

 **Aotearoa
Food
Rescue
Alliance**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2022 - 2023

Effective Food Rescue for all in Aotearoa



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"He hua toe he hua tohutohu"

LEFTOVER FOOD IS FOR SHARING

Our Values



Manaakitanga



**Open
Communication**



Integrity

The Annual Contribution of our Members

Delivered



\$70,645,094

worth of quality food
to the community.

Saved



20,595,995 kg

of CO₂(e) going into
the atmosphere.

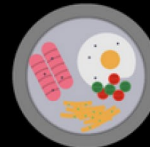
Rescued



7,772,074 kg

of quality surplus food
to people who need it.

Provided



26,975,296

meals onto the tables of
people who needed it.

Diverted



6,450,821,166

litres of water from
going down the drain.

This data covers January 2022 to January 2023. It has been provided by AFRA members from the best available data.

FROM OUR CHAIR

Stu Ennor



What a year it has been. GROWTH, DEMAND, FUNDING, SUPPLY, and FLOODING are all words that could describe this last year.

Most AFRA members have in some way been stretched beyond normal day-to-day operations. When the storms hit, you got stuck in, and when it looked like there was no food, you went searching. When you needed to find a bigger warehouse or another truck, you took it in your stride, and amongst that, we had the tail end of covid to deal with. But, you did it!

It is because of all of you and the hard mahi you put in, we as a sector, can be immensely proud of what we do. I feel very honoured to work with all of you.

Partnerships and working with one another are vital, and I am blown away when I hear how different organisations have put aside their normal way of doing things to work with another group to get food to those who need it. This is such a strength of AFRA members and has been the real story behind so many successes.

AFRA has also been busy, working with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), NZ Food Network (NZFN) and Kore Hiakai to ensure the food rescue sector is in top shape and at the forefront of many people's minds. I would like to thank the staff at MSD for all your support for the sector, without your support and funding it would not be possible. Thank you also to NZFN and your teams' hard work getting bulk food around the country to support the local AFRA members.

Mai i te Kōpae ki te Urupa, tātou ako tonu ai - From the cradle to the grave, we are forever learning.

This sector is dynamic, providing continuous opportunities to learn from each other. The inaugural AFRA Regional Hui provided an opportunity to spend time and learn together, listen and share ways to be more resourceful. Thank you so much to Foodstuffs for funding the three North Island hui and Countdown for funding the South Island hui. To the food rescue groups that also took on hosting and organising them, THANK YOU! They were amazing events and the feedback has been outstanding. I look forward to more times like that in the future. Alongside this, our Resource Hub continues to grow, what an amazing resource to have at our fingertips!

AFRA has continued to roll out the data platform, which is now showing the true value of food rescue in NZ and its benefit to the environment. The figures are staggering, and it is really starting to show the depth of what you all do as organisations. Special thanks to Meghan Hughes for your hard work in this area.

We also had an incredibly special 2nd birthday celebration at Parliament that was attended by a wide cross-sector of Ministers. What a wonderful evening and fitting location to celebrate in. Iain Lees-Galloway, thank you for the amazing job you did putting this together.

Ma tini ma mano ka rapa te whai - Many hands make light work.

I welcome our two new AFRA staff members, Matt Dagger and Rohan Reid, bringing our operational team to five. Special thanks to Dawn Hutchesson for her high-level drive and enthusiasm. I know she is thrilled to have an amazing team around her. I had the privilege recently to sit in on a work-in-progress meeting, and the number of things the team is up to is mind-blowing. Over the first two years, the team delivered on so many areas, and now with the team of FIVE and some key roles established, I am sure you will all see even more results!

Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi - With your basket and my basket, the people will live

As we head into the next year, I believe the way forward is to continue to build and strengthen our partnerships with one another. We do not know what is coming tomorrow but we can prepare now by working more closely together. The story of when the floods came, and the phone lines were down and one group sent food to another group "because they knew they would be there" is a true way of working like this. Having trust in one another is going to build a stronger tomorrow, and as a sector, we will flourish. With what I know and what you know, together we can do it, and the result will be food rescued and people fed!

He pai te tirohanga ki nga mahara mo nga raa pahemo engari ka puta te maaramatanga i runga i te titiro whakamua - It's fine to have recollections of the past but wisdom comes from being able to prepare opportunities for the future.

