



**2021/  
22**

# **YMCA NELSON ANNUAL REPORT**



# YMCA STRATEGY PLAN

## Mission

We are dedicated to helping improve the wellbeing of people by being a successful organisation that delivers programmes and activities that build strong kids, strong families and strong communities.

## Vision

We will make a positive difference to the wellbeing of our community and the people in it by delivering successful programmes and activities that are meaningful and relevant to them.

## OUR CORE VALUES

**Caring – Atawhaitia**

**Respect – Whakanui i te Tangata**

**Honestly – Te Whakapono**

**Responsibility – Te Awenga Atu**

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE CHAIR

2021 was another busy year for the Nelson YMCA. We continued to feel the effects of COVID in all of our activity areas but have continued to support our families and staff through these times, whilst trying to run and grow successful programmes.

Over the last 12 months staff has been a big focus for us especially in relation to their health and wellbeing. This work has not only been influenced by COVID but also the general business of day-to-day life. We continue to focus on creating a work life balance for our staff and improving their job satisfaction. Despite that we have seen a reasonable turnover in staff. However, we are fortunately now in a positive position to effectively and efficiently move forward as an organisation.

As was the case last year, our auditors have not completed the process for auditing our annual accounts. We proposed that the AGM adopt the unaudited accounts and we will call a Special General Meeting if any issues arise that the Board cannot deal with in the ordinary course of its business.

This report covers our operations and performance for the period from January 2021 until January 2022. We have however commented on some more recent matters as they are relevant to our current circumstances and future prospects.

# OUR PEOPLE

Our organisation continues to rely on its managers, staff and volunteers, in both operational and governance roles. We would like to acknowledge and thank them all for their commitment and the hard work that they do.

We employ approximately 48 staff over all of the YMCA Nelson activities, with a majority of our staff working in the Early Childcare Centre. All our staff work tirelessly to make our programmes successful and positive for our families and children to attend. This is reflected in the success of our programmes and the number of returning families that we continue to see.

In 2021, Helen McEwan has continued her work with the YMCA internationally, and we are privileged to have Helen continue to sit on our Board.

We have unfortunately farewelled two of our Board Members, Jennifer Beatson and Martine McCabe, and thank them for the commitment and value that they added in their time on the Board. Jennifer also served on the National YMCA Board for a period.

# OUR PROGRAMMES

## Y-Kids

Even though the number of children who attend the Centre hasn't returned to pre-Covid times, we continue to run a successful childcare Centre in the Victory community. We also work with the community to provide opportunities for all families to attend. We continue to attract families from all ethnicities and have managed to retain those relationships throughout the challenges that have been presented to us over the years.

Lisa Turner is our Centre Manager and long-standing employee with over 13 years of service. She has an extremely strong team of ECE, Primary and non-registered teachers.

Last year we were privileged to be invited to participate in the Te Hurihanganui Kaupapa. Alongside a select few centres in Nelson, we are half way through our second year. We have just begun to move into the second stage, inviting parents, whānau, staff and board members to participate and contribute to our work. Our hope, and the hope of everyone involved is that we will see some positive changes in our education system as a result, changes that will support engagement, contribution and well being not only for our Māori families, but also for our former refugee families.



## Oscar

Our Oscar Afterschool programmes have recovered well from Covid effects, with the majority of programmes returning to pre-Covid attendance levels. The holiday programmes continue to see lower numbers, with Nayland numbers dropping significantly. We still see the Victory program as a viable option with full numbers most holidays.

Oscar had a successful MSD audit in February 2021. That has put us on another two-year review cycle, so we will see them again in 2024.

Sarah Nalder has been with the YMCA Nelson for four years and continues to manage the Afterschool and Holiday programmes with the support of around 15 part time staff members working at the 4 different sites. Sarah has also taken on the lead role nationally for the Communities of Practice for YMCA Oscar.

The Communities of Practice is a programme to bring together YMCA associations and their employees and can be used as a tool to support each other with our common challenges and supporting collective solutions. Together we have so much experience, passion and knowledge and this helps us work together so that we can all benefit in our everyday jobs.



## Nelson Training Centre

NTC continues to deliver the NZ Certificate in Hospitality (Level 2) and NCEA Vocational Pathways. A culture shift within the NTC staffing has seen greater cooperation and support from stakeholders. While student retention, attendance and qualifications have significantly improved, NTC was down on enrolments as we went into lockdown during August; traditionally NTC's best period for intakes. The team liaised with NZQA and TEC to slightly reduce the length of the course, thereby enabling learners aged 18 and 19 to access the Studylink Student Allowance. This was previously seen as a barrier for learners who could not afford living costs while attending NTC and working towards their qualifications.

