

CHAMPION FOUNDATION TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2019

CHARITIES COMMISSION CC39895
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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 2019

The year ending June 2019 has seen progress in various areas working towards the long view, of how the Foundation can most effectively support the Christchurch Early Intervention Centre (CEIT). The CEIT has in the past year been successful in obtaining a high number of grants. It has also successfully received a significant boost of government funding from the Ministry of Education, which is expected to continue, with cautiously positive indications that increased funding may be received from the Ministry of Health. There are however no indications that there will be any increased funding from Oranga Tamariki (Ministry of Children). This year's focus has been on launching and promoting the book Earlybird and developing a new website, and has not been on obtaining individual donations or long term pledges, as these have been rather scatter gun without a cohesive plan. Instead we have been working with the CEIT Trustees in order to better understand each other, which has been successful, and in the last few months we have focused on how to plan a more strategic approach for all work of the Foundation.

The following provides a snapshot of the total funds held on the Foundations Capital Fund.

	2019
Total raised by The Champion Foundation Trust including operational	\$2,629,415*
2017/18 Funds received incl. interest	\$410,757
Capital Funds invested	\$ 1,943,206

**This figure has not been audited and is an estimate of the total amount raised by the Foundation since it was formed.*

Major Donors:

The above ongoing and renewal pledges are for significant amounts. The generosity of these long-time supporter families, trusts and companies, is very much appreciated.

Spanbild – Received two donations totaling \$20,000. Spanbild has also pledged \$10,000 per annum on an ongoing basis.

Hickman Family Trust - \$20,000

Sir William and Lady Manchester Charitable Trust - \$10,000 as part of their renewed three year pledge

Independent Fisheries - \$57,500 – instalment two of a three year pledge. Instalments one and three were paid directly to the Champion Centre.

Joint Board Meetings

The boards of trustees of both the Foundation and the CEIT met late in 2018. It was agreed that in order to establish a more useful dialogue between trustees we would hold joint board meetings. Both boards of trustees have met throughout this year, acting as advisory trustees to each other. Getting to know each other in this way has been valuable in giving insight and produced a much more useful working relationship between the two boards.

Various sub committees have been formed by the Chair of the EIT and representatives of both boards are working together on them.

It has recently been decided that joint meetings will stop, but the Chair of the Foundation Board, will continue to attend Early Intervention Centre meetings as a representative of the Foundation.

Board Appointments and Trustee News:

During the early part of this year Carolyn Grant due to the pressure of other commitments, stepped down as a trustee and has been very much missed for her dynamic personality, enthusiasm, can do attitude, and her considerable communications and fundraising skills.

Roger Young our Treasurer is not seeking to renew his current term and will be stepping down at this year's AGM. Roger has been a crucial resource with his considerable governance skills and experience as a director in the commercial business arena. He is also going to be sadly missed.

Dr Patricia Champion, former Chair Mike Norris, Bridget Frame and Celia Barker remain as trustees. Presently the trustees are scoping the skill sets needed for potential trustees to join the Board.

Premature Children's Book- "Earlybird"

In order to publish this book. it was underwritten by the Champion Foundation Trust and was funded by a number of funders including The Wright Family Foundation as principal funder along with The Elizabeth Ball Trust, CERT and Blogg Charitable Trust.

The book was given a soft launch in November 2018 with a reading and signing at the Ilam Staff Club and was received with much enthusiasm. Both the author and artist attended to sign books.

A further launch was held at the new City Library "Turanga", in August 2019. This was offered and hosted by the Library, and a book reading to a class of children was a great success. An appearance by Peri the Pukeko himself (kindly acted by Naomi Cohen) was warmly received. The fundraising committee once again generously provided refreshments. Again the author Julie Burgess-Manning and the artist Jenny Cooper attended to sign books.

Karon Storr (EIT fundraising coordinator with the kind help of her artist partner Gwyn prepared attractive banners to put on the walls using the illustrations in the book. Karon has throughout this year been very helpful in various ways preparing written material, including positioning the graphics of the art work from the book into information sheets and posters for the Foundation) Much work has gone into trying to promote Earlybird this year as the Foundation has seen it as our first venture into sustainability in the future, i.e by selling a product we were hoping that a useful source of income could be generated for the Champion Centre to whom the net proceeds are to go directly. Much work has also been done with overseas contacts and after considerable initial excitement, we hoped we had a possible winner on our hands. Book sales have not however continued at the pace we had hoped. Considerable work has been put in to contacting overseas clinicians and other contacts in the Early Intervention space but sales have rather dwindled. Andrea Heffernan, the new part-time communications adviser at the Champion Centre has met with a few of us and we have investigated some new marketing options, but none has yet been the touch point for the sales we wish for.

Prints:

To support book sales, 20 of the beautiful paintings in the book have been printed on archival quality paper and some framed. A small number have been sold but we are not yet achieving the momentum we anticipated from the feedback we had been given prior to deciding to proceed with printing extra copies of the book. As part of the sales project, considerable time has been spent in marketing meetings, preparing a synopsis of the book, obtaining and printing the glowing reviews, approaching publishers, drafting letters to NZ and international NICU'S, clinicians, locating contact details to email them; and sourcing a framer (James Manser) to whom we are grateful for providing a discounted cost for the framing.

Website:

Early in the sales process, it was realised that the Neonatal Trust who had kindly offered to market the books through their website could not take payments for overseas sales. It was agreed that a simple website for the Foundation with information regarding the book and copies of the paintings should be set up. This was done by Jo Kinley of Hullabaloo Design. Books and prints can be ordered and payments can be made on that website. Jo assisted by making recommendations regarding online payment portals and was extremely helpful setting up the web site very efficiently, as well as applying for discounts as some providers offered better deals to charities than others.