Yes, there is a lot to do, and one thing we all will face in the coming years is sourcing funding and the lack of it, but AFRA is well underway working hard to secure more Government funding and looking into other areas to help strengthen the sector. We know the Social Return on Investment (SROI) and the value in what you all do for the local communities around you, and it is a story we need to keep telling. With our data platform and your stories from your recipients, we will come out stronger. Hang in there, we've got this!

Thank you for all you do!

Nga mihi nui,

Stuart Ennor

AFRA Board Chair



PHOTO CREDIT: SUNDAY BLESSINGS

— ” —

"It's an honour to be part of Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance whanāu, a group of amazing people who share the same belief 'save good food for people and our planet.'"

An AFRA Member

MEET OUR Board Members



Stu Ennor (Chair)

Stuart loves helping people and coming from a Youth Worker background he sees such a connection between food rescue and reaching out to help people. Food that was destined for the bin can bring so much relief to people. Stuart leads a team in Christchurch at Kairos Food Rescue. This is a free store and food distribution warehouse model. Kairos has become a key hub in the city for food redistribution. He also leads The Christchurch Food Bank Network, which is getting all the food banks in Christchurch together to share food and resources. He is passionate about collaboration and the power of what can be achieved when we work together.



David Savage

Specialising in Leadership and Collaboration, David Savage is a Coach and Trainer with nearly 20 years of experience. He's coached leaders on the post-earthquake Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team and the Memorial Park Alliance in Wellington, as well as numerous not-for-profit organisations here in New Zealand and in the Pacific. Having travelled to different parts of the world and witnessing first-hand poverty and deprivation, he's excited to be part of the AFRA board and see its members make such a tangible and positive difference to people and the planet.



Devenga Wanigasinghe

Devenga cares about designing empathetic public services that don't leave people behind and is a senior advisor at the Ministry for Pacific Peoples.

Devenga has led and advised on work from a user-centred design lens in multi-disciplinary teams across the public and state sectors with a background in communications, user experience and service design.



Kate Porter

An experienced communications and reputation leader, Kate is also a founding member of the New Zealand Food Waste Champions 12.3. Kate was previously Head of Communications and Community for Countdown and Woolworths New Zealand and has strong relationships across the food rescue and food charity sectors, and advocates for the inclusion of food rescue as a critical part of Aotearoa's waste infrastructure, playing both an environmental and social role to reduce food waste and food poverty.

MEET OUR Board Members



Pete Nicholas

Pete is of Ma'uкеan - Ngāti Te'akatauirā - and Pākehā descent. Due to his strong social and environmental justice values, he leapt at the chance to be involved with Food Rescue Northland in 2017. He considers himself fortunate to hold this values-driven position but desires a future where food insecurity is non-existent, and the seriousness of climate change is avoided.



Rebecca Culver

While volunteering, Rebecca Culver had the idea for a free store, Just Zilch, came up. Ten years later Rebecca is the Managing Director of Just Zilch, which serves Palmerston North and the wider region. Rebecca has assisted a dozen free stores to open around the country and inspired people overseas as well. Rebecca is passionate about food rescue and the diverse range of practices, including free stores and food rescue distribution. She wants to see rescue models throughout New Zealand and access to good food for everyone.



Simone Gibson

Simone Gibson has been GM of Good Neighbour Aotearoa Trust in Tauranga since just prior to the first Covid lockdown in 2020. Over this time there have been many challenges in the food rescue and food security space where her business experiences, innovation and collaboration skills have been utilised and allowed Good Neighbour to navigate the changes and grow through them. Simone has been part of the local Mana Kai, Mana Ora Food Sovereignty and Security Plan working group which aims to ensure we have a kai secure and well-connected community by 2030. This project will bring together those that have the same passion for a local Kai System and the vision to see it flourish.



Photo credit: FAIRFOOD

— ” —

"A big thanks for the excellent work you guys are doing for AFRA members. I'm really impressed with the quality of work, as well as the hustle for advocacy that AFRA is doing!"

A Countdown Team Member

—

FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER

Dawn Hutchesson



**Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.
Welcome to The AFRA Annual Report 2023!**

I am now in my third year with AFRA, and reflecting on this time, I am reminded of the immeasurable privilege it is to serve our food rescue sector. I am thrilled to share our 2023 Annual Report as it brings our story to life, sharing insights and impact, and above all everything that goes into the Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance.