NTC's head chef, Steve Russell, signalled he would be moving on from NTC at the beginning of next year, leaving big shoes to fill. The energy, passion and talent he brought to the role has seen their Thursday meal services become even more popular. Opening to the public each Thursday allows students the opportunity and experience of working in a fast-paced and pressured hospitality environment. They work front of house, waiting tables, operating the till or honing their barista skills, and in the kitchen supporting the Chef.

Steve has been replaced by Jasper. His skills and approach to the role have brought a further step up in our performance and we are proud of the team that we have. Jasper is one of Nelson's most sought-after chefs and was previously the head chef at some of our best restaurants. These include Parts and Service, Urban, the Boat Shed and Mama Cod. Jasper has joined NTC hoping to spend more quality time with his family. Jasper's energy and enthusiasm allows him to relate well to the students and inspire those who are reluctant learners. His modern and creative approach to cooking has made NTC's Thursday's service even more popular with the local community, and his contacts and reputation within the industry have enabled employment opportunities for many of our learners.

NTC has also been working with NMIT, our local polytechnic. Next year they will open a Level 3 hospitality course to better scaffold graduates of our programme into higher learning. NTC also works with Whanake Youth, a youth organisation in Nelson. In future we hope to provide support in their endeavour to open a Container Café in the community.

NTC had a very successful EER (External Education Review). NZQA is happy with the systems and protocols NTC has in place to both educate and support learners. Feedback from NTC's learners and stakeholders was glowing, which demonstrates the value of the work NTC does within the community.

NTC continues to support both Māori and Pasifika students, those over-represented in New Zealand's long tail of underachievement. A recent trend has been NTC becoming a safe-haven for learners from the LGBTQ+ community. NTC has support from Te Piki Oranga and Nelson Bays Primary Health in supporting these learners.

# OUR PARTNERS

In 2021 we received a grant from Pub Charity for \$56,000 to purchase a new oven for the Nelson Training Centre. This replaced the old oven and provides the students and staff with the opportunities to extend their skill sets and enhance the menu that is provided to the public.

The YMCA Nelson Charitable Trust continues to support the YMCA Nelson. The Trust owns the properties that we occupy and continues to step in to support operations financially when needed.

# OUR FINANCES

The last 12 months has continued to be challenging for the YMCA Nelson. The Trust has continued to support operations over the year as required.

Nelson Training Centre had a payback of \$46,000 for under delivery in 2021 but we were refunded around \$4,500.00 of this.

Y Kids continues to operate in a viable position bringing in around \$1.2 million per year in Government Funding and Parent fees. However, the last 12 months has seen a significant drop in our children's numbers which will consequently see lower funding. This has lead us to review the structure of our programmes and staffing and make changes to adapt to the new situation.

Oscar is supported by parent fees and the Ministry of Social Development. We receive funding for all our programmes, including Tahunanui which had not previously qualified for funding. We have recently closed our Nayland Holiday Programme due to a drop in numbers. All other programmes continue to operate.

# OUR FUTURE

The development of the Nelson Training Centre is still underway and the plan to move from the current site off Hardy St to our Victory site is still the short-term goal. Unfortunately, Council consents processing continues to hold us up. In the meantime we will operate from the leased Hardy St site.

Our future for the YMCA Nelson is currently under review.

We recently conducted a review of YKids Early Learning Centre, its structure and staffing needs.

During the year we did respond to a proposal from the Gibbons Group to lease and operate an ECE in their Richmond West development. In the end we withdrew our bid as we did not think that the commercial imperatives behind the development and our values would have been well aligned. We are still open to partnering in such a development in the future where there is a need for an ECE and when we are confident we can resource it.

The idea of a community housing development that incorporates our ECE and NTC operations is currently being investigated. Whatever potential opportunity arises for the YMCA Nelson, our Vision, Mission and Values will be at the forefront of our planning.

# DIRECTORY



**Registered Charity -** CC20462

**Trustees -**  
Helen McEwan  
Paul Le Gros  
Lindsay McKenzie

**Board Members -**  
Helen McEwan  
Paul Le Gros  
Lindsay McKenzie  
Trudie Brand  
Jennifer Beatson  
Marine McCabe  
Joe Kennedy  
Sean Tengrove  
Malaika Rai

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