

Connecting Communities Fund: Successful Applicants

Round 4: 28 November 2022

	Group name	Description of activity/event
1	First Thursdays Queenstown	A unique public talk presented by Professor Gregory Minissale that investigates the intersection of visual arts and wellbeing.
2	Albert Town Community Association	Free Christmas party in the park for the whole Albert Town community to come together, reconnect and enjoy fun for all ages.
3	Hometree Healing Aotearoa	Three free one-hour hui for men's hinengaro/mental wellbeing to be held at Te Atamira. Run by experienced hauora and Honohono practitioner Dion Rangiuiaia Freeman, these events will open up conversations, raise awareness of Te Whare Tapa Wha and provide practical tools to help with mental distress, anxiety and depression.
4	LAN Club	A 7-week youth Esports programme that aims to introduce interested youth and members of the community to all aspects of eSports, gaming and digital careers related to the eSports field. It covers healthy life strategies and creating balance, including exercise, nutrition and the importance of creating a fun, competitive, encouraging environment that combines teamwork and technology in a safe, social space.
5	Fiordland College	Create a permanent section within the Fiordland College Library for students and staff to access resources which help them support their mental wellbeing.
6	Santa's Little Helpers Inc	Funding support for the Te Anau Santa Parade & Fun in the Park on 10 December, a highly anticipated community event with all ages taking part. The local preschools, schools and community groups and businesses get together and make floats. Local children entertain on the stage and there's also an opportunity for locals to give it a go. The event also attracts many from outside the area. This helps out the local economy as visitors often stay a night or two.
7	Altrusa International of Queenstown	Funding to create Distraction Packs as a useful resource for children involved in emergency situations. Distraction Packs include items such as colouring books and pens, a soft toy, games and a snack. The Distraction Packs will be provided to emergency support services ahead of the Christmas busy period.
8	Age Concern	Brain health seminar for over 65s, featuring expert guest speakers and activities to improve brain health. There will also be opportunities to socialise and a light lunch will be provided.
9	Brazilian Community Queenstown	Create a family-friendly event focused around the Soccer World Cup to bring Brazilians together for social interaction, fun and refreshments.
10	Songbirds	Research has shown that singing is great for mental and physical health, helping to lower stress, boost immunity and lung function, and enhance memory. Songbirds is a free community women's choir in Queenstown which comes together every week to sing and also gives free public performances. This funding will go towards helping keep the group free of charge.
11	YAMI SouNZ Summit	A weekend music summit of workshops, seminars and public performances in a safe, supportive space. Held in Wanaka bi-ennially (May), it's for anyone interested in a career in the music industry (artist, producer, manager, composer, promoter, DJ, performer, tech). YAMI arms participants with the necessary tools and contacts to navigate the music industry - locally, nationally and globally. 82% of attendees are aged 10-19 and a big focus is on prioritising physical, emotional and mental health.
12	Loss and Grief Support Trust Southland	A day of specialised grief learning with the Te Anau community on how to manage grief personally or when working with those grieving. It will create an opportunity for the community to share their stories and develop skills around normalising grief and building on strengths. A seminar will also be offered to Fiordland College senior students on understanding grief and building strategies to move forward.
13	Southern Lakes NZ Deerstalkers Association	Introduction to clay target shooting followed by a Xmas BBQ and family fun day in Lake Hayes. The association hosts many volunteer weekends so this is a good chance to encourage members to learn a new skill, connect, have some fun and meet new people.
14	Southern Lakes Arts Festival Trust - The Festival of Colour	The festival is working with the Wānaka Library to run a Living Books/Human Library and living book sessions as part of the Festival of Colour's free community day. A Human Library aims to bring us closer together with its experience revealing different lifestyles, friendships, true lived experiences and stories, inspiring us to never to judge a book by its cover.
15	Turn Up the Music Trust	Magical Music with Erica is an innovative and exciting programme for preschool children in the Wakatipu delivered by a highly qualified and experienced music teacher twice a week at Te Atamira. During the sessions, the children develop skills in co-ordination, social interaction, rhythm, and expressions through music.
