



At the completion of a project that received community funding, recipients are required, as stated in the Community Grant Policy, to submit a Project Report to the Community Board. Project Reports are to be received no later than two months after the completion of the project or if the activity is ongoing, within two months of the funding being spent.

Applicants who fail to provide a project report within the required time will not be considered for future funding.

Please return the completed form to: funding@fndc.govt.nz PDF attachment via email is preferred) OR:

Funding Advisor
Far North District Council
Private Bag 752
KAIKOHE 0440

Name of organisation:

Name & location of project:

Date of project/activity:

Which Community Board did you receive funding from?

☐

Te Hiku

☐

Kaikohe-Hokianga

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Bay of Islands-Whangaroa

Amount received from the Community Fund:

Board meeting date the grant was approved:

Please give details of how the money was spent:

- Your contribution to the project and the funding you received from the Community Board must be accounted for
- Attach supplier receipts or bank statements to show proof of expenditure of Community Board funds.

Supplier/Description	\$amount	Receipt/s attached (please tick)
Reimburse Anne Truscott for Wool purchases made for yarn	492.00	Bank statement
Spotlight - Wool purchase - Order#46788861	516.99	Yes
Spotlight - Wool purchase - Order #68208123	911.96	Yes
Spotlight - Wool purchase - Order #68904776	185.99	Yes
Other contribution	500.00	N/A
Venue hire/volunteer time/admin/other costs	N/A	N/A
Total:	\$2,606.94	

Please see attached expenditure information for further detail

Give a brief description of the highlights of your project including numbers participating:

The Bay of Islands-Whangaroa Community Board granted the Paihia Red Cross branch \$2,000 for the purchase of yarn for their community knitting group. The group of 14, handcraft blankets, baby clothes, hats, and other items, for vulnerable people in the Far North. The yarn purchased with the funds donated by the Community Board were used to create 'baby bags'. Baby bags contain knitted blankets and baby outfits, alongside muslin wraps, nappies and toiletries. These packs are distributed by Kawakawa Hospital to young mothers with newborns. In the past 12 months, the group have provided 65 baby bags to mothers in need, with a further 35 packs almost ready to be distributed. This is an impressive feat, and without the funding which provided the materials, it would not have been possible.

The highlights of this project include; participation from the local community, supply of knitted goods to support 100 vulnerable mothers in the Far North, and the reestablishment of Paihia Red Cross Branch as a valued community group that provides support to locals in need.

Describe the main findings in your evaluation of the project/event; describe how your project/ event benefited the community:

The Paihia Red Cross knitting group has benefited the community in several ways. They have provided tangible support to some of the most vulnerable in the community. Baby bags, distributed by midwives at Kawakawa Hospital, were provided to 65 vulnerable young mums, with a further 35 soon ready for distribution. The provision of these items to new mothers has significant benefits, such as easing financial pressure, reducing undue stress in the early stages of motherhood, and providing suitable clothing to ensure babies are kept warm reducing risk of sickness.

Beyond the immediate beneficiaries, this project has had a positive impact on all of those involved – community volunteers, branch members and rest home residents. Knitting is a social activity which brings people together, fostering a sense of community. Knitting for a good cause also provides a sense of purpose, especially for those living in the rest home.

The project also helped re-establish the Paihia Red Cross branch as a hands-on community group who helps those in need. The funding enabled the branch to make a real difference in their community, and this has been recognised. For example, St John reached out to the branch for support when a house burnt down, and the elderly owner needed support. They also provided support to the community during the Tsunami Warning in March 2021. With the help of this funding, the Paihia Red Cross Branch has come back from near closure, to being a staple of humanitarian support in the Far North. *"We are seen as a group that 'Does Good' in our community and the knitting was the start of it all. Thank you for helping us to help our community"* – Anne, Paihia Branch Member

From reviewing and evaluating the project over the past year, three main conclusions can be drawn. Firstly, the use of new yarn made a significant impact on the quality of the knitted items. In the past, blankets were made from recycled or second-hand wool which were often inappropriate for new-borns. Funding from the Community Board to buy new, high-quality yarn overcame this issue.

Secondly, before the knitting group was formed, the Paihia branch was struggling with membership due to members moving away or ill health. However, with this funding and a new focus on knitting for those in need the group has attracted more volunteers. This funding has therefore revitalised a community group which was facing closure.

Finally, reviewing the outcomes of this project, we can conclude that the knitting group helps New Zealand Red Cross achieve its mission. Our mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity – the Paihia Knitting Group do exactly this by volunteering their time and talents to provide much-needed items for the most vulnerable in their community.

Please provide details and attach or email photos and/or any marketing collateral that was produced for your event/project acknowledging the Community Board:

Marketing collateral was not required for this project as no official event was held, the knitting group meet regularly and on an ongoing basis. However, the generous support provided by the Community Board has been consistently acknowledged by the branch – during branch meetings, in meetings with the head midwife at Kawakawa Hospital, and to the New Zealand Red Cross Secretary General, Sarah Stuart-Black, when visiting the branch in Paihia. All branch members sincerely thank the Far North District Council for their financial support which has had many benefits to both the branch and the wider community. Photos from the knitting group have been provided below.

If you have a Facebook page that we can link to please give details:

<https://www.facebook.com/NewZealandRedCross/>

This report was completed by:

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Date:	02.12.2021		

Project Report from Paihia Red Cross
Schedule of Supporting Documentation

Document	Title
1	Thank you letter
2	Expense Breakdown
3	Bank transfer
4	Spotlight invoices