



## Seeing the lasting impact...

From Gary

**It is always encouraging when we see the lasting impact of young people who choose a life of hope. One youth who went through our Alternative Education programme ten years ago made the effort to hand deliver us an invitation to his wedding. He came, full of pride, with his fiancé and told us of the life changes he had made and the impact that Springboard had on his life.**

Another youth that was on our Mentoring Programme six years ago tracked down his Mentor to personally thank him for being there for him, at a time when he most needed someone.

It is awesome to know that time invested into a young person who needs that extra

love and care will continue to keep growing. We love it at Springboard when we see breakthrough. We know the need is great, we need more mentors, time and resources, but one thing I have learnt is to celebrate life. **To take time to appreciate the 'now.'**

Springboard's agenda continues to be full, settling in new staff with their new skill sets and energy, our programmes are currently reaching out to 137 youth and our firewood business will sell over 4,000 bags this season to four different Mitre 10 Mega outlets.

We had an amazing hui in March with our four community partners. It inspires us when we hear of their stories of breakthrough, knowing that many more

young people are gaining the support they need to transition into a life of hope. We are calling this collective of communities 'Ahi', Māori for 'fire.' **As we spur one another on, the fire burns brighter.**

We continue to wish our young people all the best in their trades, learning, relationships and dreams. A special mention goes out to the 'soon to be weds'.

Thank you all once again,

Nāku noa nā,

**Gary Diprose**

## Legacy of Impact

**At the end of 2017, Steve Bond, father of a former student of our Impact Alternative Education programme, helped the current students with an art module creating canvases.** He decided to also create a work of art that tells the story of Springboard, which he then presented at the end-of-year prize giving.

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### Steve explains his artwork:

*"At the centre, the upoko (head) stands for kotahitanga (us being as one). The surrounding raranga (weaving) evokes the strong feeling of unity and togetherness, the weaving of past and present rangatahi (young people) and their whānau (family).*

*The sun rays represent the never ending influence of Springboard as it continues to reach out. The reason I used the sun is because it is bright and positive, representing what Springboard and the Impact programme means to us all."*



Artwork created and donated by Steve Bond, father of Impact student

## 3,000km Cycle to Help Youth

**Locals Geoff Ledbrook, Paul Donaldson, Joanne O'Sullivan and Jim Dollimore have recently ridden from Cape Reinga to Bluff on the Tour Aotearoa.**

Each participant in Tour Aotearoa chose a charity to raise funds for and we were very honoured that these four wonderful people chose Springboard. This was a huge physical and mental challenge for them all. They raised \$1,985 and this money has gone towards purchasing laptops for the use of our Learning Hub students who are studying NCEA Level 2. Their generous contribution is very much appreciated by us all.



## 4U Mentoring Team Growing



**This good looking bunch were part of the crew who attended our Term 1 mentoring event at Goat Island. We had a fabulous morning watching our mentors take their young people kayaking, snorkelling, scavenger hunting and digging for hidden chocolate in the sand!**

We trained 4 new mentors in April and with the addition of another 3 who have mentored with us previously and are keen to go again, we are looking forward to making 7 new matches over the coming weeks! While this is super exciting, we still have many more young people who are still waiting. Please consider anyone you know who might have 2 hours a week to carry hope and offer encouragement to a young person in our community who needs just that.

## Impact Update

**Our focus for the start of this year has been to establish 'whanau' (a place of belonging). Already we are creating amazing memories. We are believing for great futures for our young people.**

“ I like that I get more experiences and opportunities. I feel safe, it's like a family to me.”

**Raine** – 15 years old



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