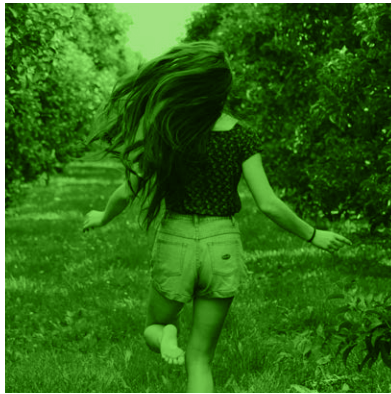


2024

Annual Report





THE ROLE OF CHILD MATTERS

Unlike many other countries, New Zealand does not currently require mandatory child protection training for professionals or volunteers working with children. As a result, individuals such as teachers, coaches, and even social workers may never receive training on child abuse, including how to recognise the signs or respond appropriately when a risk is identified.

This is where Child Matters plays a crucial role – equipping those who work and interact with children with the skills needed to recognise vulnerabilities and signs of abuse, and the knowledge and confidence to take appropriate action. Child Matters collaborates with all sectors, including professionals, community organisations, and families and whānau, offering training, policy advice, and consultation on child protection matters.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Child Matters is committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi being a core value that underpins all services and relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau. Child Matters recognises its obligations under Te Tiriti and seeks to provide culturally appropriate and supportive services.

PURPOSE

Effecting change to prevent abuse and neglect



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Our Sincerest Thanks

Kiwi Commercial Cleaning
A significant part of Child Matters' ongoing costs has been supported through the generosity of Kiwi Commercial Cleaning franchisees, staff, and management. Their belief in Child Matters' mission is driving positive change across New Zealand, and we extend our deepest gratitude for their invaluable support.





CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS



Nearly thirty years ago, Child Matters was founded through the vision of Anthea Simcock and Maxine Hodgson. Their motivation stemmed from the tragic death of 2-year-old Delcelia Witika in 1991, a victim of abuse and neglect. Recognising the urgent need to equip individuals and organisations working with at-risk communities, Anthea and Maxine sought to provide essential training and support, enabling them to identify signs of abuse and respond appropriately. Today, Child Matters offers both in-person and online training, consultancy services, policy development, and school audits, supporting approximately 800 organizations across New Zealand each year.

This year has been particularly challenging for the communities that Child Matters serves. The ongoing cost-of-living crisis has placed immense pressure on families and whānau, leading to increased demand for community services. Simultaneously, reductions in available funding and the devastating impact of weather events have further strained charitable organisations in delivering their services.

Despite these challenges, Child Matters has successfully navigated this complex environment, ensuring that its service delivery and range of child protection services continue to grow. The organisation's ability to adapt and maintain agility has been key to sustaining financial stability, which is crucial for the long-term success of its mission.

Effective governance has always been a cornerstone of Child Matters' success, with a Board that brings a wealth of professional skills, experience, and diversity. It has been my privilege to work alongside a Board that contributes their time, wisdom, and passion to guide the organisation. I extend my heartfelt thanks to each Board of Trustees member for their unwavering commitment and the value they bring to our cause. Lastly, I want to acknowledge the Child Matters team. Their collective expertise and dedication are instrumental in improving New Zealand's response to child protection issues.

Best regards
Edgar Wilson JP, MA
Chairperson

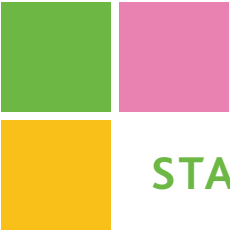


When I wrote this message for last year's Child Matters Annual Report, the country was grappling with issues of increased social pressures and the effect that was having on our tamariki and rangatahi. This year has been no different; however, as an organisation we have been able to respond to that need and continue to increase the services we are providing.

Child Matters has spent a lot of time assessing what systems we believe should be implemented and how we as an organisation can continue to adapt to offer effective support to those doing the frontline mahi. There has been an increased need for training and support that gives real and practical advice for those dealing with Child Protection issues. Child Matters has responded by developing more online services, consultancy services and developing tools for Education. I am proud of Child Matters team of experts and the passion they bring to our cause. I would like to thank each of them for the part they play in supporting organisations and community groups across the motu. Also supporting our team is a dedicated Board of Trustees who provide the guidance needed to ensure we stay true to our purpose and are strategic in how we work. I am grateful to have this oversight and thank our Board for the commitment and time they selflessly give.

Finally as we look forward to a new year, I have hope of positive change. This year has seen a shift in how as a country we view child protection. There has never been more focus on the failings of the care and protection system in Aotearoa with the ongoing coverage of the Royal Commission into Abuse in State Care, and high-profile tragic cases of child abuse have kept this issue in sharp focus. New Zealanders have never had a greater understanding of these issues and no government has a stronger remit from the public to act, so I sincerely hope that in another years' time I am writing about some good progress that has been made.