Food Rescue organisations are experiencing a higher demand than ever for food, as inflation has risen more than 7% and household expenses skyrocket. Our members are now supporting more than 1500 recipient charities, making it extremely hard to support everyone in need of food. Food rescue is a pragmatic solution to a pressing problem and it requires sustainable funding so that food can be rescued and redistributed to people in need regularly, reliably, collaboratively, and safely.

Together with our AFRA members (now grown to 33!), we're advocating hard to address the ongoing need and to help find sustainable solutions to deal with food security in Aotearoa New Zealand. Read [here](#) for more details on how you can get involved and connect with our cause!

There is so much we have once again accomplished, and I would like to extend my heartfelt thank you to all the food rescue organisations across this country for the mahi that you do every day. We are excited to see your connections continue growing from strength to strength in the future, for the benefit of our alliance members. Covid was the catalyst for people re-thinking what they do and what they value and it is important to work together, especially when resources are tight. Look at the impact we have achieved together!

I would like to welcome Matt and Rohan to our team. Up till now, there were only three of us (thank you so much Meghan and Iain!) representing and supporting the amazing Mahi of our 33 members. Together you have rescued and distributed more than 20 million kgs of food across Aotearoa, effectively providing over 56 million meals at minimal cost, to over 1500 community organisations, with the generous help from 6000 volunteers. That's a phenomenal testament to the calibre and focus of this small team doing a very big job, providing incredible value for money for our investors. To all those many organisations who support AFRA, be proud and be assured that AFRA is a truly unique charity of worth, integrity and impact!

Reflecting on our successes over the past two years, it is hugely impressive that we have many members (including AFRA) nominated for and winning awards, a Data Platform now measuring real-time food rescue data across NZ (thanks to the Hoku Foundation, Foodstuffs, Good Data Institute and Bamboo), and a Resource Hub providing important resources such as our Food Safety Guide. I also receive barrels of positive feedback about AFRA's monthly pānui, every time it is sent.

Other highlights included supporting the inaugural Zero Food Waste Challenge, which most AFRA members took part in. The Prime Minister's Chief Science Report on Food Rescue in New Zealand was released. We celebrated AFRA's 2nd birthday with our stakeholders at Parliament with Minister Sepuloni. Our second national Countdown Summit and AFRA Hui took place at Te Papa, and in 2023 we rolled out our inaugural regional hui with support from Countdown and Foodstuffs.

I am also pleased to share our Social Return On Investment report which demonstrates a \$4.50 social return on a \$1 investment is now publicly accessible for everyone [here](#).

AFRA is committed to working in partnership with others because we know that the outcomes we can achieve for food rescue in Aotearoa are far greater than what we can achieve alone. Given this, we sincerely thank our primary funders: the Ministry of Social Development, and our Food Secure Partners: Kore Hiakai and New Zealand Food Network. There are also many more valued partners that I need to acknowledge, including the Hoku Foundation, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Primary Industries, the University of Otago, 12.3 Food Waste Champions, and Simpson Grierson - thank you all.

A huge thank you to our AFRA Board, and Katy Bluett for chairing our Advisory board. I would also like to acknowledge the challenges of our alliance members' charitable boards who are often volunteers, time-poor, and face significant funding challenges in serving the needs of their communities - thank you.

With input from our membership and our Board, we have now developed a future strategy providing a framework for the next three years where our vision is to create a future where no food is wasted - see more on page 12.

The future of our alliance lies with everyone reading this report. We all know that climate change is a shared problem. We can't solve it alone, we need collaboration to respond, and AFRA is a fundamental part of this. I truly believe that together, we can achieve these goals so that our alliance can continue its role to support vulnerable people in times of need.

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini

My strength is not mine alone but the strength of many.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to help others.

With deep gratitude,

Dawn Hutchesson

AFRA General Manager

AFRA's Action Plan and Roadmap

June 2023 - June 2025

Creating a future where
no food is wasted.



Supporting a food-secure & net-zero carbon
emissions future for Aotearoa New Zealand.



PARTNERSHIPS

We use our collective strengths to deliver excellent food rescue across Aotearoa, with Te Tiriti as our guide.



CAPACITY BUILDING

AFRA and our members are skilled, secure and sustainably-funded.



ADVOCACY

We use evidence and empathy to represent and advocate on behalf of our members.



RESILIENCE

We are part of connected communities that are building social and environmental resilience.

