

CHAMPION FOUNDATION TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2020

CHARITIES COMMISSION CC39895
PRIVATE BAG 4708 CHRISTCHURCH 8140

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REPORT BY CHAIRPERSON

PURPOSE OF THE TRUST

To benefit children with intellectual or other mental or physical disabilities compromising their development with specific focus on early intervention programmes and therapies by, including and not limited to, providing financial assistance to the Christchurch Early Intervention Trust incorporated under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 so long as it remains a charitable trust in New Zealand.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

June 2020

Major Donors:

Thank you to the following Donors for their donations this financial year:

Hickman Family Trust - \$20,000

Sir William & Lady Manchester Charitable Trust - \$10,000

Spanbild - \$10,000

Total Capital:

The Foundation records since inception, show the non-audited estimate of the total capital raised and interest earned totals \$2,629,415 which estimate may provide an additional perspective to these accounts. Please note we must stress **this is very much an approximate non-audited figure.**

Joint Board Meetings

The Boards of Trustees of the CEIT and the Foundation had agreed that during 2019 the Foundation Trustees would attend the meetings of the CEIT. This was helpful in building relationships between members of both Boards. When it had run its course, a decision was made at the end of 2019 to have only one Foundation representative attend the monthly meetings. Celia Barker has attended those meetings throughout this year, has regularly met with the Chair of the CEIT Board, as well as meetings with the Centre Director. The Foundation is pleased that there is now a much closer working relationship between the Foundation Trustees, CEIT Trustees, the Champion Centre, and recently with the new joint Directors of the Centre.

Foundation and Champion Centre Sub-Committee

Earlier in 2020 a sub-committee was set up which includes two Foundation Trustees and the Foundation Administrator. They are meeting monthly with Centre Directors and several staff to update each other. Discussion and planning future Fundraising opportunities, progressing the marketing of Earlybird and various other matters are being collaborated on by this sub-committee. These meetings have been positive and helpful in building relationships and it is to continue next year.

Board Appointments and Trustee News:

Roger Young stepped down from Foundation Board in November 2019 at the AGM.

Dr Patricia Champion recently renewed her term as Trustee for another 4 years. Along with Patricia Champion, Mike Norris, Bridget Frame and Celia Barker remain as trustees. The Trustees intend as a part of, or as a result of finalising a Business Plan, to scope the skill sets needed for further potential trustees to join the Board.

Panel of Friends and Business Plan

The small group of business people referred to in our 2019 report are still working with us as a strategic think tank. There has been a hiatus of many months this year due to the effects of Covid-19. We have had

further discussions and regular contact to update them. It continues to be our aim to devise a new approach for a focused, strategic coordinated push into the corporate world, set up partnerships, and encourage the business world to recognise and support the local success story which the Champion Centre is to Christchurch. Nexia New Zealand prepared a draft summary of the current financial situation for the Foundation and summarised the financial situation of the Champion Centre (CEIT). An actual Business Plan is yet to be formulated in a format ready for presentation to potential corporates and other potential donors. Many discussions in respect to the possible format have been held and are on-going between the Trustees and the CEIT Trustees and the recently retired Director of the Champion Centre. New joint Directors have recently been appointed, and we are working with them with a view to an agreed plan, to combine resources in a more effective manner than previously.

Impact of Covid-19

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on the Foundation in 2020. Its effects on our fundraising plans started early. There were discussions in March regarding the Golf Tournament and after advice it was agreed, we would have to postpone it to 2021. This was compounded some months later, after further advice, with the cancellation of the Garden Party. Further due to COVID-19, the business plan and strategic planning intended to take place with the business people on the Panel of Friends, has not progressed as would otherwise have been expected. They and the potential businesses and corporates we want to work with have understandably been otherwise pre-occupied with looking after their own people and their own businesses.

In addition with the reduced interest rates this has had an impact on the return of the Foundation's investments, and further the lack of opportunity to raise money at fundraising events will have ongoing effect in ultimately reducing the amount held as Foundation Capital.

GST

Due to the Foundation not meeting the threshold on income set by the Inland Revenue Department the Foundation de-registered from GST as at 28 February 2020.

Premature Children's Book- "Earlybird"

To date a total of 3,185 of the allocated 5,000 Earlybird books have been distributed to the NICUs. NICUs are re-stocked with books as they need them.

