materials. Collectively, we uploaded 50 activities from 30 contributors, ranging from free videos, movies and documentaries, online events, workshops, tutorials and recipes, wellness and kids' activities, and a long list of things to do in your backyard.

The community response was amazing, with our website visitors almost tripling during the Backyard Actions month. We reached 24.7k people via social media during March and April 2020, which is double the amount from the previous year. We had 75 participants to the first five events, and further 3,818 to our website during the lockdown.

Thank you to Auckland Foundation, Kaipātiki Local Board and Auckland Council for partnering with us to deliver EcoFest North 2020



INAUGURAL NATIVE PLANT SALE

With the lockdown slowing down our plant sales, we were looking for a different approach. The first of its kind at Kaipātiki Project, we ran a successful plant sale in June 2020, where we opened the doors to over 400 people from the neighbourhood. This event has not only generated over \$8,000 in a day, but also significantly raised the awareness of who we are and what we do.

The atmosphere on the day was electric. The sun came out, people were happy and excited to be released from the lockdown. Most people were local, but had never been at Kaipātiki Project before, so this has been a successful awareness building exercise, as well as a sale. The sale attracted a real mix of our community from families, young couples and young at heart, people who knew what they were looking for and people who did not but wanted to learn. Everyone kept saying that Kaipātiki Project do amazing work in the community and that they are very happy to support us. 236 of the plants sold have the potential to grow more than 1,000 years and therefore for generations to enjoy and benefit from. Species we were selling were made up of 9 species of kererū food and 10 species of rongoā plants.

Everyone was happily walking away with handful of plants, as well as grateful to receive such an amazing service and knowledgeable advice of what to buy and how to care for the plants.



ECO-BROKERS NORTH PROTOTYPE PROJECT

In May 2019, Enviro Hui North brought together practitioners and groups and facilitated networking, learning and making new connections. An outcome from this event was to progress community-led collaboration and there was strong support for another hui or other ways of connecting and sharing learning. Kaipātiki Project is leading development of a prototype for this approach, supported by Council's Regional Environment & Natural Heritage fund. One part was focused on helping groups involved in climate change and sustainability (Living Lightly led by Lucy Pierpoint), while the other part was focused on helping groups involved in restoration and predator control (Restoration led by Dorian Scott).

Year 1 saw research to identify stakeholder groups and survey their interest, mandate and needs. While there is some networking, knowledge sharing, collaboration or resource sharing between these groups there may be an opportunity for additional brokering and support to build a community of practice. In doing this, our approach was to take a light touch to cover the five local board areas of Auckland North. We also had to take a revised approach due to COVID-19, embracing online programmes.

Leaders of networks described many benefits for community groups to join existing networks. These include help with attracting volunteers, collaboration, sharing materials/tools/resources, aligning goals for the region, networking and identifying opportunities. Despite these benefits there are still groups that work alone, who may want help in other ways.

Groups surveyed ranged from new and emerging groups with little resources or plans through to legal entities with funding, leadership and plans. This was not a comprehensive survey of community groups, but results showed some common needs and priorities across the range of groups.

The most common need of groups was attracting new volunteers. This single factor is holding many groups back from doing more and having a greater impact.

Year 2 and 3 of this project will focus on addressing these needs in conjunction with other stakeholders. Identified future opportunities include: workshops for environment groups on IT systems, funding opportunities, attracting volunteers and training group co-ordinators, plus regular network meet-ups, mentoring and holding a local Enviro Hui.





PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Over the past year we have had a strong focus on the organisation's capability and capacity to deliver our bold goals - implementing the right tools and systems, supporting effective governance that supports innovation, and developing team skills for empowering people across our communities to share in nature's revival.

A FIT-FOR-PURPOSE STRATEGY

There has been huge change over the past decade of Kaipātiki Project's work - increased recognition of Te Tiriti to inform relationships with mana whenua, tangata whenua and with Papatūānuku; Auckland's ramped up development creating environmental pressures; increasing recognition of the need for a step change to reduce human impacts, and the need for that change to be just; the understanding of a circular economy to remove waste from the system; the new Auckland Council structures dismantling North Shore City and the successful working partnership we had established; the proliferation of environmental groups, many supported by Kaipātiki; and changes in Board and staff.