AFRA 3 YEAR STRATEGIC ROADMAP

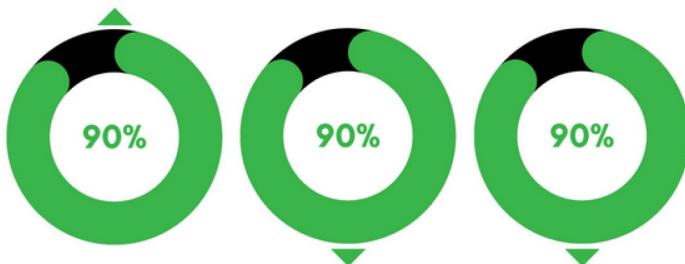
	June 2023	June 2024	June 2025	Outcomes
Te Tiriti	Building the foundation	Building the Walls	Inviting into the Whare/House	AFRA members deliver excellent food rescue across Aotearoa with Te Tiriti as our guide
Evidence Based Decision Making (Data Platform)	Build MVP to Embed & Explore	Embed & Explore	Expand & Enhance	AFRA has a standardised, authenticated data collection system tracking the value of food rescue in Aotearoa and a fully-supported operational solution for members
Capacity Building (through partnerships)	Corporate Partnership Programme Revenue Generation Strategy - AFRA Revenue Generation Strategy - Sector Membership Activation Plan Donor Partnership Plans Stakeholder Collaboration Plans	Corporate Partnership Programme RGS - AFRA RGS - Sector Activation Plan Roll out Year 2 Donor Plans Roll out Year 2 Stakeholder Plans Roll out Year 2	Corporate Partnership Programme RGS - AFRA RGS - Sector Activation Plan Roll out Year 3 Donor Plans Roll out Year 3 Stakeholder Plans Roll out Year 3	AFRA and our members are skilled, secure and sustainably funded
Advocacy (through resilience)	Manifesto & Election Campaign Communications Plan	Local Gov, Gov Budget, Policy Communications Plan Roll out Year 2	Gov Budget, Election 2026 Manifesto Communications Plan Roll out Year 3	AFRA is the recognised peak body and voice of nationwide food rescue organisations providing national support to increase food security and reduce food waste

Year in Review 2023

Survey Statistics

Respondents were asked how they believed AFRA has performed over the last 12 months, and whether AFRA has met expectations.

90% of our members and key stakeholders, filled in our Year in Review survey



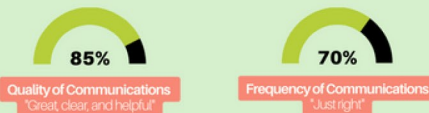
90% of respondents said AFRA has performed great to excellent in the last 12 months, with 90% saying AFRA has met most of their expectations.

Advocacy & Collaboration

100% of respondents said the monthly Pānui was pretty good to great



Here are what respondents were most interested in:



Best Practice

More than 70% of members attend workshops regularly

100% of members were interested in our planned workshops for 2023, with **Funding & Fundraising**, **Te Tiriti** and **Health & Safety** being the most popular

afra.org.nz

"We are constantly working on expanding to fill the needs of our community, but struggling with the uncertainty of funding... it's getting harder to hold the weight of so much on our shoulders"

Membership & Communications

We asked respondents the key benefits they have experienced as an AFRA member:



What of the following have provided real value to you?



Top Themes



67% increase in AFRA membership from 2022! With 33 total members in the AFRA whānau

19-39% average increase in recipient demand across Aotearoa

22-44% average decline of food supply across Aotearoa

- Volunteer support is now at an all time high with 6000 volunteers
- Need for long-term sustainable funding
- Need for donor funding support
- Need for corporate sponsorship
- Recipients are now at an all time high with 1500 recipient organisations

"We need corporates to redirect their record profits year on year towards food rescue resourcing to reduce food to landfill"

"I think more can and should be done to maximize food rescue on the new and existing donor side of things ..."



