



Wesley Community Action
Family Start Porirua Office
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Kiwi Community Assistance Charitable Trust
5 Peterhouse Street
Tawa
Wellington 5028

To whom it may concern

Over the last year I have called on Tracy Wellington and her volunteers at Kiwi Community Assistance so many times I have lost count. The items I have asked for assist the work I do in helping vulnerable parents and their children within the Porirua, Titahi Bay and Linden area.

Family Start helps people with a parenting program in their own home and assists with social work to make sure they have a home, income and are attached to health services. This is all very well but when you are standing in front of a family that has no food for the next week, have no blankets or even beds to sleep on I am of little support then.

The agency that I go to is Kiwi Community Assistance (KCA). They have helped me personally deliver over twenty five food parcels, 45 Christmas gifts to children, 4 cots linen and mattresses, 1 child's safety gate, children's clothes, clothes for children going to school, clothes for a family of six arriving from Fiji without warm clothing, carpeting for a whole house, bassinets, backpacks and the list goes on.

We as an agency have developed a personal rapport with Tracy and she has even on several occasions come and met me instantly and opened up her supplies to emergency requests, changing appointments and family commitments to help.

The Fijian family I spoke of above having had at least 60% of their belongings supplied by KCA are now living in their own home, children going to school, have found employment and are independent productive members of this community. I would not have been able to assist them without KCA donating their time and goods to reach this level of independence.

Our clients are people that are at their most desperate, vulnerable and often have had their pride stripped from them due to the process of having to deal with bureaucracy. By providing them with belongings they can name as their own and food without questions being asked, KCA are returning some pride and independence in the most practical and efficient manner.

I hope that you will consider this worthy, necessary group for support as they are making such a difference to our community, me and other Whanau Workers in our work.

Yours Sincerely,
Cheryl Walbran