16	Head Light Trust	The 'Let's Chalk about Mental Health Queenstown' project will involve a team of volunteers manning stands at local events with chalkboards and wearing T-shirts that say "Chalk to me about mental health". The community will be asked to answer questions on pavements or chalk boards relating to mental health and write up phrases, mantra, whakataukau and words e.g. What words have encouraged you during challenging times? What does good mental wellbeing mean to you?

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17	Southern Stars Early Learning Centre	Start a weekly playgroup at Southern Stars Te Anau welcoming all local families with children under 5 years old to come and connect, play and make new friends in a safe child-friendly space.
18	Sands Queenstown	A peer support get-together for bereaved parents who have lost a baby.
19	Cromwell Community House	Cromwell Community House and Cromwell Neighbourhood Support will co-host a Christmas Picnic BBQ for vulnerable older people in the community.
20	Danny Mastroianni, Alexandra Mejia and others	A pilot project to create a community magazine, initially for the Latino community, to share relevant news and information, promote inclusion, culture and values, and encourage involvement within local communities. The aim is to add further communities in the future.
21	Tahuna Cultural Integration	A 12-week workshop which aims to bring together members of the Hispanic/Spanish-speaking community with artistic interests or talents. The workshop will be held at Te Atamira and will cover drama, improvisation, communication, and creativity. It aims to help attendees develop social skills, improve self-esteem, gain self-confidence, express emotions and feelings, control anxiety, and improve cognitive functions.
22	SKAL Business Network	Funding for monthly member catch-up sessions for tourism industry people. They can come along and over a cuppa, discuss the issues of the day that are affecting their tourism business and their wellbeing.
23	Adventures in Wool NZ	'Flight of Fancy' enchanted forest-themed installation by volunteers for LUMA 2023. It will be installed in the greenhouse in Queenstown Gardens for the duration of the event which will be held over King's Birthday Weekend.
24	Jack's Point Community Association	The funding will be used to purchase kids' tennis rackets to enable local children to take part in the community tennis lessons held at Jack's Point tennis courts.
25	French community	A get-together for the French community on 12 February at Lake Hayes Estate Pavilion. The aim of this inaugural event is for French people living in the district to connect, share their culture and language and discuss the aspirations, needs and wishes of the group for future gatherings.
26	Happiness House	New garden bed materials for Happiness House's gardening group. Gardening helps to inspire, educate and motivate people within the community – they can make healthy and empowering life choices by learning to grow their own food and connect with others through a shared activity.
27	Makarora Valley Community Inc	Community Quiz Night which brings locals together from throughout the Makarora Valley to have some fun and build a stronger community network.
28	Queenstown Lakes Danish Society	A Christmas get-together for the Danish society to connect through cooking traditional foods and culture, singalong and doing crafts.
29	MINT Charitable Trust	A full-day music therapy workshop for people in the Central Otago Region with intellectual disabilities. Participants will be split into two groups (different age groups) for 2 x 3-hour sessions of group music therapy.
30	Sri Lankan Association	A Christmas celebration for the Sri Lankan community to come together, celebrate their culture and pass on knowledge to the next generation.
31	LUMA Light Festival Trust	A free three-hour community workshop for children on the Saturday evening of the LUMA Festival. Run by schools programme teacher Rebecca Hembrow, it will focus on wellbeing and use Trees of Wellbeing to represent the Five Ways of Wellbeing via five different activities. It will add to the schools' projects which has been developed through the primary schools and Mount Aspiring College.
32	Jeringonzos	Funding for children's books in Spanish which will be donated to the Wānaka Library to encourage language usage and connect Latino American or Hispano speakers' families. The aim is to support families by creating a cultural connection space and a sense of belonging. A playgroup for Spanish-speaking children will also be held to encourage them to meet and play with others and to support their language development.
33	Fiordland Community Kai	Fiordland Community Kai creates a means for the community to give and connect, through volunteering their time, donating towards cooking supplies, or connecting with people in need with a meal. People can be involved in the giving regardless of their financial status, or time availability. It helps connect neighbourhoods and groups, by reminding people to look out for others and nominate them to receive a meal, or by picking one up to drop around to someone. It spreads joy, connection, and a sense of being seen and cared about by those who receive a meal.