The price for the Earlybird book was reduced from \$30 to \$20 (including postage and handling) to make the book more accessible for families with premature babies/children and to bring the price more in line with other similar children's illustrated books. Mainfreight continue to support the Foundation in distributing the Earlybird books to the NICUs. The Foundation is sincerely grateful and thanks Mainfreight for their continuing support.

Promotion of books in the Special Babies Unit (SCBUs) has commenced throughout NZ. They have been provided with a complimentary book for their libraries. The Neonatal Trust are assisting in the promotion of the book to the SCBUs by including a flyer on how to purchase a copy of Earlybird in their neonatal packs. We are appreciative of this help, and thank the Neonatal Trust for this assistance.

Plans were in place to promote Earlybird overseas to NICUs and Trusts in the UK, USA and Australia, however with the outbreak of Covid-19 these plans have been put on hold as it was felt that hospitals/trusts in those countries would be more focused on fighting and managing the Covid-19 outbreaks.

To date the Foundation has raised \$5,200 being profits from Earlybird books and prints for the 18/19 and 19/20 financial year. This will be paid to the EIT in the 20/21 financial year.

A successful promotion of Earlybird was carried out in May 2020 on the Facebook page “NZ Made Products” (now Chooice), which resulted in an increase in sales. As part of the promotion a number of books were also given away.

Website:

The focus and purpose of the Foundation’s website had been on promoting and providing a selling platform for Earlybird. It has worked well with the payment platform set up being suitable to our needs, and efficient from an administrative point of view.

Currently the website is being expanded and will include more information about the Foundation, some information regarding its trustees, a summary of past events and future events planned.

Fundraising Committee:

2020 has seen all planned events (Golf Tournament and a Garden Party) and various other events from which we were to benefit cancelled due to the effects of Covid-19. Our thanks yet again go to Committee members Jan Ward, Gay Rutherford, Sue Rutherford, Katie Gyde, Bridget Frame, Patricia Champion, and Steph Burdon for the not inconsiderable work involved in planning events only to have them cancelled, and especially to Gay and Jan for keeping the Foundation front of mind, and enabling several valuable introductions to people who we hope, will be of considerable assistance to the Trust in future.

Golf Tournament 2020:

A golf tournament had been planned in some detail, and was to be held in May 2020 at the Christchurch Golf Club. Unfortunately Covid-19 pandemic arrived and this event has been postponed to next year. Kevin Clarke from CMG Sport had been engaged to help coordinate the event and once again Craigs Investments have generously offered to be the major sponsor with a \$5,000.00 sponsorship.

A date for next year is currently being finalised, with Kevin Clarke from CMG Sport once again assisting the Fundraising Committee in coordinating the event.

Garden Party November 2020

A garden party was scheduled for November 2020 in the beautiful garden at Ohoka owned by Sue and Rob Allison. Offering to donate their time to perform at the event, was seven year old professional entertainment trio, The Starlets. They earlier this year achieved international stardom when they went viral with their ABBA Isolation parody “Quarantina”. They include in their number, proud Champion Centre mother and actor Georgja Heard. Unfortunately due once again to the effects of Covid-19, it was recommended that this event would not proceed. The Foundation thanks Sue and Rob Allison for her generously offering their garden as a venue for the party, and the Starlets for so kindly offering to perform. The Foundation remains keen to host a garden party event, if it can be arranged in future.

Administrative:

Stephanie Burdon

Stephanie continues to enthusiastically and very ably support the Foundation Trustees. She kindly continues to store all the Earlybird books at her home, and continues to be responsible for shipping the books to the NICU’s and SCBU’s throughout NZ, and posting of books sold. She has again extremely efficiently dealt with the usual myriad of administrative tasks she has assisted Dr Patricia Champion with planning and implementing marketing ideas for Earlybird. She continues to be of the utmost assistance and support to the trustees in many varied ways.

Megan Blair

Due to the effects of Covid-19 and the delays it has caused to our planning, Megan has not been much called upon this year to assist in actioning the next stage of the Foundations current strategic planning.

Accountant:

Nicola Brownlee has now for a third time has kindly donated her time to assist with preparation of our accounts.

Celia Barker, Chairperson, Champion Foundation Trust

Champion Foundation Trust

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Christchurch 8140

A registered charity, established by a Trust Deed dated 30 September 2008