Naku noa na
Jane Searle
Chief Executive



STATEMENT OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE

The Year at a Glance

Training Statistics

2	18	5	15	98	41
NEW ZEALAND DIPLOMA IN CHILD PROTECTION (2 in 2023)	PUBLIC 5-DAY PROGRAMMES (21 in 2023)	IN-HOUSE 5-DAY PROGRAMMES (6 in 2023)	PUBLIC 1-DAY WORKSHOPS (18 in 2023)	IN-HOUSE 1-DAY WORKSHOPS (77 in 2023)	WORKING TOGETHER FOR VULNERABLE KIDS SEMINARS (42 in 2023)

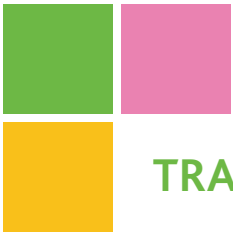


6,231 PEOPLE
TRAINED
(4,415 People Trained in 2023)



Travel Statistics

38	49	28,973
FLIGHTS TAKEN (77 in 2023)	WEEKS ON THE ROAD (45 in 2023)	KMs TRAVELLED BY ROAD (28,854km in 2023)

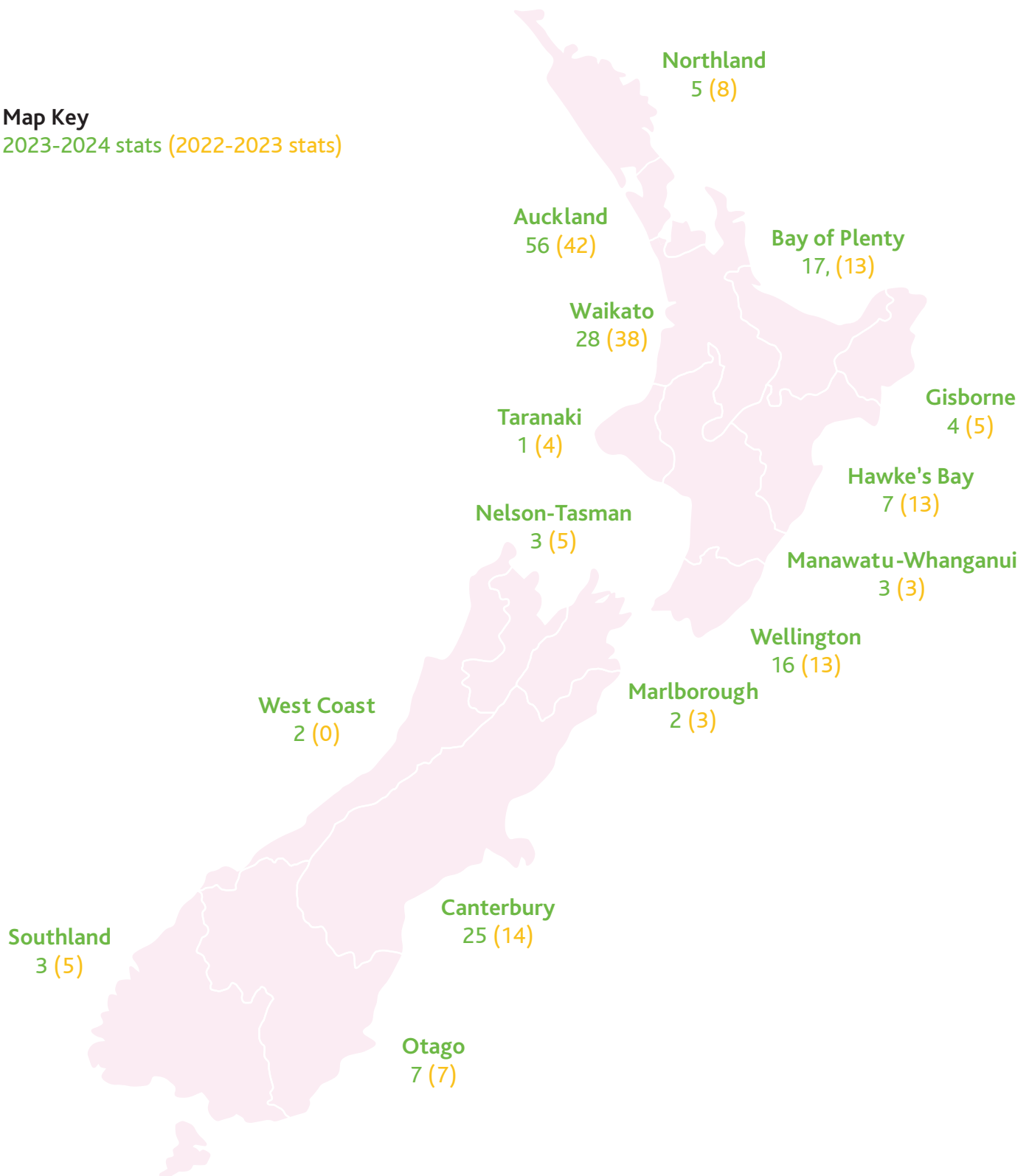


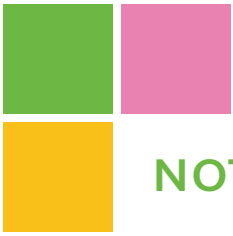
TRAINING LOCATIONS

The map shows data collected over the past two years. From July 2022 to June 2023, Child Matters ran 173 child protection diploma blocks, programmes, workshops, seminars and presentations. From July 2023 to June 2024, Child Matters ran 179 child protection diploma blocks, programmes, workshops, seminars and presentations.

Map Key

2023-2024 stats (2022-2023 stats)





NOTABLE EVENTS

JULY 2023

- Child Matters moves into new premises in Te Rapa, Hamilton

SEPTEMBER 2023

- Family Start contract begins with first delivery in Whakatane

NOVEMBER 2023

- Former National Services Manager Amanda Meynell passes away after brief battle with cancer
- Child Matters hosts a delegation from the Shiseido Child Foundation of Japan

DECEMBER 2023

- NZ Diploma in Child Protection finishes in Auckland and Hamilton
- Chief Executive Jane Searle attends the Opening of the 54th Parliament

FEBRUARY 2024

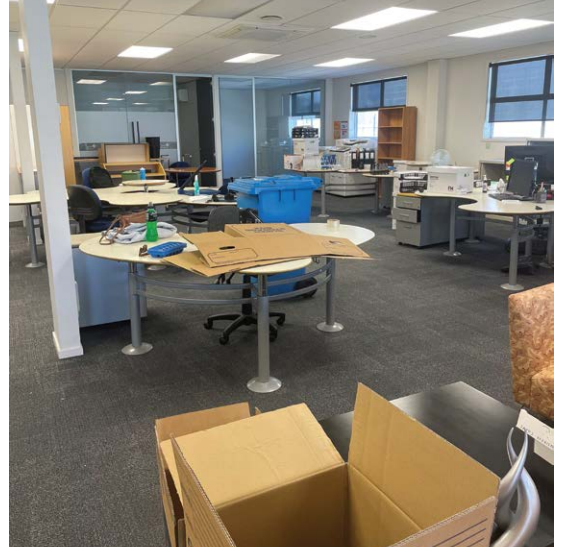
- Some courses cancelled due to new strain of COVID
- A new intake of students commences the NZ Diploma in Child Protection

APRIL 2024

- Filming begins for new online training packages

MAY 2024

- Child Protection Audit of first public school commences



Child Matters moves to new premises

In Memoriam