34	Fiordland Families Network	Fiordland Families Network supports the development of an active and engaged parent to parent/whānau community in Te Anau, where people know and look out for each other, and feel well supported. There are regular opportunities for whanau of young children to meet up and build social networks, while gaining access to information which will help them on their parenting journey. The funding will be used for monthly expert speakers at the coffee group sessions and a 2-3 monthly antenatal session.
35	Shotover Primary School	A celebration for Shotover Primary School Year 8 students - one last journey for them to come together as a year group, linking their learning journey with activities. Students will also connect with Wakatipu

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		High School representatives during the day where the majority (over 95%) of students will start their secondary education. This will be a symbolic handover of tamariki and help support their transition to secondary school.
36	Kingston Community Association	The Kingston Community Association, with support from local businesses, organisations, and individuals, will host a family-oriented social event for the Christmas season on Saturday 17 December. This event is free to attend for families and people of all ages that live in the area (Kingston, Garston, Athol). The historic Kingston Flyer Steam Train will be out for the occasion, with Santa on board to meet the children. There will be games and activities set up including face painting, a lolly scramble etc.
37	Japanese Family Society of Queenstown	A family-friendly event based on Shichi-go-san (annual Japanese festival to celebrate the growth of children) which aims to bring both the Japanese community and wider community together to share a traditional cultural experience. The event, to be held on 22 January, will include an opportunity to dress up in a kimono, with photos to commemorate the occasion, as well as sharing an afternoon tea.
38	Garston School	Run three facilitated workshops in Term 1 2023 for 9-12 year old students focusing on the 5 Ways to Wellbeing, music, drama/movement, painting and team work. These will culminate in a community performance to coincide with the official opening of the school's new building. It will be attended by the wider community and various dignitaries including Ministry of Education representatives).
39	Mount Aspiring College	Support to buy Five Trees of Wellbeing pack for Rebecca Hembrow to use with Mount Aspiring College teachers. The teachers will reflect on their own wellbeing and learn tools/skills/techniques to enhance their own wellbeing. The trees are directly linked to the Five Ways of Wellbeing with activities based on each of the 5 ways. The trees will be used and displayed in the staff room for staff to engage with.
40	Santiago Bonhomme	Develop a 1-hour Podcast 'KIAORA LATINO' aimed at the Spanish-speaking community which will be recorded once every fortnight for 8 weeks. The Podcast will be the first of its kind so will be considered a pilot project. The content of the Podcast will touch on topics of interest to the Latin American community of the Queenstown Lakes District including community mental health; relevant news and interviews; showcasing different arts, sports and cultural heritage talents/skills within the Latino community; and learning tips and tools such as employment, education, and entrepreneurial opportunities.
41	Whakatipu Youth Trust	A one-day Horse Wisdom workshop for young people aged 10-17 in the Wakatipu Basin with a trained Equine Assisted Therapist and a Whakatipu Youth Trust Social Worker. The collaboration with horses supports young people's resilience and mental health by providing an experiential learning approach for new connections, personal development and life skills. The young people learn about being aware of themselves and others, understanding and respecting boundaries, acknowledging and holding space for emotions and being compassionate to self and others. No horse riding takes place as the horses co-facilitate the process and educate the group members in an authentic and non-confrontational manner.
42	Kahu Youth Trust	Funding towards a welcome event at the Trust's new youth space at Lake Hawea Community Hall. The event will be a great way to bring the community together, build connections and create a sense of belonging. Young people can also meet the Youth Workers and start building trust, knowing that these are safe adults who can support them through life challenges. The Trust will also be sharing information about the new drop-in service and our mentoring and youth development programmes.
43	Louise Spence	Bring artists to Cromwell to pilot two community art workshops for children aged 8-16 to help improve their mental health and wellbeing. Art can be fun, build confidence and give kids a chance to try something new in a safe place. The two workshops - a sketching mindfulness class, and Greeting and Gratitude cards - would be run by Cromwell-based tutors from Creative Workshops QT.
