

# HEARTFELT THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

As we come to the end of the 2024/25 financial year, we want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible impact your generosity has made.

Thanks to your support, our chaplains have been able to provide comfort, encouragement, and spiritual care to thousands of patients, whānau, and hospital staff across the country. Your kindness has brought light into some of the darkest moments for so many people.

### Vou've been a lifeline...

When Vanessa was rushed to the hospital at just 26 weeks pregnant, doctors warned her that her miracle baby, Noël, might not survive. Born at just 27 weeks and weighing only 634 grams, Noël spent over two months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), fighting for his life.

Far from home and without a lot of family support, Vanessa faced this overwhelming journey mostly on her own. **But thanks to generous supporters like you, she wasn't truly alone.** Chaplain Wendy was there—offering a listening ear, a comforting presence, and moments of connection that helped Vanessa feel like a mother, not just a patient.

This year, Wendy was reunited with Vanessa and a happy, healthy Noël (pictured above). It was a beautiful reminder of the lasting impact your support makes possible. **Thank you for making a difference that lasts.** 



### You've helped bring comfort...

After suffering a serious medical event, David\* found himself not only grappling with the physical challenges of recovery, but also the overwhelming emotional toll. Living alone, he feared losing his independence and struggled with deep anxiety and depression. The future felt uncertain, and hope seemed out of reach.

Thanks to generous supporters like you, David received compassionate spiritual and emotional care during his hospital stay. Through regular visits, Chaplain Eddie provided a listening ear and a safe space for David to express his fears. Over time, his outlook began to shift. He found comfort in meaningful conversations and a growing sense of peace. By the time he was discharged, David felt stronger, physically and emotionally.

David's journey is just one example of the impact your generosity has had over the past year.

Thank you for helping bring comfort, hope, and strength to those facing life's toughest moments. "Your support was crucial in helping me navigate this difficult time."

David\*

\*Name changed to protect identity.

## FROM VOLUNTEER TO PATIENT: KEN'S STORY

Ken had always been a familiar face at his local hospital, volunteering through his church to help bring patients from their wards to weekly chapel services.

But life took an unexpected turn when Ken was hit by a car, leaving him with severe injuries—including a compound fracture in his leg, broken pelvis, internal injuries, and extensive bruising.

During his recovery, Ken found himself on the other side of the chaplaincy ministry he had once supported, experiencing firsthand the comfort and care of a hospital chaplain at his bedside. Eventually, Ken was even able to attend chapel services himself, marking a significant milestone in his healing journey.

Thanks to your generous support, chaplains can walk alongside patients like Ken during their most challenging moments. Your contributions make hope and care possible.

### PATIENT FEEDBACK CORNER



"I have been an inpatient for some time. I could not have got through my illness without the chaplaincy support provided, particularly by Jeannine and John.

Jeannine is a wonderful woman who clearly cares for people. She made me realise that Jesus loves me, she brought me to tears of joy. John is a very kind and caring minister and is wonderful to talk things over with.

Their care has been crucial to my recovery, I cannot thank them enough."

Stuart (name changed to protect identity)

#### A TREASURED GIFT: THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

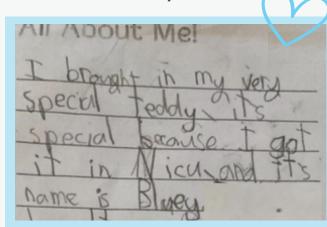
One of our most heartwarming moments this year was hearing just how much comfort and care comes from your generosity.

Recently, a mother shared a beautiful story with one of our chaplains. Her daughter, Lily, was asked to fill an 'All About Me' bag for a school writing activity, choosing four things that were important to her. One of the special items she chose? A teddy bear she received from a hospital chaplain when she was in the NICU as a baby.

These knitted teddies—lovingly made by church groups and community members—are given to babies and children at Christchurch and Christchurch Women's Hospitals. More than just a soft toy, they serve as a source of comfort during difficult times, a reminder that someone cares.

Your support helps make moments like this possible. As we close the financial year, we are grateful for every donation that allows our chaplains to bring care, comfort, and hope to patients and their whānau.

Thank you for standing with us and making a difference in so many lives.





Heartfelt thanks



Your generous giving helps to ensure no person in Aotearoa has to face their toughest moments alone. **Thank you.** 

PO Box 11211, Manners Street Wellington 6142

Ph: 0800 246 7242 E: info@ichc.org.nz

Registered charity CC21346 www.ichc.org.nz