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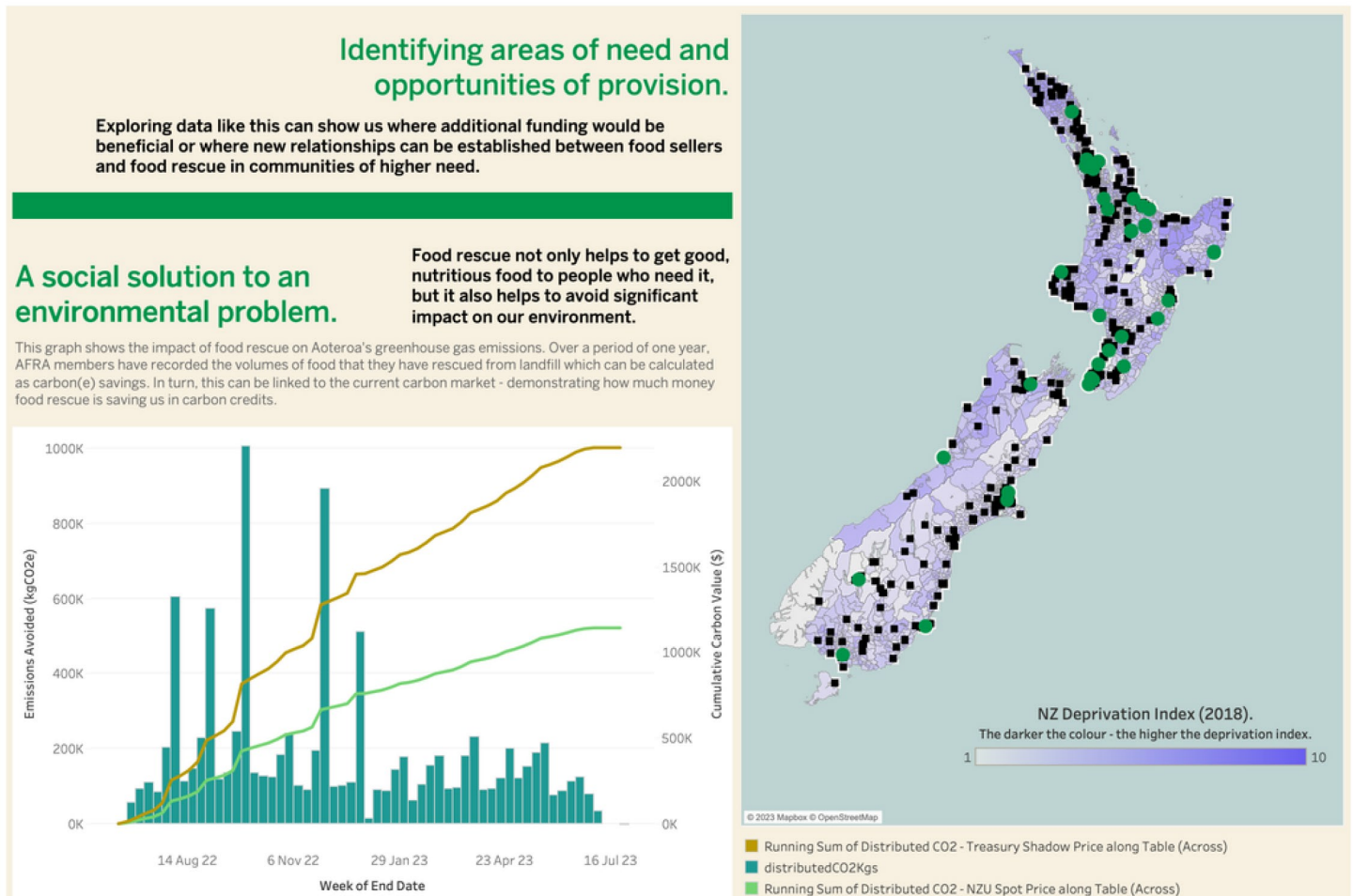
"AFRA has given our organisation invaluable knowledge over the last year and we really appreciate it. Meeting others and not feeling isolated has been a literal Godsend. Keep up the good work guys."

An AFRA Member

Food Rescue Data Dashboard

In July 2023, AFRA launched our interactive Food Rescue Data Dashboard. Built-in collaboration with the Good Data Institute, this new dashboard brings to life the critical impact of food rescue in Aotearoa.

The dashboard uses data from our platform, plus supplementary sources, including the Ministry of Social Development and Statistics NZ, to not only highlight the valuable contribution of our members but also the potential of the sector.



AFRA would like to extend gratitude to its members for providing the data that made this work possible, along with several key organisations. This includes The Hoku Foundation, which provided funding for this project over the past three years. Thank you also to Foodstuffs for providing funding for the project, The Good Data Institute for developing the dashboard and BAMBOO Creative's work within Airtable.