Distribution of Earlybird Books to NICU's

There are six Level 3 NICU's in NZ and as part of the sponsorship of the publishing of the book the Foundation agreed it would distribute the books for free to all six NICU's in NZ. Enough were printed to provide free books to every premature child born approximately 30 weeks early for two years. Organising the logistics and liaising with every NICU has taken considerable time and has been ably handled by our administrator Stephanie Burdon who also approached Mainfreight who kindly agreed to sponsor the movement of the books around the country which saved a considerable expense. We thank the Neonatal Trust and Neil O'Styke for providing us with the necessary contacts for the NICUs and for helping to promote Earlybird to those eligible families.

Fundraising Committee:

The committee members continue to be Bridget Frame as Chair with Dr Patricia Champion, Gay Rutherford, Katie Gyde, Sue Rutherford, Jan Ward, and Steph Burdon with Celia Barker supporting. They are a small group who have used their varied skills and contacts to achieve extraordinary results over recent years. They have done much over recent years to increase awareness of the work of the Champion Centre, in and around Christchurch, and we can be so proud of the work they have done and results achieved.

We have received some donated planning assistance from a professional events planner, who we hope may be able to offer further assistance for special projects from time to time.

Peter Guthrey has stepped down while he is involved with fundraising for the Cathedral which necessarily means he has a conflict of interest. Peter's help and advice over many years has been of huge value and is much appreciated. His offer to still contribute assistance to the 2nd golf tournament will be invaluable. We very much look forward (hopefully) to his return once his work with the Cathedral Restoration appeal has been completed.

Art in the Attic:

A second event was held in August 2018 and reported on in our last annual report. It was very successful in terms of increased numbers (156) and was hosted by COCA. Phil McGoldrick again donated his time to conduct the auction. It received good social media coverage, was good "branding" and increased the exposure of the name of the Champion Centre. It was decided not to hold another such event this year as it was felt that while the concept is good, a rest was needed.

40th Anniversary Gala Dinner

This was mentioned in our last annual report but at the time the net proceeds were unknown. This very successful event was held in October 2018 in the Christchurch Art Gallery, catering by White Tie and Mike McRoberts made a superb job as MC. A full house of people attended and there were appropriately warm speeches and toasts to acknowledge Dr Patricia Champion and her work over the 40 years since she opened the Champion Centre, working initially from Plunket rooms.

Huge thanks from the trustees go to the many businesses and individuals who supported the auction and raffle prizes: Fulton Hogan, Dynamic Controls, , vanAsch Wines, Mount Brown, Giesen, Mark Stewart, Mike Dormer, White Tie Catering, DB, Barkers Fruit Processors of Geraldine, Theme Pro, Pixel, Linton Photography, Imagic,, Bounce, AC Lighting, and ASB, . Further huge and most grateful thanks go to our major sponsors for supporting in the lead up and on the night of the dinner: Saunders & Co, Spanbild, Ilam Toyota, and Meadow Mushrooms,.

The net proceeds paid to the Champion Centre were \$97,801.20. The Development Director at the time, Abby Shaw was the main organiser for the dinner, and put all her energy into the events success both financially and in raising the profile of the Champion Centre.

Abby left her role in early in 2019, and the Foundation is no longer funding this role.

Golf Tournament:

This event was held at Shirley on the Christchurch Golf Club course. It was kindly sponsored by Craigs Investment Partners (Ross Hutton) and Peter Guthrey with Mike Norris in support did a sterling job of arranging corporate business teams. The day was kind and the teams enjoyed a perfect sunny day. The fundraising committee none of whom are golfers did a very proficient job on the BBQ at the beginning and of keeping beverages up to the golfers before and during play, which as it was such a hot day kept them very busy, and organizing the raffle afterwards. The auction following went very well and the substantial net sum of \$17,600 was raised by days end.

Future Events:

Proposed Ball at Mona Vale. This is the 2nd time we have been offered the opportunity to be involved as the charity benefiting from a ball potentially being organised by a Council Community Councilor

2nd Golf tournament: It was so successful this year that it is intended to have another next year and a date at the course has been penciled in.

Garden Party: This is proposed for early November 2020 at the Ohoka home of Rob and Sue Allison. Planning was well advanced for this to be held this year but various competing events caused it to be postponed.

Administrative:**Stephanie Burdon**

Stephanie continues to enthusiastically and very ably support the Foundation Trustees in this role, and with the launch of Earlybird, the new website and online sales. She has kindly stored all the books at her home, and has also been responsible for shipping the books to the NICU's and postage of books sold. Amongst many other tasks she has most efficiently dealt with banking matters, liaised with the Treasurer and other trustees, including in respect to trust investments, and prepared accounts for presentation to our accountant. She has also attended to preparing monthly financials as well as attending the joint board meetings. She continues to be extremely helpful and often makes useful suggestions to assist the trustees.

Megan Blair

Megan who has had a wide-ranging career in NZ and overseas, and has a varied set of skills has been appointed during the year to assist part-time with actioning the next stage of the Foundations current planning as described below.

Accountant:

Nicola Brownlee has after her first stint last year, very kindly continued to donate her time to assist with preparation of our accounts.

Panel of Friends

A small group of presently four businesspeople have agreed to act as a strategic think tank who will advise on a new approach for the Foundation to increasing our capital fund. It is intended to design a focused, strategic coordinated push into the corporate world, to perhaps set up partnerships, and encourage the business world to get behind the success story that the Champion Centre is to Christchurch. It has been agreed that the Foundation will fund a business plan for presentation to potential corporate and other potential donors. This work on such a plan is about to start and one of the directors of Nexia, (Craig Melhuish) the firm who also acts as our auditors has been engaged.

Celia Barker, Chairperson, Champion Foundation Trust

Champion Foundation Trust

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