Former National Services Manager Amanda Meynell passed away in November 2023 after a brief battle with cancer. Amanda was the ultimate professional and completely dedicated to the cause of child protection. She was a wonderful manager, colleague, and a truly beautiful person who was passionate about standing up for those who didn't have a voice. Amanda helped shape Child Matters in many significant ways and is very much missed by the team and Board.



Former National Services Manager
Amanda Meynell



FINANCIAL MATTERS

In the 2024 financial year, Child Matters had a current year income of \$1,603,285 and made a contribution to equity of \$162,129. Child Matters has implemented significant cost-cutting measures to enhance efficiency, which has led to this surplus.

Six Year Results	
2019	\$257,773
2020	\$71,023
2021	\$135,171
2022	-\$19,693
2023	-\$1,089
2024	\$162,129

Sources of Income	2023		2024	
Student Fees	\$394,865	28%	\$354,527	22%
Grants and Scholarships	\$164,167	12%	\$191,043	12%
Government Funding	\$161,894	11%	\$137,121	9%
Fee for Service	\$645,310	45%	\$846,887	53%
Other	\$63,444	4%	\$73,707	4%
Total	\$1,429,680		\$1,603,285	



GOVERNANCE

Edgar Wilson (Chairperson) is a highly accomplished professional, serves as a Justice of the Peace and a Marriage Celebrant. With over 28 years of experience in teaching and management, Edgar has significantly contributed to secondary education both in New Zealand and the United Kingdom. His leadership skills are demonstrated through his recent tenure as Chair of trust Waikato, and Chair of K'aute Pasifika, a community organisation dedicated to supporting Pacific peoples in New Zealand. Currently, Edgar holds several key positions: he is the Chair of Child Matters, an organisation focused on child protection studies; the Chair of Hamilton Cricket Association (HCA), where he plays a pivotal role in promoting and managing the sport in the city; and a Trustee of the Waikato Housing Initiative (WHI), contributing to the development of housing solutions in the Waikato region. His extensive experience and dedication to various sectors underscore his commitment to community service and leadership.