Nourishing Aotearoa

Campaign, July 2023



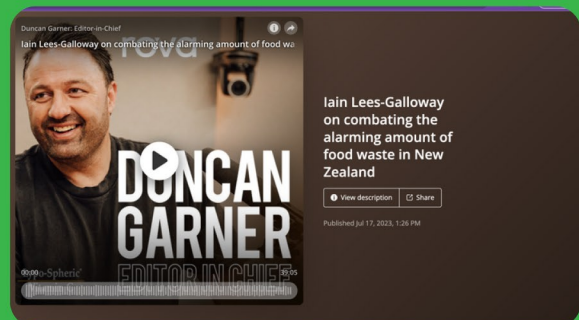
In July 2022 we launched, Nourishing Aotearoa, AFRA's campaign to secure funding and policy commitments from the political parties contesting the 2023 election. The campaign was launched was hosted by Fairfood, with a strong turnout of local politicians and news media.

The campaign called on all political parties to commit to secure funding for the sector and other policies that support food security in Aotearoa, including a national food plan. Details of the campaign can be viewed on the AFRA website [here](#).

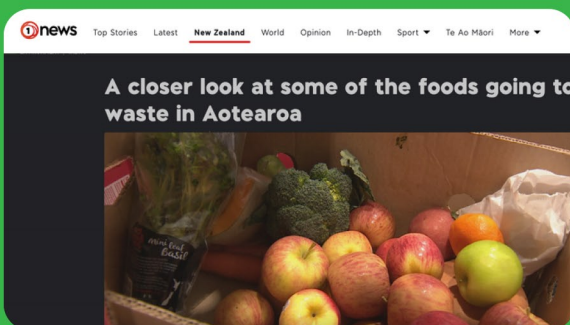
Coverage was secured in a number of key media outlets including Stuff, TVNZ and Radio New Zealand. At the time of writing this report, a media and social programme continue to be underway.



[View Stuff.co.nz article here](#)



[Listen to Duncan Garner interview here](#)



[View TVNZ article here](#)



[View social promo video here](#)

Our National and Regional Hui

Countdown Summit & AFRA Hui

In September 2022, we held our first annual hui at Te Papa. It was a great success and a joy to be amongst such positive, collaborative and constructive people. A big thank you to Countdown for sponsoring this event, which brought together our then-31 AFRA members, to connect with, learn from, and inspire each other.



Regional Hui

We were incredibly grateful to everyone who participated and brought their positive energy, collaboration, and constructive ideas to the table across our inaugural regional hui events. These gatherings highlighted the importance of collaboration and fostering knowledge-sharing across our alliance.

Extra special thanks to our hosts and sponsors. We could not have done it without you. AFRA's South Island hui was hosted by Satisfy and sponsored by Countdown. Throughout the North Island, Foodstuffs was our sponsor, and our hosts were, for Auckland & Northland, Waiheke Resource Trust; in the Central North Island, Good Neighbour; and in the lower North Island, Kaibosh.



— ” —

***"I love the work that AFRA
does and that you have our backs."***

An AFRA Member



PHOTO CREDIT: AMY MATHESON

2022-2023 Financial Report

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 20 JUNE 2023

	Actual 2023 \$	Actual 2022 \$
Operating Revenue		
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	74,000	
Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members		
Revenue from providing goods or services	592,000	375,000
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue		234
Other revenue		
Total Operating Revenue	666,000	375,234
Operating Expenses		
Expenses related to public fundraising		
Volunteer and employee related costs	438,009	304,630
Costs related to providing goods or services	191,372	49,411
Grants and donations made		
Other expenses		
Total Operating Expenses	629,381	354,041
Non-Operating Expenses		
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	1,725	1,513
Total Non-Operating Expenses	1,725	1,513
Total Expenses	631,106	355,554
Expenses Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	34,894	19,681

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 20 JUNE 2023

	Actual 2023 \$	Actual 2022 \$
Assets		
Current Assets		
Bank accounts and cash	153,962	170,364
Debtors and prepayments	7,686	3,582
Inventory		
Other current assets		
Total Current Assets Non-	161,648	173,946
Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	1,661	2,016
Investments		
Other non-current assets		
Total Non-Current Assets	1,661	2,016
Total Assets	163,309	175,962
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Creditors and accrued expenses		1,742
Employee costs payable		12,345
Unused donations and grants with conditions	40,000	85,000
Total Current Liabilities	40,000	99,087
Total Liabilities	40,000	99,087
Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)	123,309	76,875
Accumulated Funds		
Opening Balance	76,875	57,194
Surplus for the year	34,894	19,681 -
Reserves		76,875
Total Accumulated Funds	111,769	



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



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