Our new strategy articulates our exciting vision and sets out our focus on two generational outcomes, which are broken down into a range of bold objectives and pocket strategies to achieve them.

It takes into account that no one group can achieve the once-in-a-generation changes that are required right now; we want to take everyone on the journey to success. Because success looks like our thriving communities all sharing in revival of the nature that continues to sustain and nurture us.

To increase and enhance engagement with the community, we articulated the Kaipātiki Project story and strengthened our communication channels. Inspired by Puawānanga New Zealand Clematis, our new logo represents a layered integration of place, experiences, diversity, continuous learning, and of course our passion for nature's revival. The new website and a roll-out of our refreshed digital strategy has led to significant gains in followers and engagement, as well as doubling our website traffic. The increased effectiveness of our promotional channels directly contributed to a lift in volunteer base, workshop attendance, membership base and donations by individuals.

BUILDING OUR CAPACITY

To realise the vision and these generational outcomes, the Board has sought to further round out their skills and experience, as well as develop a balance of local and wider Auckland perspectives, and build diversity to reflect the communities we work in. This can also be seen in our staff make-up, with staff who draw on a wide range of ethnic, cultural, abilities, age and experience. As we have grown from a team of 5 staff to a team of 19, we have maintained the culture of fun and continual learning - from each other and from others - throughout. This is helped by our tremendously keen volunteers, who always have a ready laugh and a reality check, plus the most surprising talents and skills they selflessly give every day, many now leading activities and ensuring the quality we deliver.

BUILDINGS AND HUBS

Kaipātiki EnviroHub - 17 Lauderdale Rd, Birkdale

About 10 years ago, we developed a vision for an expansive EnviroHub to accommodate all the activities of our own organisation plus many others. It was to be a Living Building and a learning destination. That project wasn't to be, but the work that had been invested by everyone involved has been nurtured while we sought other opportunities. Thanks to the Kaipātiki Local Board, the hub at 17 Lauderdale Road, Birkdale, is now being recreated as a sustainable Council building, with Kaipātiki Project as the anchor tenant.

We revisited the vision with Council's project managers and sustainable designers Athfield Architects, and our landscape designer & urban agriculturalist Carl Pickens. The new design responds to the constraints of the site, plus reduced funding as a result of COVID-19 and will deliver the best possible design for a light, inspiring, sustainable learning, gathering and workspace, including: A large indoor classroom and gathering space; a covered veranda gathering space; a modern office; a kitchen

adjacent to both spaces that can be separated off; more toilets including one mobility toilet, and all accessible from outside; mobility parking; and a strong connection between nature outside and activities inside. The materials themselves will be sourced from deconstruction and recycling as far as possible, and it is designed to reduce the need for energy and water use.

Of course, this will mean next year will be disrupted while we move offsite during deconstruction. Nursery, restoration and gardening activities will continue as much as possible in our beloved Eskdale Reserve Network, and we will be offering activities, curtain and container collection, and events at a range of local community spaces, so watch this space!

Engine Bay Nursery - cnr Bomb Point Drive & Mollusc Road, Hobsonville Point

With the support of Kainga Ora and the community, our nursery, food forest and compost hub is set to host a local EnviroHub building, to support the growing interest in environmental activities across Upper Harbour. We are working with architects Isthmus Group to demonstrate green building in this project as well. The design has been set into a landscape masterplan by designer Carl Pickens, signed off by Hobsonville Point design panel, and is now set to go for resource consent. Once this is complete, we will be full gas to secure capital funding to realise the potential of this inspiring building.



COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP APPROACH TO BUILD AND SUSTAIN LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS

The environment is bigger than any one organisation, and the skills, relationships and effort required to achieve the wins that will benefit all of us need to come from many. For Kaipātiki Project, collaboration, partnership and working together is the way we roll. Although this approach requires investing time to build and sustain relationships, it's a worthwhile investment. We enjoy learning from those we work with, whether it's weeding the bush, propagating plants, doing a waste audit, meeting with funders, planning a hui, leading courses or fundraising; we learn from our partners every day. We would like to celebrate partnerships that have produced rich relationships, learning and had a huge impact for those involved.