John Bailey has a master's degree in education with a focus on children with special needs and educational leadership. John's teaching background was in primary schools, spending 20 years as a school principal in rural and city schools. He also spent time with the Ministry of Education supporting schools and children. He is now retired, plays croquet, travels throughout the Pacific and follows the progress of his grandchildren with their education and now seeing them join the workforce.

Andrew Clements is Director/Lawyer and Notary Public at Grayson Clements Lawyers. Andrew regularly advises businesses, business families, private wealth clients (domestically and internationally), and charitable entities. He specialises in structural design, family governance, trusts and succession. He is a past New Zealand editorial advisor to the British Trusts and Trustees Law Journal and a full member of the Society of Trusts and Estate Practitioners (TEP). Andrew has managed national and local training providers and consulted at the board level in the STEM, educational and philanthropic sectors.

Brendon McLean is the Head of Procurement at Prolife Foods. Brendon has extensive experience in the fast-moving consumer goods industry in New Zealand, Australia, and Asia, bringing with him strategic and commercial knowledge. Brendon has a Bachelor of Commerce in marketing and management. He was also a member of the Community and Enterprise Leadership Foundation programme in 2016, whose mission is to build future leaders who can reimagine a stronger Waikato from a social, environmental, cultural, and economic perspective.

Anthea Simcock has a background in both education and child therapy and was the founding chief executive officer of Child Matters in 1994, a role she held for 23 years. In 2012 she was awarded an ONZM for services to children. She has held many local and national roles, memberships and appointments in the social services and NFP sectors and now brings her knowledge and experience to a governance role on the Child Matters board.

Sarah-Jane Tiakiwai (Te Rarawa, Waikato) is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Maori at the University of Waikato. Sarah-Jane's PhD was in Maori Studies with a focus on Maori success in education. She has over 20 years' experience in the tertiary sector as a lecturer, researcher and executive leader working in university and wananga as well as 7 years as inaugural academic director of the Waikato-Tainui College for Research and Development, an iwi-led academic and research institution. She is passionate about working in spaces that connect and enable her to contribute to advancing the needs of Māori and indigenous communities in Aotearoa and worldwide.

Andrea Twaddle is a director at DTI Lawyers, a specialist employment lawyer and workplace investigator. Andrea has extensive experience advising and representing clients on people and culture matters, including privacy and health and safety. Andrea has a special interest in the education and mental health sectors, and acts in Coronial Inquiries. She is a Deputy Chair of New Zealand's Sports Tribunal. Andrea is an educator on legal issues and a member of the New Zealand Law Society Employment Law Committee, which monitors and makes submissions on proposed changes to employment legislation and maintains a close relationship with the judiciary and relevant government departments.

Siaki Tokolahi is a Registered Social Worker and a member of the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) for the Social Work Registration Board of New Zealand. He is a Team Leader for Te Haumirimiri Ngakau Mokopuna with the kaupapa Māori service Kirikiriroa Family Services Trust. In this role he works in partnership with Oranga Tamariki, Tuu Oho Mai and K'aute Pasifika to address Reports of Concern for central Hamilton and support whānau to develop strategies that promote child safety. He has previously worked in leadership roles across mainstream and Pacific mental health services, often in innovative roles that were the first of their kind. Siaki is of Tongan descent with a strong work ethic focused on improving the wellbeing of children and communities in the region.



WHAT OUR ATTENDEES ARE SAYING

“ Shane was a captivating, engaging tutor with an excellent personable delivery. He managed discussion well and invoked critical thought.

“ Alan was an excellent tutor – he is clearly an experienced and passionate facilitator and it is great to see his dedication to changing the way things are responded to.

“ Helen held my attention over the entire course. I found her korero very interesting and engaging.

“ Helen was amazing. She made us all feel like it was a safe place to share experiences, and she spoke in a way we all understood.

“ Shane was very engaging with interesting anecdotes and managed to maintain a positive atmosphere despite it being a difficult subject.

“ Moyna’s presentation was excellent. She delivered all the information at a great pace using anecdotes and examples to relay the messages.

“ Alan was great, an awesome communicator, very clear and to the point. I very much enjoyed his training.

“ Karen has so much knowledge and shared what she could in the time given. She happily answered all our questions and mixed up the course by playing some interactive games.

“ Karen was awesome. I’m grateful I got to meet her and have her share her experiences, her matauranga, and be taught by her, he wahine toa ia!

“ Moyna was a lovely facilitator, very knowledgeable, and considerate to everyone in the room.