

Churches helping people

August 2019

We are a Christian-based organisation and all of our team are volunteers who come from many different Hawke's Bay Churches and denominations.

The need for our service never stops!



Bring on spring! Winter came with a seriously cold blast and snow on the mountains. It has been time to wrap up and keep warm and well!

Since the last newsletter in January there has been the usual ebbs and flows of donations in and donations out and we have seen a good level of stock in the clearing house, except the usual – drawers and dining chairs and tables.

There have been a number of volunteers taking holidays, plus some off with medical problems and usual winter illnesses. However our stats for the the first six months of 2019 show how busy we have been:

- 159 referrals from other agencies
- 4447 Items distributed
- 683 sheets/272 beds/464 blankets
- 244 families assisted with household goods
- 550 donations received
- 3013 volunteers hours

So a big “Shout Out” to our amazing team who are so faithful and enduring!! We appreciate you so much!

We are still struggling to have enough “manpower” on the truck. We need at least two more helpers. If you know someone, or are yourself able to give some time during the week, then please give us a call!

AGM 2019...

The AGM in June went well. It was great to have Alice Peacock from Child Healthy Housing as the guest speaker. She spoke on what they do when they are looking through and assessing a house. Things they require most are linen, blankets and beds, to get the children off the floor. Child Healthy Housing refer 20% of all clients requiring support, making them our biggest referrer. It is a wonderful thing to be engaging with this agency and assisting in meeting the needs of their clients.

Blanket SOS...

We were so blessed to see the response to the blanket SOS. Our cupboard started to fill up almost immediately. Thank you to all those who were able to contribute!! This will continue to be a need for a little while yet with winter well and truly in force, so if you know anyone with spare blankets, please give us a thought and a call!

Volunteer Profile...

We would like to give honour to our volunteers for all the hard work they do to keep Christian Lovelink going.

Beth is one of many long serving volunteers. She is from St Andrews in Westshore and has been with Christian Lovelink for 12 years. She has seen many changes in this time including 3 different locations! Over these years Beth has spent her time and energy in the kitchen department and the linen department. Both are a testament to her amazing organisation and ingenuity. With an over-locker machine, bought some years ago, she makes oven cloths, tea towels out of tablecloths, single sheets and quilts. In the kitchenware department she has premade up containers with kitchen sets for a family of 4 and 6 as well as organising shelves stacked in order from all the crockery, pans and plastic and cutlery of donations so gratefully received.



Beth sees her time spent at Lovelink as a ministry to do good and help those less fortunate. She also enjoys the fellowship and common bond that she shares with other like-minded volunteers. She is an inspiration in commitment to such a necessary service in the community.

We help...

Our assessors are meeting families to determine their most immediate needs and this can vary from one or two items or in some cases a complete house load of items. Some have moved to the Hawkes Bay from other cities and have brought only their clothes and basics that can fit in the car. No matter what their circumstances, we listen without judgement, and with great connections with other agencies, we assist to meet their most basic needs from the clearing house. Our aim is to show them the Love of the Father; John 13:34-35 *"A new command I give you; Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"*

We work closely with agencies such as Child Healthy Housing, Women's Refuge, W.I.T (Whatever It Takes), Te Tai Whenua, Work and Income, and many other community-based organisations.

Donations Welcome...

Requests for assistance never stop, so if you have surplus household items we would really appreciate these as there are many vulnerable and needy families in our community who are requesting help from us. We will accept anything from one or two items to full house lots.

We need quality beds, furniture, crockery, cutlery, pots and pans, cooking utensils, blankets, duvets, duvet covers, pillows, towels, face cloths and tea towels. We are happy to pick up items from you – please phone us.

All donations are gratefully accepted. However, some things are not practical, so please do not be offended if we cannot take some items so generously offered. We are unable to take any electrical items due to the requirement that they have to be tested and tagged before they can

be given away. We do not have the facilities to do this. These items are best recycled through the Vinnies, Salvation Army or Cranford Hospice shop.

We also do not do take curtains. The place to drop them off is the Curtain Bank at 33 Dunlop Road, Onekawa. They are open on Tuesday and Thursday Morning. Phone 06 843 0041.

You can help by...

Volunteering in the clearing house to sort donated items or on our truck doing pick-ups and deliveries.

Gifting funds to be used for our rent/petrol/power etc.

Contact us today: christianlovelink@xtra.co.nz (06) 843 9803 027 532 2611