44	Fiordland Community Garden Charitable Trust	Weekly sessions held at the Fiordland Community Garden encourage people of all ages to come down, lend a hand, have a chat and a cup of tea, and learn some new skills. With more older people attending, the funding will be used to provide appropriate comfortable seating for them around the gardens to ensure they feel included, whether it's to rest, socialise or garden in the raised garden beds.
45	Arrowtown Autumn Festival Inc Society	Support for two recently added, hugely successful family-friendly fun sports events – the Tobins Rush and the Arrow River Dash - to the 2023 Arrowtown Autumn Festival programme to help it widen its appeal.
46	Latinos in Wānaka	A wellbeing day which brings the Latino community together to discuss issues, have some fun and formalise a group to represent the growing community and help Latinos coming to the region. This group will also work with QLDC's Welcoming Communities team and other organisations. The day will include food, music and activities like yoga and football. It will give everyone a chance to express themselves, share ideas and concerns, start forming a census of how many people there are and from which countries. Planning will also start on a bigger event to promote Latino culture to the wider Wānaka community and its visitors.
47	Central Otago Living Options	Run two art workshops at the Living Options centre in Arrowtown to enhance the wellbeing of the people the organisation supports as well as their families, staff, and members of the disabled community. The workshops will be facilitated by Creative Workshops QT and will be opportunity to connect, learn new skills and express emotions through artistic expression.
48	Wakatipu High School	Support to run the Wakatipu High School Wellbeing Council's student activities in Term 1 of 2023. The wellbeing council is a group of 9-10 students led by a lead prefect and supported by a Wellbeing

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		Coordinator. The wellbeing council runs student-led initiatives throughout the school year, providing the approx 1,300 WHS students with opportunities to support their wellbeing. Past activities include study skills workshops, sessions on Mindfulness, gratitude journals, and yoga. The activities are planned at the beginning of the school year and structured entirely by the Student Wellbeing Council.
49	Lakes District Muslim Community	An interfaith, intercultural 2-hour panel discussion on the topic 'Depression & Anxiety: Can Faith or Tradition Provide a Solution?' Five panellists from faith-based organisations (Islamic, Catholic, Anglican, Buddhist, Indigenous etc) will each express their views and suggestions on how to mitigate these issues. A public audience of 120 people is expected. At the end there will be a Q&A for attendees to give their views and ask questions.
50	The Grace Place, Family Works, OTS Limited	Mum's Night Out - A chance for mums to get together and get a "new to me" outfit from the Grace Place (a second-hand service in Te Anau run by Lakeside Presbyterian Church) and find some gifts for the family. It's a great chance for social connection and to alleviate some of the financial stress of Christmas. Attendees will be offered refreshments, card making, health coaching (healthy habits for the holidays) and the chance for a good old-fashioned singalong!
51	Fiordland Community House	Funding to purchase outdoor games and activities which can be used at community events and by community groups throughout the year. The games will be invaluable as a way of encouraging people to connect, give activities a go, and have some fun together. There's also potential to lend items to businesses for team building and workplace wellbeing activities in exchange for a donation to the community food bank.
52	Queenstown Meditation	A 3-hour Te Ao Māori workshop for the whole community, which builds on the 5 Ways to Wellbeing and Te Whare Tapa Wha and introduces the principles of Dr Rangimārie Turuki Arikirangi Rose Pere CBE. These principles include 8 areas for wellbeing; mana (the self), wairua (the spirit), tinana (the body), whanaungatanga (sense of family with all living beings), nga taonga (treasures from our ancestors), whatumanawa (the emotions), hinengaro (mind, consciousness), and mauri (life force). When all of these are embraced, cared for and in balance in our lives, we are well. The workshop builds on the principles with interactive activities and group work to inspire people to learn and take away actions to enhance their wellbeing and those around them.
53	Fiordland Home Educators	Opportunities to come together with other home educator groups in the Southern and Otago regions and participate in a variety of activities ranging from REAP workshops like art/painting/woodwork to social events.
54	Wānaka Nepalese Society	A Christmas and New Year celebration along with Tamu Lhoshar (New Year celebrated by ethnic Gurung community of Nepal) with traditional food and dress. This is a great opportunity for all Nepalese to come together for a hui and relax and refresh after a busy year.