Our membership of the national collective Enviro Hubs Aotearoa provides the opportunity to connect with 15 other hubs, all providing practical support for people to look after themselves, their neighbours and their environment. It has also enabled us to jointly negotiate a multi-year funding contract with Ministry for the Environment to support our operations, and build capability through training, sharing resources and visiting other centres. The Zero Waste Network inspires, connects, enables and educates a network of community enterprises across Aotearoa to reach our

zero waste goals. We have now completed training in Resource Recovery and regularly participate in the national hui that brings together ZWN and EHA members along with those from the Community Energy Network. Understanding opportunities and sharing ideas and skills is a keyway for us to upskill through practical experience and learning from those just a few steps ahead. These memberships have also supported the work to grow the social enterprise opportunities nationally and locally, which in turn have created contracting opportunities that complement our grant funding and sales to sustain the organisation's work.

North West Wildlink's Partnership group provides another opportunity for connecting and building effectiveness. The Our Big Backyard website has been a tremendous success, with practical support for Nature's revival in our backyards, such as the Love Your Cat responsible cat owner page, with 5 tips for happy co-existence. Our NWW community partners share the work of strategies to support our networks of groups to be more effective on the ground.

We look forward to seeing more innovative, impactful delivery come from collaboration in the years to come.



Our activities would not have been possible without your help, support, collaboration and encouragement.

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS NATURE’S REVIVAL

CORE FUNDING PARTNERS		
		
		

MEMBERSHIPS

ECONZ
Environment Hubs Aotearoa
Exult (Tonic)
NZ Forest & Bird Soc North Shore
Volunteering Auckland
Zero Waste Network

CONTRACT PARTNERS

Auckland Council
Panuku Development Auckland

FUNDING PARTNERS

Auckland Foundation – North Shore Fund
Auckland Foundation – Craigs Investment Partners
Blue Sky Community Trust

Four Winds Foundation
Perpetual Guardian – The Stout Trust
Rehabilitation Welfare Trust
Upper Harbour Local Board

AFFILIATIONS/COLLABORATIONS

Kaipātiki Restoration Network
North-West Wildlink
Pest Free Kaipātiki
Upper Harbour Ecology Network

CORPORATE DONORS & SPONSORS

Barfoot & Thompson – Glenfield & Milford
BP Community Fund
Bridget Webber
Bunnings Glenfield

Build Partners
Calxa
Canon
Countdown
Deloitte
Dimension Data
DS Smith
Google Ad Grants
Link Market Services
OKCNZ
Plus 1 Creative
Qrious
Sales Force
Smith Rapak
Spark
Specsavers Glenfield & Takapuna
Westpac

IWI & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Mana Whenua Kaitiaki PWG
Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
Ōkahu Rākau
Auckland City Mission Street Guardians – Tomorrow Inc
Auckland Libraries – Kaipātiki ward
Auckland North Community and Development
Bayview Community Centre
Chinese Conservation Education Trust
Compost Collective
Conservation Volunteers NZ
EcoMatters Environment Trust
Environmental Impact Assessments
Envision NZ
Habitat Hobsonville

Herald Island Environmental Group
Hobsonville Point Residents Association
Judy Keats
Kaipātiki Community Facilities Trust
Laura Donkers
NorthArt
Oak & Thistle
Pacific Vision Aotearoa
Para Kore Ki Tāmaki
Parnell Library
Repair Café
Restoring Takarunga Hauraki
Te Reo Tuatahi
The ReCreators
VisionWest
Volunteering NZ
Waiheke Resources Trust

Waitōtara Sustainable & Resilient Living
Whaea Judy Te Hiwi
Workbridge

VOLUNTEERS

Board governance volunteers
Community group volunteers
Community restoration volunteers
Corporate volunteers
Gardening volunteers
Interns
Nursery volunteers
Operational, marketing and administrative volunteers
Project-based volunteers
Restoration leader trainees

UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2015, the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The work we do at Kaipātiki Project supports local activities that contribute to achieving these goals.



5 WAYS OF WELLBEING

The Five Ways to Wellbeing, Ētahi ara e rima ki te ngākau ora, is a set of five simple actions that have been proven to improve wellbeing in everyday life. They are:



CONNECT

Me Whakawhanaunga



GIVE

Tukua



TAKE NOTICE

Me aro tonu



KEEP LEARNING

Me ako tonu



BE ACTIVE

Me kori tonu

We have applied this model to all the work we do. We understand that being active in environmental projects, connecting to others and learning new skills helps ourselves and our planet.

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